

August 29 SCC Meeting Minutes, 7-8:05PM

In attendance:

Jason Baletsa, Beth Balliro, Jessica Bombardier, Carolina Velasquez, Erin Ryan, Amy Faeskorn, Debra Lakind

Absent:

Houda Amoakuh, Sara Ewing, Barbara Eldridge, Sara Hepburn

Meeting began with brief introductions of new members and background on the annual grant cycle

1. Affirming and publicizing our funding priorities for the 2019 grant cycle

- The SCC discussed the strategy to solicit diverse application and how to get new ideas off the ground
- There was further review of the funding priority language adopted at the July meeting, specifically the language added this year prioritizing proposals that “promote diverse culture”
- Review of 2017 survey to determine the priorities of the residents of Swampscott when considering programming. Jason Baletsa asked a clarifying question with respect to survey findings and if they are used to rank applications. A rubric is used to incorporate survey priorities into the grant review process.

The SCC conducted a final vote and unanimously affirmed the funding priority language (below) that was proposed during the July meeting:

SCC Funding Priorities:

In reviewing proposals for funding this year, Swampscott Cultural Council seeks proposals that promote diverse culture while placing an emphasis on:

- local artists and programs
- new, diverse programming
- programs that will benefit the greatest number of residents
- collaborative programs between artists and local institutions
- programs and events that have acquired additional sources of funding
- programs that are free to the public
- meticulous planning

We will draw from the results of the Swampscott Cultural Council’s Summer 2017 community input survey, which identified several funding priorities:

1. Community events and public performances
2. Arts/cultural programming for the schools
3. Nature, science, environmental education projects
4. Public arts projects
5. Supporting cultural diversity

- The question of providing an opportunity for grant extensions to grant recipients who received funding during the last grant cycle but will not be able to conduct programming in this calendar year due to circumstances beyond their control was brought before the SCC.
 - A letter from Blue Big Band requesting an extension for their program to be scheduled for spring of 2019, though all financials would be submitted prior to the end of 2018, was read to the SCC members

SCC unanimously approved the extension permitting Blue Big Band to conduct their programming in 2019

- SCC will be reaching out to the other grant recipient that has not been able to conduct programming to inform them of the opportunity to request an extension for programming.
- SCC discussed print and online strategies publicizing that SCC is seeking proposals that promote diverse cultural programming, including:
 - Print flyers distributed in local establishments, museums, farmers markets / community events, churches and synagogues, etc.
 - Online and Social Media publications discussed
 - Creating a short imovie / video of previous recipients and events hosted by SCC
 - Attend community organization meetings, i.e. SURE to spread the word on the upcoming grant cycle.

SCC unanimously voted to use last year's grant scoring rubric, with the addition of the overarching priority to promote diverse cultural programming, when reviewing grant applications this cycle

Please note:

- SCC welcomes additional thoughts on other forms of publicity to help notify the public of the grant opportunities

Upcoming Meetings:
December 10th, 7PM

8:05PM Adjourned