

Stowe Arts and Culture Council (SACC)

Meeting Minutes – August 2023

1. Call to Order and Attendance

- Meeting called to order by Chair at 9:13 AM via Zoom.
- Quorum established with participation from: Don, Rachel, Loren, Brooke, Seth, and Elizabeth Hart (delegate for Stowe Area Association).
- Noted: Barb absent, no communication received.

2. Approval of July Minutes

- July minutes were posted on the website and linked in the agenda email.
- No modifications suggested.
- Motion to approve by Seth, seconded, approved unanimously.

3. Introductions

- Elizabeth Hart (Membership Manager, Stowe Area Association) introduced herself as interim delegate until a new Executive Director is appointed.
- She shared her background in arts, destination marketing, and Vermont business support.

4. Old Business / Council Charge

- Continued review of Council charge and objectives.
- Language refined around fairness, accessibility, and accountability (replacing 'diversity, equity, inclusion' with 'fair, open, accessible').
- Discussion on facilitating open communication through a moderated listserv vs. broader tactics.
- Members agreed new objectives are more achievable and aligned with prior discussions and community meetings.
- Motion passed to approve modifications to the objectives with flexibility for administrative details.

Next Steps (Council Charge)

- Send updated charge to Select Board for approval.
- Don and Rachel to attend meeting to answer questions.

5. Town Plan Discussion

- Rachel shared updated draft of arts & culture section for the Town Plan.
- Review of organizational mentions (Stowe Free Library, Historical Society, Ski & Snowboard Museum, Performing Arts, etc.).
- Agreed on supporting policies such as expanding cultural events, improving meeting/performance spaces, and maintaining library as a vibrant community hub.
- Suggestions to broaden 'Stowe Free Library' responsibility wording to include town staff, trustees, and select board.

6. Additional Discussion

- Talk on ensuring representation from town-based arts organizations while managing quorum requirements.
- Consideration of visitor experience for signage, sidewalks, wayfinding, and accessibility.

7. Motions and Votes

- Motion: Approve revised Council objectives. – Passed unanimously.
- Motion: Incorporate changes into draft Town Plan for submission. – Approved.

8. Next Steps / Action Items

- Don and Rachel: Present Council charge at upcoming Select Board meeting.
- Rachel: Finalize Town Plan draft incorporating updates and circulate.
- Lauren: Refresh library section and ensure updated language.
- All members: Continue discussions on communication platform (listserv/tactics).

9. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:45 AM.

Summary

- The Council approved updates to its charge and objectives, advanced the arts & culture section of the Town Plan, and confirmed next steps for Select Board review and community engagement.