

Wayland Cultural Council  
October 17, 2023  
Remote meeting

Note: In compliance with the March 22, 2020, Massachusetts Office of the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c. 30A, s. 20, this meeting was live streamed on local broadcast on WayCam. Public comment was made available via the "hand raise" function on Zoom. The Chair, Rachel Sideman-Kurtz, identified by name all Wayland Cultural Council ("WCC") members in attendance (identified below).

Council members in attendance: Rachel Sideman-Kurtz (Chair); voting members: Lynne Lipcon, Naresh Mysore, Pallavi Nagesha, Rahul Ray, Nora Rothschild; non-voting member, Annabelle Zhang and non-voting Student Liaison, Emma Li: Absent: members: Ashley Fuller, David Wong,

7:02 p.m. Called to Order.

No Public Comment

New Member

Mr. Ray was introduced and welcomed. Mr. Ray received a WCC grant for a utility box last year.

Review and Approve Minutes of 9/12 Meeting

Ms. Lipcon moved to approve minutes. Ms. Nagesha seconded motion. Motion approved and carried unanimously with roll call vote 6-0-0, Rachel Sideman-Kurtz, Lynne Lipcon, Naresh Mysore, Pallavi Nagesha, Rahul Ray, Nora Rothschild voting in favor.

Grant Cycle

Deadline for applications is today. 29 applications are online. Council members should be sure they are able to log in. If having trouble, let Ms. Sideman-Kurtz know. Note that former grant recipients need to log in as council member not as grant recipient and must use their [@wayland.ma.us](mailto:@wayland.ma.us) email address.

Guidelines for evaluating applications

Favored projects are free, accessible, open to public, and are seen to have community appeal. Projects that are in collaboration with town organizations (e.g., WPL, COA) are likely to rise to top. It was noted that we can decide what we want each year. MCC states we are under no obligation to support a program in repeated years, though there are some recipients that we have funded annually. We look for variety of arts, highlight Wayland artists, appeal to a mix of audiences, and are well thought out. Programs that have a core purpose, speak to social justice and diversity are valued.

Please prepare for next meeting. Read all applications and rank each: 1 (yes), 2 (maybe), or 3 (unlikely). This will give us a place to start as we review.

Ms. Nagesha volunteered to manage the Mentimeter approach which uses an Excel document for rankings, allocations, and votes to sort through the applications.

#### Treasurer Update

Mr. Mysore reported: Last year, we allocated \$6700. We allocated \$5600 for 13 grants and retained 20% for our use. \$4600 in grants has been claimed. \$1000 has not been claimed, \$300 of which will not be claimed because program could not be delivered. Two grantees have yet to submit: \$400 to Wayland Historical Society and \$300 to COA. In addition, we have \$100 donation from an artist.

This year we again have \$6700 with a similar number of applicants is similar.

Mr. Mysore uploaded our annual report to MCC.

#### Future Planning, Possible Projects, Grantee Reception

As we allocate this year's funds, we can opt to retain up to 20% for our own projects (used for utility boxes last year) or use all or part of that 20% to fund applications. Ms. Lipcon suggests we consider additional utility boxes.

Ms. Rothschild offered to facilitate utility box project if we go forward with that.

Ms. Nagesha suggested benches in public places—along rail trail.  
Picnic table at town green possibly.

Need to do the research before next meeting to determine what money would be needed. Also, what permissions from town or state. Ms. Nagesha will explore materials and Ms. Sideman-Kurtz will research the town permissions/ available sites.

Welcome banners have misspelling of Hindi "Welcome" Stickers have been ordered to replace. Banner was reviewed for spelling by many but not sufficiently. PDF of banner will be passed around again. Please share with anyone who might speak native

Mr. Ray interested in seeing bulletin boards in town building. Mr. Ray would like to see more there. He'd be happy to provide student art from his classes.

Grantee reception – usually March - to celebrate grantees. Pre-covid had 1 hour before Select Board meeting—invite local dignitaries to COA space—food and drink—as way to acknowledge our grantees. In addition to 20%, we also receive 5% for administrative use which could cover this event. Rachel will secure a date in March for 2024.

The group expressed interest in meeting in person. Hope to do so beginning in December.

#### Youth News

Ms. Zhang: Permission was granted to hang Welcome banners outside high school on fence. Asian culture day at High School was mentioned last meeting. Ms. Li may know more.

#### Project Updates – Arts Wayland Expo

Rail Trail Door was raffled raising \$55. It was a fun event. Arts Wayland plans to do again in May. WCC invited to participate. Plan for it later.

#### Bulletin Boards

Ms. Rothschild reported that the town building bulletin boards are for us to display arts in Wayland, WCC events, recognize a specific time like Hispanic Heritage month, etc. Anyone with ideas, please get to Ms. Rothschild who will bring your idea to life. Current display highlights our table at Arts Wayland Expo. Mr. Ray will ask if his art students are interested in showing their work. Note that works are not secured.

#### Roles & Responsibilities of Chair

Ms. Sideman-Kurtz presented a list of chair activities and responsibilities. Ms. Nagesha offered to shadow Ms. Sideman-Kurtz as vice chair now with an eye to becoming the chair in June 2025 when Ms. Sideman-Kurtz's term expires.

Ms. Rothschild moved that Ms. Nagesha be confirmed as vice chair. Mr. Ray seconded the motion. Motion approved and carried unanimously with roll call vote 6-0-0, Rachel Sideman-Kurtz, Lynne Lipcon, Naresh Mysore, Pallavi Nagesha, Rahul Ray, Nora Rothschild voting in favor.

#### Items Not Reasonably Anticipated within 48 Hours

No items were brought up.

Moved to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. Ms. Nagesha seconded. Motion approved and carried unanimously with roll call vote 6-0-0, Rachel Sideman-Kurtz, Lynne Lipcon, Naresh Mysore, Pallavi Nagesha, Rahul Ray, Nora Rothschild voting in favor.

Next meeting: November 14, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

Respectfully submitted by Lynne Lipcon