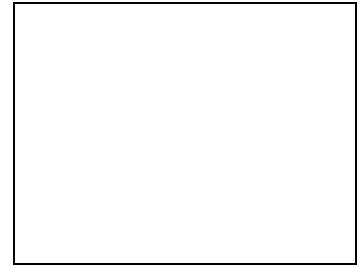




MINUTES TEMPLATE



COMMITTEE: Nantucket Cultural Council Time Meeting called to Order: 4:08 pm

MEETING DATE: January 8, 2024 Time Meeting Adjourned: 4:43pm

MEMBERS PRESENT via ZOOM: Ava Rollins (Co-Chair), Emma Young (Co-Chair), Barbara Tibbetts, Bethany Oliver, and Michael Kopko, and Sarah Ellis

STAFF PRESENT: Shantaw Bloise-Murphy

ANTICIPATED SPEAKERS: Megan Trudel on behalf of NP&EDC

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tony Wagner

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	VOTES / ROLL CALL
1. Welcome Council Members	Mrs. Bloise-Murphy read the virtual meeting script and reviewed meeting rules and took attendance. Ms. Young welcomed the Council members and Bethany Oliver to her first meeting of the Council.	
2. Approval of Minutes	Motion to approve November 2023 minutes was made by Michael Kopko and seconded by Barbara Tibbetts	
	Roll Call Vote	
	Ava Rollins – Aye	
	Barbara Tibbetts – Aye	
	Michael Kopko – Aye	
	Emma Young - Aye	
	Minutes were approved 4-0	
	Motion to approve December 2023 minutes pending change in dates as suggested by Emma Young was made by Bethany Oliver and seconded by Michael Kopko	
	Motion to approve May minutes was made by Michael Kopko and seconded by Sarah Ellis.	
	Roll Call Vote	
	Ava Rollins – Aye	
	Michael Kopko – Aye	
	Emma Young – Aye	
	Sarah Ellis – Aye	
	Barbara Tibbetts – Aye	
	Bethany Oliver – Aye	

3. NP&EDC Proposal Guest Speaker: Megan Trudel

Mrs. Trudel is a senior planner for the Town of Nantucket and serves as the staff liaison for the Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission. She explained that NP&EDC is one of thirteen Planning and Economic Development Commissions in the state of Massachusetts. Nantucket is the only one with just 1 committee in the regional planning agency. It was founded in early 1970s to help facilitate state grants and transportation related funding. In the last few years there have been citizen petitions to change the composition of NP&EDC, among other things which led to an internal evaluation of processes, membership, mission and vision. The vision and mission have been updated to tackle more modern issues. The commission has 11 members, 5 are elected, 1 representative from County Commission that is appointed by the County Commission, aka, Selectboard, representative from Housing Authority, 3 at large appointments for a 3-year cycle and 1 representative from Conservation Commission.

The Commission in recent months has been reviewing its membership and focusing on sectors that should or would be interested in having representatives. NP&EDC in this revision, recognized that someone is missing from the Arts & Culture sector and having Nantucket Cultural Council possibly be the appointing body from that sector, whether it be an internal appointment or appointing someone from the community.

Barbara Tibbetts shared her support for this idea and her interest in possibly serving. Michael Kopko added that he has served on NP&EDC and supports this suggested change. He added that the arts and cultural sector is vital to the economics of the community. He asked Megan to expand on the appointment piece as he knows there is a tremendous workload and involved with serving on the Commission.

Megan added that the Commission meets on the 3rd or 4th Monday of each month. Commission meetings focus heavily on transportation related initiatives and usually has a guest speaker from various Town Departments and/or other boards and representatives to discuss long range planning and current issues.

Megan mentioned that NP&EDC is in the preliminary phase of establishing this membership style and knowing that NCC is interested will go a long way in informing next steps for them.

Michael asked Megan about the lack of support of this new effort by some of the current NP&EDC members and if this will actually come to fruition with those members efforts against it. Megan added that as it was citizen warrant article there are more legislative hurdles that it will have to go through before it can come to fruition so only time will tell what happens next. However, regardless of what that output is, the Commission will continue to explore this change as there has not been any significant changes to their constitution and recognize that a modernization is needed. Michael asked if this would be an at large seat. Megan responded that they explored increasing the membership to 13 members, reduce planning board seats to 3, keep at large seats at 3 and incorporate environment sector beyond conservation commission, perhaps a business sector and have the housing authority be an appointing member as well, instead of just having someone from their serving. They also discussed adding someone from Social Services. Megan clarified that in the discussion of sector, it would be about who would be the appointing party. Michael added that it is encouraging to learn that NP&EDC is being responsive to the community's concerns. Megan ended by saying that she would report back to Leslie Snell, Director of Planning and, Mary Longacre, Chair of NP&EDC to keep moving in this direction and potentially pursuing Cultural sector as a member. Megan added that NCC and NP&EDC should stay in touch to discuss how this will track.

4. Public Comment

No members of the public present for Public Comment

5. Grant Cycle Update

Emma added that the unfunded applicants have been informed and the 15-day appeal period has officially closed. Shantaw added that she has not sent approval as she was waiting for the appeal period to close. She will now work with Finance to send approvals and contracts to awardees. Emma added that NCC has switched to direct granting which means that as soon as contracts are received, checks will be issued for funds. Shantaw added that they will still have to do a year-end report, but this process makes it simpler.

Emma added that she has received all reimbursement paperwork from all 2023 recipients, including from the organizations that had received an extension to complete their projects. Emma added that Ava will be working on getting more photos from recipients so that NCC can work on promotions.

Barbara added that she received her rejection and wants to schedule some time to talk about her project.

Michael added that he is eager to explore membership on NP&EDC and possible funding through their organization. Emma added that Shantaw will be in touch with Megan to learn about next steps as it seems NP&EDC was just putting feelers out.

6. Adjournment

Michael made a motion to adjourn. Barabra Tibbetts seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Barbara Tibbetts - Aye

Bethany Oliver - Aye

Michael Kopko - Aye

Ava Rollins - Aye

Sarah Ellis - Aye

Emma Young - Aye

The meeting was adjourned at 4:43 pm

Signature _____