

Town Clerk

**Warwick Cultural Council Meeting Minutes  
for March 16, 2023 from 6:00PM until 7:04PM**

Approved Aug 28, 2023

Members in attendance at posted meeting held in the Warwick Library:

Linda Paquet, Chair  
Louise Doud  
Nancy Harnden  
Kathy Litchfield  
Barbara Thurston. Secretary

The proposed agenda to be discussed:

- 1.) New Member Update – Sue O'Reilly-McCrea and Nancy Harnden
- 2.) Community Input Survey
- 3.) Approve Minutes of January 5, 2023
- 4.) Finalize Grant Guidelines and Priorities
- 5.) Any other/future business
- 6.) Schedule next meeting if needed

- 1.) Kathy made a motion to recommend Nancy Harnden and Sue O'Reilly-McCrea to the Select Board to serve as members of the Warwick Cultural Council. Linda seconded the motion. All members voted in favor.  
A short discussion followed on determining the best day of the week and time for future WCC meetings. Monday seems to be the best prospect at this time because of conflicting commitments.
- 2.) Louise distributed copies of the questionnaire (copy below) she developed to conduct a townwide survey soliciting residents' input about future WCC funded programs. Suggestions were made regarding category additions (such as Historical Presentations and 'Other') and wording. The difference between the Warwick 'L' Listserv and the "Warwick Alternative" page on Facebook was clarified.

It was decided to make the questionnaire available online and in printed form. Timing was discussed about when it should be distributed and when to set the deadline for responses. May 1<sup>st</sup> was chosen as the start date and the response due date will be on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Hard copies of the questionnaire will be available at the library.

- 3.) Linda moved to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2023 WCC meeting. Barbara seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

4.) Linda will submit our Grant Guidelines and Priorities document to the Massachusetts Council at the end of August. Warwick's Arts allocation should be determined by then. We expect to have our allotment increased for this grant cycle. A brief discussion was held to ensure that applicants will be required to have made arrangements for the venue that they plan to use for their event.

Dear Warwickians,

We (members of the Warwick Cultural Council), would like your input - What kind of cultural events would you like to see in Warwick and nearby towns? What kinds of events would you show up for? What local cultural organizations would you like us to support? What performers or classes would you like us to fund?

Would you take a few moments to click on the link below and tell us your thoughts? We'd appreciate it!

Thank you,

Warwick Cultural Council

(Linda Paquet, Kathy Litchfield, Barbara Thurston and Louise Doud)

### Warwick Cultural Council Community Survey: 2023

1. In a typical year, how many local cultural events in and around Warwick do you attend?

(Select One)

None

1-2

3-4

5 or more

2. Where do you usually hear about cultural activities that interest you?

(Select all that apply)

The Athol Daily News

The Greenfield Recorder

The Springfield Republican

another newspaper \_\_\_\_\_

Social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)

Warwick L-ternative

Email notices

Events calendars online

Posters on bulletin boards at the library, town hall or local merchants

Radio or TV announcements

Through the school community

Warwick Arts Council

Word of mouth

3. Which types of local cultural events do you attend or would you like to attend (in-person or virtually)

(Select all that apply)

Art Exhibits

Concerts

Dance parties

Festivals

Film

Lectures/Readings

Museum shows

Musical performances

Plays/Theatre

Storytelling

Workshops

Other \_\_\_\_\_

4. What types of music do you enjoy?

(Select all that apply)

Classical

Big Band

Bluegrass

Brass Band

Choral

Country

Folk

Hip Hop

Jazz

Old Timey

Pop

Rock and Roll

World Music

Other \_\_\_\_\_

5. What are your suggestions for programs or performances that we can bring to Warwick?  
(You can name particular ones, if you want)

Your Name (optional):

Your Email (optional):

*We thank you for taking the time to answer these questions.*

*Save for a different message seeking more members:*

Here's how it works: Every year funds are awarded to the Cultural Councils in each town and city in Massachusetts. Artists and educators submit proposals to specific towns and cities for cultural programs, shows (concerts, plays, storytelling, etc.), workshops, writings, etc. Typically, we have funded entertainment during Old Home Days, events and programs for the elementary school and Warwick seniors, public shows/concerts at the Warwick Library or Town Hall, contributions to Starry, Starry Night and Uniquely Quabbin magazine, and historical or cultural presentations. A recent free event we funded in town was a magic-mentalist show by Warwick's own Eadon Marti, on March 3 at Warwick Community School. Close to 70 people enjoyed Eadon's performance.

5.) Ideas and suggestions about recruiting more new members were discussed. We would like to add members and perhaps broaden the diversity of the WCC. Linda suggested that we invite a member of the new School Committee which is being formed, to be able to coordinate their input as a valuable community informational resource.

It was decided to publish the last paragraph of the questionnaire at the end of the summer. The funding cycle will be in full swing by that time.

Submitted by Barbara Thurston/March 27, 2023