

MINUTES

Benton County Cultural Coalition

Dec.5, 2006, 4:00 p.m.

Corvallis-Benton County Library

Members present: Kathryn Burton, May Dasch, Walter Frankel, Ilona Haines, Susan Johnson, Joe Malango, Sara Swanburg, Court Smith, Ann Staley, Diane Tarter, Rick Wallace

Members excused: Karyle Butcher

Members absent: Stefani McRae-Dickey, Ann Schirado

I. Approval of the Minutes;

The minutes for the October 18, 2006 BCCC meeting were approved as amended: the financial report was corrected to say that the Oct 18 balance was \$9,560.98.

2. The Treasurer's Report:

Susan reported that the revenue to date was \$10,413.57. The expenditures totaled \$878.59 (\$90.63 for grant process supplies, \$26 for post office box rental, \$201 for Fall Festival tent & tables, \$158.96 for BCCC/OCT reception, \$402 for printing the grant list bookmark). The balance was \$9534.98.

Susan also reported that the Benton County Commissioners had been asked to continue supporting our web site by paying our \$20 monthly PEAK bill and Fall Festival was asked to cover the costs for the 2007 Cultural Information Booth.

3. Grants Progress Report

Thirteen organizations applied for a BCCC/OCT grant. The Grants Committee headed by Ann Staley recommended that the full BCCC committee approve 11 of these proposals. They explained to BCCC that two of the 13 proposals, although very worthwhile, were incomplete in one or another fashion.

BCCC approved the following proposals and amounts:

ArtCentric Corvallis— 150th year anniversary mural, \$700

CALYX— readings & workshops \$800

Chamber Music Corvallis—resident string quartet, \$900

Chintimini Chamber Music— 150th year composition, \$700

College of Philomath Community Corporation—historic renovation of the front doors, \$950

Corvallis Community Band—one extra county concert, \$600

Corvallis Environmental Center, artist salary, \$600

Corvallis-OSU Symphony—rental of LaSells for children's concert, \$650

Corvallis Repertory Singers— 150th year music scores, \$600

Majestic Theatre Management—rural H.S. performance, \$500

South Benton County Enhancement Association—Belknap Reenactment, \$600.

The awards total \$7,600 as projected in the '06/'07 budget.

WALTER will complete the fund requests for the grants and deliver them to the County's Finance Department.

WALTER will contact the GT to get some press about the awards. He will also contact GT advertising about an ad promoting the OCT tax credit and BCCC grants.

Walter spoke for the whole coalition, thanking Ann Staley and her committee members: May Dasch, Karyle Butcher, Diane Tarter and Joe Malango, for all the time and effort they put into the grants process.

4. Old Business:

a. The PR Packet

Rick presented a PR package that will be given to each grant recipient. It included publicity images and text from BCCC and from OCT. RICK will have 13 copies made—two extra for OCT and for BCCC files. Susan will give him some folders for the packet. The complete packet will be given to ANN Staley to send out with the grant approval letter.

b. Web site organization list:

Court reported that the organization list is up and usable on www.bentonculture.org, the BCCC web site. He asks that if we hear of any changes or additions please tell him. We want to keep this information up to date.

WALTER will write a press release about the site and encourage cultural groups to look at it for accuracy and additions.

c. Cultural Summit:

SARA, KATHRYN, and SUSAN volunteered to work on a set of questions that BCCC can e-mail or send to county cultural organizations to ask what BCCC could do to further serve the groups. Would a cultural summit be useful? What topics would be useful? What are the county's cultural needs? We will also use the questionnaire to begin the process of revising the County Cultural Plan, an OCT mandate for '07 / '08.

We could sponsor a cultural Summit next fall just before the grant process begins.

5. New Business:

1. Remember to make this year's donation to OCT this month. We all give to some cultural organization and should give some kind of a match to OCT even if it is a small amount. At tax time you can subtract this donation off the tax you owe.

2. We discussed Ann's question about the strength of culture in Benton County and, in spite of this strength, the groups isolation from each other

6. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted, Susan Johnson, co-secretary/treasurer