

Montpelier Community Fund Board

Tuesday June 14, 2016

4:30pm

City Council Chambers

Agenda

Meet with Mayor and some Council members to discuss:

- Recent history of grant requests and funding (see detailed note following below).
- Public comment
- Consideration of guidelines concerning growth of the Fund, grant amounts, and applicant eligibility.
 - How should MCF respond to the disparity of grant amounts?
 - Should a funding distinction be made regarding organizations that provide core municipal services?
 - How should the annual fund budget be determined?
- Set future meeting date

Note regarding recent history of funding:

In the 2016 round of funding, the MCF Board received 45 requests for \$179,022. Just six of those applications (13%) accounted for 44% of the total requested.

The MCF Board recommended (and Council approved) funding four of those six requests. The end result was that 9% of applicants received 40% of the \$119,550 approved by voters on Town Meeting (7% total increase over the previous year).

The Board and Council will look at the Fund's awarding comparatively large requests of 10, 15, 20 thousand dollars, or more. Should there be a cap? Should there be an amount, or type of application which should either go directly before Council, or petition for placement on the ballot? Similar, and related questions may also be posed and considered.

During this last funding cycle, the MCF Board saw an 18% increase in applications, and a 30% increase in requested funds over the previous year. The Board seeks guidance from Council on how best to proceed. Should the current guidelines and procedures continue? Should guidelines be revised? Should the Fund be significantly enlarged? As stated above, similar, and related questions may also be posed and considered.