

Watertown Cultural Council (WCC) Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 19, 2025, City Hall Conference Room, 3rd floor
7:30 – 9:00pm

In attendance: Monica Fairbairn, John Howard Foote, Nick Haddad, Morgan Henderson, Lawrence Kessenich, Greg Papasian, Phyllis Perrone, Lois Pond, Angela Tramontano

Absent: Nicolette Reiss, Sally Young

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm with a quorum.

1. The February 2025 meeting minutes were approved with no corrections.
2. John updated the Council on completed grant applications and WPS grant requests. There were two that as of the meeting had not submitted the required paperwork – John asked that the members of the Council assigned to those grantees reach out ASAP. He noted that he is able to track the pot of money from MCC, but can't track the money from Watertown in the same way, so he would like to get them all completed with time to troubleshoot in case there are any holdups. All Council members are asked to touch base with their grantees to make sure they have received payment.
3. Greg reported on the WCC logo update. He has been in touch with the principal for the Watertown Middle/High Schools, who says he will let the appropriate teachers know about the contest. Greg will create a poster to circulate by email, post at the library. He would like feedback on the poster before it's finalized – the group agreed to call a committee meeting to discuss via zoom (minutes for that meeting at the end of this document). Lois will send the agenda to the City Clerk with the date for posting.
4. Morgan asked that the update on handbook be deferred to the March meeting.
5. Activity on MCC request for LCC 45th anniversary – Lois reminded the Council that MCC is celebrating the 45th anniversary of Local Cultural Councils and is asking for images from our events. Council members are requested to send any images of events to Greg, who will share them on social media and with Lois for MCC.
6. Phyllis gave us a demo on Google Calendar for the Council's use. She has been working hard on this, and the Council is grateful. Lois noted that the new

WCC website, which is part of the new Cultural District website, will have a calendar that will likely replace this. She noted that Liz Helfer will Zoom in on the next meeting and show us how to enter our own grantees' events there (Liz will review/edit all entries before they go live). A reminder to Council liaisons to let the group know about grantee events so that we can support them. Exceptions to postings/notifications would be school events that aren't open to the public.

7. Celebration of 2025 grantees – Lois noted that we need to plan the event. The event will take place in the threshing barn at Gore Place on Wednesday, May 14th. Nick, Angela, Greg, Morgan and Phyllis offered to work on the event and create a set-up/clean-up plan. All liaisons should encourage their grantees to attend.
8. Lois noted that John and Monica's Council terms are up in May, and they will be stepping off WCC. Morgan will take over the Treasurer role, so the Council will require a new Secretary. Lois would like to share the Chair position with someone else. Council members were asked to think about taking on one of the roles.
9. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday April 9, 2025 at 7:00 pm in the 3rd floor conference room at City Hall.

Business being completed, Greg proposed we adjourn. Phyllis seconded, all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.

Watertown Cultural Council (WCC) Logo Meeting (working committee)
Monday, March 31, 2025, Remote
7:00 – 8:00pm

In attendance: Monica Fairbairn, John Howard Foote, Nick Haddad, Morgan Henderson, Lawrence Kessenich, Greg Papasian, Phyllis Perrone, Lois Pond, Angela Tramontano

The committee meeting started at 7:00 pm.

John started by reporting that all grantees have now submitted paperwork, and he is waiting for the City to pay out the last grants. He notes we have \$1,000 for our grantee reception and other expenses, which will include the prizes for the logo contest.

1. Project timeline – once the poster is made public, Greg will allow approximately a month for submissions (all of April) and will then ask folks to weigh in.
2. Awards – the Committee decided to award \$250 to the winner of the contest, with a \$100 prize for second and \$50 for third place.
3. Design selection - the Council will call a zoom meeting to review the submissions because the regular May meeting will be the grantees' reception on May 14th.
4. Publicity – Greg will post to the WCC Instagram account, send to the Watertown News and the library.
5. Other tasks – an agenda item for the April meeting will be setting up a May Zoom call to review the submissions and sending an agenda for the meeting to the City Clerk.

The committee did some “live” editing to the poster, and Greg said he would put the final touches on it and send it to the full Council for final review. The meeting ended at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted –

Morgan Kennedy Henderson, Secretary