



# FREETOWN CULTURAL COUNCIL

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2021 SEP -1 AM 10:31

*Oluf Carlsen*

## Minutes of the Cultural Council meeting 1/12/21

Meeting held at Freetown Town Hall, 3 North Main Street, Freetown, MA

4:36PM Meeting called to order by Steven Chandler, Secretary  
Members present: Cheryl Estrella, John Remedis, Paula Charette, Mike McCue,  
Abby Michaels, Jay Michaels, Nicole Davignon  
Meeting being recorded by Steven Chandler

### Grants 2021

Fourteen grant applications were received, reviewed, discussed, and voted on. Board votes to approve grants for all grantees who sent applications with funds totaling \$6,105.00 to be paid with the grant awarded the Freetown Cultural Council by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. FCC member Nicole Davignon abstained from voting on the STEM Kits for Freetown Library Young Patrons event because she works for the Freetown Library system and the library is a direct beneficiary.

- Chandler will send each grantee a letter notifying them that their application for funding has received final approval to support their program.

### Halloween Event

- The event which was held at the main entrance at the Freetown Elementary School on October 31, 2020 and very well received and attended. Parents, kids, and other residents gave very positive feedback about the event and appreciated that it took place.
- There was discussion of making this an annual event.

### Annual Tree Lighting

- This year's tree lighting event was created at the Village Green in Assonet as a virtual one with a visit from Santa Claus.
- Timm McIntosh took video and still photos and created a great video presentation of the event that was shared on Facebook and town website.
- A lot of great feedback was received.
- Discussion of planting a tree took place as an option instead of having a tree cut down each year.
  - There are two trees so we could plant one and get the second one donated from Ashley's.
  - To plant a tree it would have to be watered regularly and when that tree grows too large it would have to be cut down and replanted.
  - Abby Ashley will ask her father John Ashley about logistics.

- In order to plant a tree the FCC will have to contact the Historical Society and Freetown Building Department for permission.
- Cheryl Estrella has a good list of things to talk about and do in preparation for Christmas 2021.
  - Things can be stressful and the process can be streamlined.
  - For next year we should have more meetings to discuss needs and agenda well in advance.
  - It's not feasible to sort through all decorations, lights, etc. when taking them down so this could be done during the summer to determine what needs to be replaced and if anything could be added.

### **Committee Chair Position**

- Chandler asks if anyone is interested in the Chair position. He would do it but has many personal challenges at the moment including family members with illnesses.
- John Remedis offered to fill the position if no one else will step up. Chandler recommended that the committee members think about it further and we'll discuss again at next meeting.

### **Next Meeting**

- The next meeting is scheduled for February 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 at Town Hall.

John makes motion to adjourn. Cheryl 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven Chandler, Secretary