

BUCKLAND CULTURAL COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Buckland Recreational Area
August 22, 2023 from 6:30 - 7:30 PM

Cynthia Fisher, Chair opened the meeting.

Members Cynthia Fisher, Jim Bonham, Sarah Neelon, Laura Cunningham, Arthur Samuelson, and Brenda Parella were present at the meeting. Member Brook Batteau was absent.

The Council voted to approve a 1 year extension for FY23 Grant: Rebecca MacInnes, "Crankie Musical Story-Telling" (47273).

Laura Cunningham, Secretary will contact Rebecca MacInnes regarding her request to move the event to Ashfield. There was no vote on the modification request.

The Council reviewed and agreed on updates to their Local Funding Priorities. There was a decision to place more emphasis on events in Buckland or involving residents, on events that are more dependent on LCC funding, and to remove the explicit support for virtual events.

Laura Cunningham will update the Local Funding Priorities posted on Buckland's LCC page before the August 31st deadline, as discussed.

Ideas for collecting community input were shared. The input should be collected by next spring at the latest, ahead of the FY25 funding cycle. The methods discussed were to create an online survey based on the MCC's template and advertise it by town email list and by placing printed cards with a link at the library, post office, and Town Hall. Additionally, the Council would like to provide printed cards to FY24 grantees for distribution at their events and hand out surveys at the annual Town Meeting. No action will be taken now.

Cindy Fisher offered to post a request for new Council members on a local Facebook group. Prospects will be invited to attend the grant review meetings in October and November. Laura Cunningham, Jim Bonham, and Sarah Neelon will leave the Council in July 2024.

No Council members volunteered to take over the Secretary or Treasurer positions in 2024 after Laura Cunningham and Jim Bonham leave the Council.

Ideas for promoting Buckland Cultural Council grants in the FY24 funding cycle were shared. Some ideas discussed included press releases, emailing past grantees, posting on local Facebook groups, posting printed notices at Town Hall and businesses in Shelburne Falls. Laura Cunningham will share promotional material with Council when ready.

The meeting was adjourned.