

**CARLISLE CULTURAL COUNCIL**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Virtual Meeting via Zoom**  
**Friday April 3, 2020**

**Present:** Alain Bojarski, Mark Levitan, Carren Panico, Caren Ponty, Jen Sagalyn,

**Not Present:** Jill Henderson, Abby Zimmerman

1. **Call to Order** 9:02 AM

2. **Approval of Minutes** February 28, 2020

Motion to approve minutes as written made by Levitan, second by Sagalyn. Roll call vote: Bojarski aye, Levitan aye, Panico aye, Ponty aye, Sagalyn aye. Motion approved 5-0-0.

3. **Old Business**

A. Council-sponsored Open Mic program.

Brief discussion of the need to postpone scheduling the next event due to the COVID-19 virus situation.

B. Hidden Treasures program - Freedom's Way National Heritage Area.

This program, originally scheduled for May 17, was canceled by the Freedom's Way organization. Discussion ensued about independently conducting the joint event we had planned with the Carlisle Historical Society at a future date to be determined. Consensus was to do so.

C. Community outreach project (survey)

Sagalyn walked the group through the proposed community survey questions. Discussion ensued about modifications and the publicity/engagement plan. The survey will be conducted entirely on-line and promoted via the Mosquito, various social media, and the Town website.

Ponty made a motion to approve the wording of the survey as discussed. Second by Sagalyn. Roll call vote: Bojarski aye, Levitan aye, Panico aye, Ponty aye, Sagalyn aye. Motion approved 5-0-0.

4. **New Business**

A. Membership

Levitan reviewed the membership situation with respect to upcoming term limits for Caren Ponty and Carren Panico, and the resignation of Morgen Bearse. Alain Bojarski's initial 3-year term expires on June 30, and he has stated that he will leave the Council before the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of calendar 2020.

Consensus was that we need to communicate to the community to attract new members through various media channels and emphasize the Council's ambition to conduct more Council-sponsored events and activities, as opposed to simply funding grants. It was suggested that outreach include the First Religious Society newsletter, and messaging to recent grantees, in addition to the usual publicity channels. Also, outreach can be done at Old Home Day and Council-sponsored programming.

B. Grantee feedback/extension & modification requests

Levitan reviewed the Mass. Cultural Council guidelines for extensions and program modifications. Grantees have to establish firm new dates for their

programs before asking for approval of modifications or extensions. Programs may be conducted virtually if desired.

**C.** Discussion of online participatory cultural activities

Ponty led a discussion about her idea to engage the community with an online multimedia art program during the COVID-19 shutdown. She suggested creating a website that would allow for a virtual art competition. Council members would act as judges. She volunteered to reach out to CCHS administration to identify a high school student who could create and maintain the website. Consensus was unanimous that this is a great idea to implement. Caren will coordinate and flesh out details.

**5. Treasurer Report**

**A.** FY19-20 Grants status. Alain circulated current account balances. There was no disbursement activity in March.

**6. Next meeting** Friday, April 24, 2020, 9 AM via Zoom Meeting

**7. Meeting adjourned** 10:10 AM