

## **Stowe Arts & Culture Council (SACC)**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** October 8, 2025

**Time:** 9:09 AM – 10:05 AM

**Location:** Virtual (Zoom)

### **Call to Order**

Chair Don called the meeting to order at **9:09 AM**.

A quorum was present.

### **Attendance**

#### **Members Present:**

Don (Chair) – Live/work in Stowe  
Loren – Live in Montpelier, work in Stowe  
Rachel – Live/work in Stowe  
Sarah – Live/work in Stowe  
Barbara – Live/retired in Stowe  
Aimee (MA) – Live in Stowe, work in Johnson  
Seth – Live in Morrisville, work in Stowe

#### **Members Absent:**

Beth Lieberman  
Student Representative (vacant/not present)

### **Housekeeping Item: Residency & Employment**

The Council confirmed that all current members either **live or work in Stowe**, in response to Selectboard inquiries regarding board composition requirements.

### **Approval of Previous Minutes**

**August 2025 Minutes:** Reviewed and approved.

**September 2025:** No minutes were recorded due to lack of quorum at the prior meeting.

*Suggestion noted:* Future minutes should clearly list members present and absent.

### **New Business**

#### **Selectboard Update – Council Charge Approval**

- The Selectboard reviewed and approved the updated **SACC Charge**.
- No substantive concerns were raised regarding the content.
- Discussion focused primarily on:
  - Member attendance and quorum challenges
  - Residency/workplace connections to Stowe
  - The Council's role was clarified as **advisory and supportive**, not a programming or marketing body.

### **Fundraising, Donations, and Grants**

- The approved charge allows the Town Treasurer to accept donations and grants on behalf of the Council, with Selectboard approval.
- Members expressed concerns about:
  - Conflicts of interest with affiliated organizations
  - Competing for the same grants as local arts organizations
  - Consensus: Fundraising would only be appropriate for **clearly defined, targeted purposes**.
  - Grant opportunities may be explored cautiously in the future.

### **Council Budget**

- Annual town allocation confirmed at **\$2,000**.
- Current expenses include website hosting, domain fees, and limited promotional materials.

### **Meeting Time, Format, and Membership**

- Regular meeting time (second Wednesday at 9:00 AM) generally works for members.
- Summer attendance challenges noted.
- Organizational seats currently vacant or inconsistently filled (e.g., Stowe Area Association, Spruce Peak Performing Arts).
- Discussion deferred on:
  - Converting organizational seats to at-large seats
  - Recruiting or reassigning representation

### **Decision:**

Next meeting will be **in person** on **November 12, 2025**, at the library.

### **Website & Communications Discussion (Preliminary)**

- Annual website cost estimated at \$300–\$400.
- Questions raised:
  - Is a standalone website still necessary?
  - Could the Town website serve Council needs instead?
  - Should domains be retained and redirected?
  - Ideas discussed:
    - Using the site as a clearinghouse for requests
    - Exploring forms, calendars, or grant applications
    - Reviewing use of social media platforms
  - *Action:* Table discussion for an in-depth review at the November in-person meeting.

### **Liaison & Member Updates**

- **Planning:** Draft work nearing completion; awaiting final feedback.

- **Historic Preservation:** Grant application planned for a mid-century modern building survey.
- **Schools/Education:** Outreach to principals planned later in the school year to explore arts partnerships.
- **Recreation:** Record participation levels noted; interest in collaborative arts programming.
- **Library:** Banned Books Week underway; strong usage and programming updates shared.
- **Arts Organizations:** Upcoming Current events shared.
- Executive Director position at Stowe Area Association expected to be announced in November.

#### **10. Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at approximately **10:05 AM**.

#### **Next Meeting:**

**November 12, 2025** – In person at the library