

City of Chelsea
Recreation & Cultural Affairs Division
Minutes
Tuesday, March 22, 2022 | 6:30 PM | Via Zoom

2022 MAR -11 P 2:54

Members: Marlene Jennings, Chair; Dakeya Christmas (around 7:10pm), Co-Chair; Danielle Kim, Clerk; Nicky Enriquez; Carolina Anzola

Staff: Bea Cravatta, Omar Miranda

I. Call to order

Marlene calls the meeting to order at 6:40pm.

II. General comments

Marlene asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

III. Approve Minutes for February 22, 2022

Nicky motioned to approve the minutes from February 22, 2022, Carolina seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

V. Chelsea Heritage Grant Updates

FY2021

The People of Chelsea project has a call out in the *Chelsea Record*. The grant will pay for a designer, which is a local person, but the process is going very slowly. Sarah Gay from the Library will be putting up a banner, and the Friends of the Library will be purchasing copies for the library.

The Chelsea Gateway Project - Ellen Rovner is hoping to finish her project by December 2022. Marlene will share an explanation for the extension of her project. Bea explained that the Council voted to allow her to combined the Heritage Grant and LCC Grant funds. Bea suggested that we have Ellen at a CCC group to give a verbal update.

Yiddish Black Folk Heritage Music - Bea has not heard anything back.

Shore Collaborative - Steven Lockato requested an extension for November, and they already have a bus scheduled for the museum. It was changed from April to December to the Museum of Science. Nicky asked for the decision behind it changing, and Bea seconded that it would be good to know the reasoning.

Latimer Light project - Eduardo Chacon asked Bea about modifications to the project. Bea let him know that funds could be used for the maintenance of his project, i.e. the Division Street lights, etc. Whatever modifications he would like made to the grant, he needs to submit a written

note to the Cultural Council. Bea volunteered to communicate with him to understand his needs.

Temple Israel - wasn't able to implement their project during the winter months, but they have programming scheduled in the spring. The Chelsea Recreation will help them advertise it, but we're waiting to hear from them. Bea is hoping to have more information soon.

Science Fair for the Latimer Society - Danielle mentioned that they had communicated a little while ago, and he was hoping to implement it later in the spring. The Council is anxious for this project to be implemented as it is the last remaining project funded from FY21.

The Fun Bus - The trip to the Stoneham Zoo will occur on April 20.

FY2022

Two information sessions were held for the Chelsea Heritage Grant for the fiscal year 2022. It was recorded for future use. Two-three people attended the virtual session, and two-three people attended the in-person session at the Williams School.

Omar confirmed that five - three have been completed and two need to finish up.

Use of Heritage funds were discussed for projects i.e. preserving Chelsea art and culture, framing cartoons by late Chelsea resident Frank Bernard, or seed money for public performance programs – Omar spoke about identifying three or four places for public performances throughout Chelsea this summer. We would start by commissioning artists for performances. Modeled after the City of Lowell's "Busk Stops." Omar will present to the Arts & Culture Coordination meeting and share pricing: \$150 per individual, \$300 for duo, \$400 for trio, up to a maximum of \$600 for two hours. The overall pricing would be \$5000-\$7000 (if licensing and permits were necessary). The program would start June 19 and go through August 28 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Sundays at City Hall Plaza, Bellingham Square, Chelsea Square, Washington Park for a total of 20 performances for 11 weeks. The Call for Artists would run from April 1-May 1. After which portfolios would be reviewed. The idea is that this would be a promotional program to encourage and attract artists. This program would meet a few goals/priorities of the cultural plan.

IV. LCC 2022 Grantee Updates

The following organizations have not turned in their paperwork to receive their grant payment:

- From Chelsea with Love - Dakeya will follow up with Matt Frank because he was concerned with the name and any possible connotation with Russia
- Read Beyond
- Chelsea Poetry Walk - Marlene will reach out
- Chelsea Salsa in the Park - Carolina mentioned that the grantee had not replied to her
- Museum Field Trip
- Banda Internacional de Chelsea

Bea mentioned that grant payments have been delayed from both the state and city level.

Carolina inquired after the status of payment for Group Torogoz, Bea shared that her name has been different on every piece of paperwork, so her funding has been held up. It will likely be a few weeks until she receives payment. The artist may also need to extend her project due to family health issues.

VI. Painted Utility Boxes

Dakeya is working on a list of major non-profits and businesses in Chelsea, and then the Cultural Council will send a letter to these entities and offer them a sponsored utility box with a stipend of \$300. We hope that this will encourage more participation and activity. Omar, Alex, and Bea will be meeting with DPW and they hope to have an updated list for boxes. As for funding, sources could come from the Heritage Grant or possibly DPW.

Omar shared the idea of using a plastic wrap instead of painting utility boxes, which might be better for long-term maintenance.

VII. Announcements

Marlene thanked the team for their contributions.

Meeting adjourns at 7:35pm.

Next meeting: April 26, 2022

Recorder: Nicky Enriquez