



## Somerset Cultural Council Meeting Minutes

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September 30, 2025 / 6:00 PM / Historical Society

### ATTENDEES

Members: Scott Barnett, Heather Gregory, Shannon Martin, John Larson, Gayle Ulrich

Scott called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM and announced the meeting was not being recorded. Before waiving the reading of the June 30 secretary's report, John noted that it contained spelling errors. Once identified, a motion was made by Heather to waive the reading of the report and accept. Motion seconded by John. Motion passed. Shannon abstained as she was absent from the 6/30 meeting..

### **Treasures Report read by Gayle Ulrich.**

Gayle presented the treasurer's report. All awards granted have been sent to the town to be paid. Gayle has reached out to Dianne Perry at town hall to collaborate on financials but has yet to speak with her. Gayle reported that, of the \$15,166 approved, \$15,016 has been dispersed. \$555 will carry over into next year. Member Manya Bark arrived. Manya made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Motion seconded by Heather. Motion passed.

### **6:12 Old Business**

Under old business, Scott reported that his and John's terms will be ending and therefore new members are needed. All were instructed to recruit people onto the committee. Scott tabled the discussion regarding election/appointments until Spring.

### **Discussion Items**

No subcommittee reports were presented.

After reaching out a few weeks back, Scott did receive a response from Paul Cogley of the Somerset Economic Development Committee regarding a grant opportunity they might pursue. Paul declined. The grant could have been used to purchase a mobile stage that would be available for town use as well as a rental/revenue source to the town. Scott attended a SEDC meeting to discuss collaborating with them on any upcoming events. No additional information has been received on that topic.

### **New Business**

Under new business, Gayle reported that she received a correspondence from grant recipient Bonnie Mendes regarding a genealogy program that was to take place on September 30th. Due to the presenter's illness, it has been moved to March 2026 and Bonnie inquired about the use of the previous year's funding. All present agreed the grant could be used and no re-application was needed.

### **6:20 Topics not anticipated**

Manya and Heather reported that they have attended SCC supported events at the Somerset Library. Scott encouraged all to speak at these events in order to raise awareness of our purpose/impact. Shannon asked how community members are made aware of the SCC grant period/existence. Scott responded that he emails all previous applicants, as well as the school Superintendent. Last year the committee held an Open House and planned one for this year on 9/11/25 but it was cancelled. There is also a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/SomersetLCC>). Shannon volunteered to assist with the Facebook page to increase its use and our visibility. Scott said we should use the SCC Facebook page to also promote items from the MCC website (<https://massculturalcouncil.org/>).

Scott reported that a few grant applications have been received. The application period runs from 9/2/25-10/16/25. Application topics can vary as long as they are arts/culture related with the exception of supplies. The LCC Grant Decisions report is due 1/16/26.

The next meeting of the SCC will be Tuesday, 12/9/25 at 6 PM at the Historical Society.

**No public comments/input.**

Motion to adjourn made by Gayle. Seconded by John. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.