

Fairhaven Cultural Council Meeting

July 16, 2025

Fairhaven Town Hall

Call to order

A motion to start the meeting was unanimously accepted.

Meeting called to order 6:34 PM

Roll Call

John Walker (Vice Chair), Beth Ann Gallagher (Chair), Katharine MacPhail (Secretary), Jen Frasier (Treasurer), Serina Gundersen Thomas (Member)

Absent: Nicole Arruda (Member), Alexandra Mitchell (Member)

Minutes Review and Approval

A motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting as written was accepted with one abstention.

Brief News Items

Mass Cultural Council has changed the grant cycle timeline by two days. The application portal will open on September 2. The financial report will be due slightly earlier. October 16 is the application due date, and December 19 is the deadline for the denials.

Chair's report

We have until Friday to review the updated open meeting law and send in the signed acknowledgement.

Geoff Sullivan has been emailed back about decorating the storefronts saying that right now the FCC is concentrating on other work but that we are interested in following up with his idea. The FCC received a passionate email from Susan Darwin about participating on our social media, Beth Ann responded.

Treasurer's Report

The FCC is still on track for receiving the final reports from grantees with Jen receiving the report from Shepard Center for the Arts. A few other events just happened (Music at the Gazebo and the library summer reading magic show), those reports should be trickling in. Jen had flyers photocopied through the select board office and she created laminated cards with the QR code connecting to the survey. FCC members can share this QR code with people at events using the card.

Fiscal Year 2026 Priorities & Guidelines

The FCC added to the priorities and guidelines which will be revised before the next meeting. The survey results may impact the final draft.

Community Outreach

Beth Ann cancelled the FCC participation for the fourth of July parade. Next year the FCC will march in the parade with the new banner and possible signs.

Maeve Bradshaw is a high school student who would be interested in participating in some way with the FCC.

North Fairhaven Open Air Market and Harborfest

BethAnn and Katharine can staff the tent on July 26. August 30th will be another date at NFOAM. Katharine will write to Chris Richard to secure the spots. The FCC will be at Harborfest on August 23rd.

A motion to participate in the North Fairhaven Open Air Market on July 26 and August 30 and to participate in Harborfest on August 23 was accepted unanimously.

On Monday July 28 Beth Ann will be interviewed on Fairhaven TV's show The Magazine
Community Input Survey 2025

42 responses have come in for the survey.

Beth Ann wrote to 11 committees asking them to fill out the survey.

Website

The line requesting hard copies of the grant applications is still on the website, Beth Ann will reach out again with a full re-write of what the website should say and hopefully that will make the page easier for them to update.

Special projects

Katharine will contact Maeve Bradford about putting together window decorations throughout Fairhaven.

To Dos Review

Katharine will contact Chris Richard about the NFOAM

Jen will email Ron Fortier about needing an extension.

Serina will provide access to the tent, tables and two chairs, tablecloth for use at NFOAM

Beth Ann will update the website.

Jen will update the priorities and guidelines.

Beth Ann will contact people about banners.

Next meeting Wednesday August 20, 2025.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the meeting was unanimously accepted

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM

Respectfully submitted

Katharine MacPhail

Secretary