

Arts & Technology Education Fund Committee
April 26, 2023 Minutes

In attendance: Candy Chase, Theresa Evans, Izzy Hastie, Linda Hirsch, Kirk Marshall, and Evelyn Thoren.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm.

Approval of Minutes of 2/1/23, Kirk made a motion to accept the minutes, Candy seconded. All who were present at the February 1 meeting approved.

The ATEF Financial Report shows a balance of \$44,274.66. Evelyn met with John Sousa; \$29K CD at Enterprise was turned over with a new rate of 5%. Evelyn noted there were about \$1500 in donations.

Discussion surrounding where donations are solicited. Places mentioned were Board of Selectman meeting, various TV programs, a check off on tax bills. Are there other places we could be soliciting? Do we need to be soliciting more donations – we are getting less applications each year and the administration or department budgets can cover more?

Discussion of 2023 applications: Linda suggested having a signature line for a Building Admin or Coordinator regarding funding. This would give anyone with a further question a name to start with. Will discuss this further in June.

- First Application: Mary Ellen Forty. Some discussion, Kirk motioned to approve this grant in the amount of \$280. Candy seconded. All approved.
- Second Application: Marian Smith. Some discussion. Linda had several concerns: this may be considered assistive technology and you cannot impose a modification on a student with an IEP, this may also present a legal issue. Linda will find out more information, and we will have a short meeting at a date TBD to approve or reject this request. (Update after the meeting: next meeting will be on May 10th)
- Third Application: David Steeves. Some discussion, Kirk motioned to approve this grant in the amount of \$1000. Candy seconded, all approved.

Evelyn will write notes to all applicants once we vote on the second application.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

- Evelyn is on the Board of the Mill Stream Foundation, and they are trying to approve some donations. If approved, they are able to donate to the Arts and Technology Fund but it would have to be earmarked for a particular type of application. Discussion regarding the administration of such money. We would need a separate line item for this money for managing it and for reporting back to the board of Mill Stream. We would still follow ATEF rules and cap any grant request at \$1000, but if a grant request was in the particular area specified by the Mill Stream donation, then it could come out of that line item. We could promote it when we put the applications out, i.e. “we have additional monies earmarked for science projects” for example.
- Promoting the applications. We have not received that many in the past few years. Perhaps attend staff meetings at all schools near the end of fall, share ideas of past projects, have applications ready to hand out. Make a PR plan, possibly an FAQ sheet. Candy and Theresa volunteered to attend some of the school staff meetings to talk to teachers.

Will discuss the Mill Stream possible donations and other ways to promote the applications at the June meeting.

No further questions. Kirk motioned to adjourn, Candy seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:07pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Theresa Evans
Member, ATEF