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Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 7:00pm

Members in Attendance: Elizabeth Bouchard, Elizabeth Lohnes, Jenne Rayburn, Jim Bracciale, Jason Webb, Sarah Bolha, Leah Mallozzi, Clio Mook

No public comment

April Meeting Minutes: not enough attendees - will revisit next meeting

Treasurer Update/Update on grants: 1 outstanding - continue to follow up with Bob Eggers

[CONFIDENTIAL - Please do not share] Messina Fund: Jason and Jim met with Maggie Abdow from MMFA. Learned that the capacity to continue running has dwindled, Maggie is the only one and she is doing a lot of work herself (bookkeeping, relationship with city hall, etc).

- Discussed opportunities to align a lot of their work into ours, including funding and how it is spent, and how the models differ; thoughts to utilize their funds to fund more grants for more money, with them keeping some of the money as optional additional funds to fully fund grants or help sponsor programs with Creative Alliance.
- Have a board of 3-4 people; Budget could be \$10k or \$20k - unclear for FY2025
- **Next step:** meet with the Mayor (scheduled for Friday 6/7), Budget Office and Solicitor
- **Items to align:** grant cycle, how funds are handled

Mass Cultural Council meeting: Jim and Jason met with Carolyn Cole to discuss the Messina collaboration opportunity as well as fundraising; shared the promotional postcard and discussed how we promote for new members as other LCC are having a hard time.

- Discussed idea of creating a **"prize" calendar** - Carolyn loved the idea but need to explore what is needed to do this, what we need to collect money, App called "Fundful" that could provide tax information; can use seed money
- **Next Steps:**
 - Sub-committee will reconnect (looking at the week of May 20) - review who to approach, how to approach, what to leave with them? - business card, letter, contact info
 - Ask Melrose Arts about their raffles from the Festival
 - Reach out to Stephanie at the Chamber for support/advice.
 - Set up meeting with city legal and budget
 - Circle back with EnKa Society contact about how they ran their calendar

Community Survey: Jim reached out to Nick to ask for his help to support, during meeting we reviewed current format, discussed updates: captured here - [Community Input Survey 2024 Content](#). Survey form and press release have been started in the [Annual Survey](#) folder.

High School Student Members: looking for an incoming junior for a 2-year term with Leah leaving. Laura has agreed to help promote and engage. Leah will send ideas to Laura.