

Fairhaven Cultural Council meeting

August 27, 2025

Call to Order

A motion to begin the meeting was unanimously accepted
Meeting called to order 6:37 PM

Roll call

Present: Beth Ann Gallagher (Chair), Katharine MacPhail (Secretary), Jen Frasier (Treasurer)
John Walker (Vice Chair), Serina Gundersen Thomas (member)
Absent: Nicole Arruda (member), Alex Mitchell (member)

Minutes Review & Approval

A motion to accept the minutes of July meeting was unanimously accepted.

Brief News Items

MCC has updated its website and is promoting all of its grant and funding opportunities

- LCC program
- Tribal Cultural Council Program- led by tribally appointed volunteers who administer an annual grant program to support local cultural projects.
- Grants for Creative Individuals- practice grants for a wide range of creatives
- Cultural facilities Fund- Grants to support the acquisition, design, repair, rehabilitation, renovation, expansion or construction of nonprofit cultural facilities. Nonprofit cultural organizations, municipalities and colleges or universities that own or lease cultural facilities are eligible to apply.
- YouthReach- Grants to Creative Youth Development programs that integrate substantive and ongoing arts, humanities and science opportunities into a collaborative community response.
- Creative Experiences- Grants to organizations (including schools) to fund festivals, projects, residencies and other cultural activities in the arts, humanities and sciences.

MCC will be highlighting Mass Open Studios for 2025.

LCC Grants info session will take place on September 9 at 6pm

Open Studios will be promoted by the MCC website.

MCC will hold another LCC grants webinar.

Chair's Report

The FCC meeting scheduled for the previous week could not take place because a quorum could not be met. As the FCC is comprised of 7 people, 4 people need to be present to reach a quorum.

Correspondence

David Butbrod, the Senior Archaeologist and Geophysicist of the Commonwealth Cultural and Archaeological Assessors, LLC, reach out about the Due Diligence cultural and archaeological review of Eversource's emergency pole replacement in the Cove east of the Forth Phoenix.

Suzan Galpin from Shepard Center emailed about applying for a grant.

Donation solicitation came from Fairhaven Association of Music Education (FAME), Beth Ann told them about the grant process.

Treasurer's Report

Grant final reports are still rolling in, 11 out of 17 have been submitted with 6 outstanding.

There are 2 grantees who have not yet held their full events. Jen hasn't gotten in touch with Ron Fortier but he has until the end of the year to submit. Final report from concerts under the stars. Anne Carreiro and Jen are meeting on September 24 to complete the financial report

due October 9. FCC will receive \$11,900 from Mass Cultural Council and \$1250 from the town making \$13,150 total funds for 2026.

2025 Community Survey Results

Beth Ann presented the survey results. 75 respondents in 2025. The survey results are attached to these minutes

Finalize Fiscal Year 2026 Priorities & Guidelines

A motion to continue to offer direct grants (full payout to the artists at time of grant) was unanimously accepted.

The priorities and guidelines were reviewed and discussed.

A motion to accept the priorities and guidelines with slight revision was unanimously accepted.

Community Outreach

Beth Ann was on "the Magazine" talking about the FCC survey and priorities and guidelines.

Beth Ann also presented to the select board.

Katharine and Beth Ann were at the NFOAM on July 26, Katharine was at Huttleston Market August 23.

Jen will send a press release to the Neighborhood News.

Special Projects

Nothing new to report on special projects

Other Business (not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting)

Two ideas for fundraising. The campaign would be matching the donations from the town. Next year include in the survey how people can donate money to the town. The town does have a pay portal, could there be a donation button for the FCC? Jen will ask Anne Carreira when they meet in September.

To Dos Review

Beth Ann will post the survey results to social media

Katharine will get in touch with Chris Richard to cancel the booth August 30 and to schedule one for September 13th if possible.

Jen will ask Anne Carreiro about donation button for donations on the website

Jen will make the changes to the priorities and guidelines.

Jen will write press release for neighborhood news.

Jen will get in touch with Ron Fortier about his schedule for remaining podcasts.

John will look further into the fundraising strategy before the next meeting.

Set Next Meeting Date

A motion to hold the next meeting September 17th was unanimously accepted.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 was unanimously accepted.

Respectfully submitted

Katharine MacPhail