

## **Montpelier Community Fund Board Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2016, 4:30 – 5:30

City Council Chambers

Board Members: Bernie Lambek, Michael Sherman, Ron Wild, Christine Zachai

Members of the Public: Glen Coburn Hutcheson

1. CITY COUNCIL MEETING REPORT: Bernie requested the addition of an agenda item reporting out on the Montpelier Community Fund's appearance at the recent City Council meeting. Christine, Judy, and Michael attended that meeting. Christine reported that Councilors requested that we add language to our criteria showing a preference for grant applications that leverage other funds, and then City Councilors approved our updated criteria with the additional leveraging language, as appears below:
  1. *The extent to which the grant will benefit Montpelier, its residents, and the public good –*
    - (a) *By effectively addressing basic human needs; or*
    - (b) *By enhancing the quality, vitality, and sustainability of life in Montpelier.*
  2. *The extent to which the applicant has raised, can raise, or can leverage funds from other funding sources.*
2. CONSIDERATION OF REVISED GRANT APPLICATION: Bernie moved, and Christine seconded a motion that the Board consider the revised arts grant application from Glen Coburn Hutcheson for The Front Gallery. The Front originally applied in the fall of 2015 for a grant to support a planned move of the gallery. Since their application was funded, The Front has since decided to stay in their current Barre Street location and to instead request to use their grant funds to purchase and install an exterior sign. Bernie and Ron both noted that the proposed use of the funds is in keeping with the original intent (increased visibility) of the first application. Michael commented that the sign would need to be approved by Design Review. Christine noted the gray area in the applicant's status (applying as an individual, on behalf of a business, albeit a business that is arguably operating as a nonprofit). Ron moved and Bernie seconded a motion to approve the revised grant application for the same amount of funding (\$1,000).
3. APPLICATION UPDATES: Judy and Christine both reviewed the content of the grant application, and did not recommend any substantive edits. The MCF reviewed the application again, updated the dates and criteria, and affirmed that the deadline will be Monday, 11/28/16, midnight.
4. OFFICERS: Ron offered that, as he is in the last year of his term and may not be renewed, that we consider a new chair. Bernie said that the board originally operated without a chair. Some liked the idea of a Vice-Chair who was on a different term cycle. The MCF appreciated Ron's willingness to continue as chair, and will take up this item at the next meeting.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

- a. Ron will contact the City Manager's office in regards to the updated grantmaking criteria, and update the website.
- b. Ron will contact the City Finance office to ensure that the grant funds for The Front are still accessible.

**NEXT MEETING:** November for grant review; Ron will circulate dates.