

Northbridge Cultural Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 9, 2019

Northbridge Town Hall

Present:

Yurima Guilarte-Walker, Chair

Douglas Walker, Treasurer

Ashley Bannon, Secretary

Leeann Hansson

Patricia Corkum

NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK
LIBRARY DIVISION

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Meeting called to order by Yurima Guilarte-Walker at 6:03 PM.

General Business

Minutes approved from 11/18/19 meeting. Leeann Hansson moved for approval, Patricia Corkum seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Grant Application Review

- 1) Mike Stepien requests \$200 to perform a one-hour "Be My Valentine" concert at the Northbridge Senior Center. The concert will include acoustic guitar music from multiple genres, spanning the 40's – 70's. Proposed NCC funding: \$200.
- 2) Jack Radcliffe requests \$300 to perform "St. Patrick's Day concert with Ragtime Jack " at the Northbridge Senior Center. The concert will be a celebration of Irish music as it has been transformed into the American experience. Proposed NCC funding: \$200.
- 3) Steven Henderson requests \$375 to perform the theatrical comedy "The Haverston Mills Town Meeting" at the Northbridge Senior Center with a troupe of ten senior actors. Proposed NCC funding: \$375.
- 4) The Northbridge Brass Endeavors request \$500 in order to support the "Cosmic Classics: Best in Brass" project at Mechanics Hall, which brings world-class music and inspirational live performances at low (or no) cost to the Worcester area. Proposed NCC funding: \$200.
- 5) Howie Newman requests \$300 to perform the concert "Music for Seniors" at the Northbridge Senior Center. The performance will include music from Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, the Beatles and Elvis Presley as well as show tunes, oldies, standards, patriotic songs and other well-known songs. Proposed NCC funding: \$300.

- 6) Holly McNeil requests \$1,500 to support the purchase of exhibition panels for the 14th annual Blackstone Valley Education Foundation- Art in the Valley event. Art in the Valley is a two-day art show where 30 teachers and 400 K-8 student artists exhibit their work. Proposed NCC funding: \$750
- 7) John Root requests \$450 to hold an “Edible Wild Plants Walk” at Foppema’s Farm in June. Poisonous and edible plants will be identified on a 90-minute foraging walk. Proposed NCC funding: \$200.
- 8) Carol Frieswick requests \$600 to support the November 2019 The Small Stones Festival of the Arts. The festival includes a juried exhibition of photography and painting, and a musical program curated by Apple Tree Arts. Proposed NCC funding: \$0.
- 9) Ed the Wizard (Ed Cope) requests \$450 to perform the after school program “Imagine Your Story” at the Whitinsville Social Library. “Imagine your Story” is a 45-minute interactive magic performance emphasizing the discovery of, through reading, one’s own inspirations. The program will coordinate with the 2020 Summer Reading theme. Proposed NCC funding: \$300.
- 10) Helen O’Hara requests \$300 for the concert Rockabye Beats at the Whitinsville Social Library. The performance is a unique interactive musical program for the early literacy audience. Marcos Valles, a seasoned musician and children’s entertainer, will bring his own instruments and props for the children to play with. Proposed NCC funding: \$300.
- 11) Helen O’Hara requests \$580 for the purchase of a yearlong movie license from Swank Motion Pictures for the Whitinsville Social Library. This will give the library the ability to show the latest movies. They plan to host 48 movie nights per year. Movie night has been a popular request from children, tweens, and teens. Proposed NCC funding: \$580.
- 12) Janet Parnes requests \$310 to perform “Myths & Miracles of Victorian Medicine” at the Northbridge Senior Center. The audience will learn about Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, Louis Pasteur, hygiene practices, ailments, inventions, and other medical practices from the 19th-20th centuries. Proposed NCC funding: \$310.
- 13) Tom Dahl of Puzzled Escape Games requests \$1,000 to bring “Box From The Future,” a multidisciplinary teambuilding program, to Northbridge High School. “Box from the Future” is a creative, educational, team oriented learning experience that will challenge and entertain students. Proposed NCC funding: \$0.
- 14) Beginning Bridges CFRE requests \$325 for the program Count Down to Kindergarten. It is a free Kindergarten Transition Celebration for the

incoming Kindergarten Class of 2033 for Northbridge & Uxbridge. Proposed NCC funding: \$325.

