

Provincetown Cultural Council

June 15, 2015 6:00 pm

Provincetown Town Hall

Minutes

Present: Grace Ryder-O'Malley (chair), Donald Whitcomb, Judy Cicero, Cheri Mittenthal, Robert Speiser and Brian O'Malley (clerk)

By Conference Call: Bragan Thomas

Excused: Francine D'Olimpio

There were no public comments.

Minutes of June 1, 2015, on a motion by Mittenthal, were approved as distributed.

Provincetown AIDS Memorial:

We have consensus that the first round of screening will be by the PCC members to determine the semi-finalists; and that the finalist round will include these representatives: Arts Commission, ASGCC, Town government.

We hope to have a public exhibition of the finalists- probably 3-5 chosen- and solicitation of public opinion, to be considered in the winning finalist selection.

The RFP was reviewed and minor edits approved. Extended discussion ensued on the requirement that proposed project budgets be excluded from our review of submissions. It seems to open unintended possibilities for administrative determination trumping art.

Members discussed the prospect that artists could independently supplement the budget. We will seek counsel on this question.

Honorarium for winning finalist discussed. To seek guidelines for appropriate amount.

The Evaluation Criteria were considered. O'Malley notes that the four current rating questions each contain multiple elements, and exhibit considerable duplication. He proposes that we separate our criteria into a larger number of single ratings for more clarity and a wider evaluation range.

Speiser suggests that we reserve an "Unacceptable" designation reserved for submissions that for some reason are clearly incompatible with the goals of the Memorial and the RFP.

We agree that some form of subjective (“gut”) response to the work is important, as hard pre-determined criteria may not be adequate as applied to a work of art. And we agree to this framework for rating proposals:

>artistic excellence and innovation

>incorporates design elements- whether literal or metaphorical- that highlight the impact the AIDS epidemic has had on society generally, and in particular the community of Provincetown

>appropriateness with respect to content

>appropriateness with respect to size and scale, form and materials

>physical approachability/ “invitingness”>safety / durability relative to environment, theft, extreme weather and vandalism / minimal maintenance required

>impacts on surrounding neighborhood including those of light and sound

Fundraising Events:

-Jonathan Hawkings, Crown & Anchor performer will solicit donations to the Memorial at his shows.

-Masthead Deck Fundraiser Weds. July 1 4-6 pm is postponed due to conflict with PBG event. Women Innkeepers offers speaking opportunity for Women’s Week; Cicero will represent PCC.

Other:

Grant Recipient Reception Tues July 7, 5-7 pm. Five years of grant recipients will be recognized, and a Community Input Session is planned.

The term of Chair Ryder-O’Malley ends in December. We discuss the possibility of Co-Chairs with distinct portfolios for MCC functions and the AIDS Memorial.

Meeting adjourned 8:08 pm

Next meeting – to be determined, as can be scheduled, to meet with Town Counsel and Acting Town Manager.