**Westport Cultural Council Meeting Minutes of January 4, 2023**

**Members Attending:** Carol Vidal, Nancy Whitin, Tom Pierce, Rob Delgaudio, Merri Cyr, Ned Daniels.

**Absent:** Midori Evans.

**Minutes**: Minutes of the December 7th meeting were given and accepted as presented.

**Treasurer’s Report**: Tom discussed the LCC grantees of 2022-23. Only 62% have been reimbursed with the deadline coming up this month. The remaining grantees are either pending in the reimbursement process or will be contacted by one the Council members to send in their paperwork soon.

The 2023-24 Helen Ellis Grant will have a $50,500 balance from the Trust funds from the recent grant. This will be added to any unencumbered money from grants not fully reimbursed by previous grant recipients. The interest balance from LCC and Helen Ellis money can be used for WCC administrative costs. Tom also pointed out that the 2022-23 Helen Ellis grants have been 51% reimbursed to date. The deadline for these Helen Ellis grants is May 2023.

The Treasurer’s report was accepted as presented.

**Liaisons for Each Grant**: WCC members were then asked to serve as Liaisons for each grant awarded.

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|  |  | **final grant** | **Liaison** |
| Chace, Karen A. |  | 300 | Midori |
| Gnome, Inc. |  | 500 | Nancy |
| New Bedford Festival Theatre, Inc. |  | 600 | Rob |
| New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center, Inc. |  | 250 | Tom |
| Old Dartmouth Historical Society |  | 600 | Merri |
| South Coast Artists, Inc. |  | 1000 | Nancy |
| The Art Drive |  | 1000 | Nancy |
| Tri-County Music Association, Inc. |  | 200 | Ned |
| Westport Art Group, Inc. |  | 400 | Midori |
| Westport Historical Society, Inc. |  | 500 | Carol |
| Westport Historical Society, Inc. |  | 300 | Carol |
| Westport Music Boosters Association |  | 1375 | Rob |
| Westport Public Schools |  | 300 | Ned |
| Westport River Watershed Alliance, Inc. |  | 1000 | Merri |
| Your Theatre, Inc. |  | 600 | Rob |
|  |  | **8925** |  |

**Guests in Attendance**: Gina Bromwell and Martha Moffitt.

**New Business**: The idea of a reception for awarded grantees was discussed.

**Film Series**: Rob opened a discussion about the Film series for this year. He stressed that we need to offer more advertising and earlier promotion for each film. A discussion then followed about a location for the next film series. An enthusiastic discussion followed regarding the “Manhattan Shorts.” Considerable discussion of ideas for the Film Series followed.

**Artist in Residence**: The discussion centered on the type of artist and program offered. It was felt that the program could draw more people to see it and to participate. One idea was to integrate it into the Wampanoag Indian Canoe project.

**WCC Website**: Rob shared the possibility of having a student at the Westport High School to do a website for us. A grant will be needed for this project. A domain name for the site will also be needed and it must be relevant.

A motion was made to fund the site, seconded, and approved. The site will be a topic at the February 1st meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to close the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Next WCC meeting is Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Westport Town Annex.