- 15) Davis Bates & Roger Tincknell request \$650 to perform the concert This Land is Your Land: An Inter-generational Performance on the town common on May 14, 2020. Proposed NCC funding: \$375.
- 16) Monique Bouche-Adams requests \$1,000 for the Whitin Community Center's Summer Youth Theatre Program. Summer Youth Theatre, is a free 8-week long program that provides youth, ages 5-17, with a well-rounded, hands-on theatre arts experience. Proposed NCC funding: \$800.
- 17) The Blackstone Valley Art Association requests \$350 to provide art supplies for their monthly artist demonstrations. Proposed NCC funding: \$300.
- 18) Helen O'Hara of the Whitinsville Social Library requests \$495 to host the show Dinoman. This touring show takes the audience on a trip throughout the mesozoic era, and helps answer many questions about dinosaurs, fossils, and more for a family audience. Proposed NCC funding: \$300.
- 19) The Claflin Hill Symphony Orchestra requests \$1,100 to perform Claflin Hill Symphony Summer Winds at the Open Sky mill complex in July. The group is composed of professional musicians from across New England and is based in Milford. Proposed NCC funding: \$770.
- 20) Ken Taylor of the CO Blackstone Valley Bluegrass Band requests \$800 to perform at the OpenSky Free Summer Concert Music Series in summer 2020. Proposed NCC funding: \$400.
- 21) Scott Jameson requests \$550 to perform the "Imagine Your Story" program at the Whitinsville Social Library to kick-off their summer reading program at the library. Proposed NCC funding: \$400.
- 22) The Blackstone Valley Community Concert Band requests \$500 to perform in the Open Sky Summer Concert Series. Local musicians range in age from 14-80 and perform a range of music throughout the year. Proposed NCC funding: \$500.
- 23) Travis Ann DoRosario of the Uxbridge Dog Park Committee requests \$300 for a dog park orientation and training program to be held at the Uxbridge dog park. Proposed NCC funding: \$0.
- 24) Julia Juskavitch of the BVCC Women's Success Network requests \$680 for the History at Play theatrical presentation by Judith Kalaora. Kalaora will present the show "I Now Pronounce You, Lucy Stone" to the BVCC Women's Success Network. Proposed NCC funding: \$300.

- 25) Tim Van Egmond, Folksinger and Storyteller, requests \$445 to present the concert "In the Good Old Summertime" at the Northbridge Senior Center. Proposed NCC funding: \$300.
- 26) The band Far From Eden requests \$400 to perform at the OpenSky Summer Concert Series. Far From Eden is a family-friendly band that plays music from the Beatles to the Rolling Stones to Tom Petty to Adele. Proposed NCC funding: \$300.
- 27) Lisa Shea requests \$300 to present a workshop series for local writers covering writing, publishing, and marketing over four 2-hour sessions. Proposed NCC funding: \$300.
- 28) Rebecca Sasseville of the Whitinsville Social Library requests \$210 to host Julie Roberts Szczepankiewicz, who will present "The ABCs of DNA: First Steps in Understanding and Using Your DNA Test Results." Proposed NCC funding: \$210.
- 29) The Blackstone Valley Community Chorus requests \$500 for their Fall & Spring Concerts and Community Outreach Opportunities. The Chorus is composed of local singers of all ages and levels. Proposed NCC funding: \$300.
- 30) Jay Mankita of Playful Engineers requests \$500 to present a 2-hour, public, multi-generational, hands-on event in which participants will have a chance to design, build, test, and play with Rube Goldberg "Machines," and other chain reactions. Proposed NCC funding: \$0.
- 31) Francis Hart requests \$300 to present "A Cultural and Historical Reflection of the 1960s through the Music of The Beatles." The performance is a multimedia presentation with live music. Proposed NCC funding: \$0.

A vote was taken on the above grant application funding decisions. Douglas Walker motioned the vote, and Leeann seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Yurima Guilarte-Walker will send denial letters this week. The committee will send the award letters to recipients in early-mid January.

The next meeting will be held 1/13/20 at 6:00 pm at the town hall.

Leeann Hansson motioned to close the meeting, Ashley Bannon seconded the motion at 8:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Ashley Bannon, Northbridge Cultural Council.