

Concord Center Cultural District Committee

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.
The Umbrella, Room 223

Members present: Jerry Wedge, Kate James, Carol Wayland, Di Clymer

Visitors: Terri Ackerman, Marcia Rasmussen, Mardi Hutchinson, Beth Williams, Tom Putnam, Jane Obaggy

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m. when a quorum was present.

Introductions : Di Clymer was welcomed as a new member to the Committee. It was noted that Rob Munro was also appointed but could not attend this meeting.

Discussion with new Tourism and Visitor Services Manager: Beth Williams was introduced as the new Tourism and Visitor Services Manager for the Town. She described her background and early impressions about Concord and what initiatives can be started soon.

Housekeeping: Jerry thanked Marcia for completing the annual report of this committee and noted that MCC is holding a Cultural District event on October 1st in Worcester.

Research on Cultural Districts/local communities presently holding film festivals: It was noted that Adam Gooder from Concord-Carlisle High School may be a good resource considering he produces a student film festival every year. There was a discussion on the Salem Film Festival, a one-week event, organized through the Chamber of Commerce. They hold two festivals, including one Horror festival in the fall and the Salem FF in the spring. They take advantage of the shoulder seasons. These are promoted through Destination Salem.

There was a recommendation to start small. Perhaps a long weekend, and incorporate other events into the festival.

Researching other Cultural Districts individual members will research other festivals in the region. We identified the following cities/towns:

Woods Hole: Kim

Medford:

Somerville:
Arlington: Jerry
CCHS:
Newburyport: Di
Salem: Beth
Cambridge:

We did not include Martha's Vineyard because it looks like they have a very different model than what we are looking at.

Research on local venues capable of participating in a film festival: A spreadsheet was distributed, outlining local venues with assembly spaces. Members were asked to add information regarding capacity and accessibility. It was suggested that we consider outdoor venues as well.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16 at 8:00 a.m. at The Umbrella.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Wedge