

Berkley Cultural Council November 6, 2025 Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting called to order at 6:24pm. In attendance –Kelley Larabee, Stephanie Malloch , Angela Chang, Jeanne Russo, Arlene Medeiros, Susan Barrett, Suzanne Adam**council welcomes our newest member!

2. Minutes of 10.27 meeting read by Kelley for review. Motion to accept by Arlene, seconded by Stephanie, all in favor.

Motion to take #4 out of order by Arlene, seconded by Stephanie, all in favor.

4. Correspondence and unanticipated topics/discussions:

- Treasurer’s Report from Arlene: State balance \$3110.31, nonstate \$4556.50, total balance currently \$7666.81.
- Arlene relays Board of Selectman meeting mention of getting rid of Celebrations Committee, who would then need to spend remaining funds.
- Matt reached out to Kelley regarding opioids fund monies of town and possibly ways to use that the council may be interested in? Kelley advised we will discuss topic after grant cycle.

3. Discuss and vote on FY2026 Grant Applications

Council decides to focus on those applications that directly benefit town, regrets will be unable to fund all applicants with our grant allocation. Decisions as follows:

- Berkley Historical Society History at Play fully funded at \$750
 - Berkley Middle Scholl Theatre Production fully funded at \$500
 - BPL Mad Science fully funded at \$570
 - BPL Ed the Wizard fully funded at \$400
 - BPL Animal World fully funded at \$630
 - Scott Martel Magic Show unfunded, no formal sponsor
 - Face Paint Inc book donation to Berkley Little Free Library fully funded at \$100
 - BP Regional Tech Theatre Co Spring Musical partially funded at \$500
 - Kyle Comeau Summer Theatre Camp unfunded, for profit, charges participants, we have funded other theatre grants
 - Friends of Dighton Rock Zoomobile fully funded at \$700 - Chang abstains from vote
 - Friends of Dighton Rock Fairy Gardens fully funded at \$500 – Chang abstains from vote
 - Francis Hart/COA The War Years fully funded at \$400 – Medeiros abstains from vote
 - Music Dance/COA Hip Hop Square Dance fully funded at \$280 – Medeiros abstains from vote
 - Town of Berkley Memorial Day event partially funded at \$679, per Jen Vincent they can obtain remaining funds needed from Celebrations Committee or other means
 - Dennis Wise Theft of Dignity unfunded this year, no current sponsor, we have funded other theatre grants
- *note remaining applicants do not directly benefit town as do previous with exception of NoteAble Blend applicant
- Applause Academy Summer Theatre unfunded, we have funded other theatre grants
 - Dighton Historical Society Life of Paul Revere unfunded, no in-town sponsor
 - Girls Inc Taunton Vacation Workshops unfunded
 - Andrew Lewis-Parks The Coffee House unfunded – Medeiros abstains from vote
 - South Coast Community Chorale Trouble to Triumph unfunded
 - Soule Homestead Summer Concert series unfunded
 - Ron Druyan Tiny Tutti unfunded
 - Fuller Craft Museum Craft for Kids unfunded
 - Fuller Craft Museum Craft for all unfunded
 - Mayflower Camerata Classical Masters unfunded
 - New Bedford Festival Theatre Summer Academy unfunded
 - NoteAble Blend Chorus performance at Berkley Memorial Day event fully funded at \$400
 - Practice Best Practice Workshops unfunded, no sponsor

- Jon Waterman Live Music unfunded, no sponsor – Medeiros abstains from vote
 - Matt York Willie Nelson performance unfunded no sponsor
- Note votes were taken by individual council member as required. All decisions were unanimous.

5. Next meeting date: Council feels no meetings are needed in December and January. Next meeting set for Monday Feb.2, 2026 at 6:15pm. Arlene makes a motion to adjourn meeting at 7:51pm, seconded by Angela, all in favor.