WEST NEWBURY CULTURAL COUNCIL

September 19, 2019

Minutes

Time: 7:00 PM, Second Floor Hearing Room at Town Office Bldg.
Present: Heather Karp, Cathy DeWitt, Amy Friend, Dot Cavanaugh, Jocelyn Cosentino, Sue Dougherty, Linda Young, Alyson Tedeschi

New Member
Heather introduced the newest council member, Alyson Tedeschi

Overview
Heather provided a handout with council members’ names and an overview of the grant cycle.
Heather mentioned that we haven’t sent a press release out yet for the current grant cycle. She is looking for a volunteer to do that.

Art in the Garden, June 20, 2019
Heather opened a discussion about the 20% commission required of the artists at the last Art in the Garden. She felt it was too high. Amy agreed and pointed out that it felt very unfair for the artists who were also offering their gardens to then need to pay a commission. Most were unaware of this and thought it was unfair due to the work and money put into the gardens in preparation. We explored the possibility of an entrance fee or a smaller commission. We also discussed the fact that artists and musicians should be treated equally. This means giving the musicians an opportunity to earn money with tip jars. Jocelyn suggested offering the option of making a donation and that often that results in higher donations. After a discussion, we voted unanimously to allow musicians to have tip jars and to offer the artists an option to make a tax deductible donation to the scholarship fund.

We also discussed the fact that the Garden Club uses their money for a scholarship. Heather was wondering if there was interest in doing the same with the money earned from the Art in the Garden tour. Cathy explained that there are 3 accounts: council, gift fund, and town. She believes that we can use the gift fund for a scholarship but will look into it and discuss it with the town manager. The size of the scholarship was also discussed and consensus was that it should be at least $1,000. The scholarship would be offered to any Pentucket student pursuing the arts.

Quilt Cards
We have broken even with the sales of quilt cards and made a small profit. Cards will be offered on a flash sale of $5 per box near the holidays. We have a surplus of cards because the company didn’t get the order to us in time and compensated by sending extra.

Purchases
We voted unanimously to purchase a Council banner for events. A popup tent was mentioned but tabled for now.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Friend