

**City of Keene**  
**New Hampshire**

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr. /JONATHAN DANIELS COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, February 1, 2017**

**5:00 PM**

**Trustee's Room, Library**

**Members Present:**

Bill Hay, Chair  
Melanie Everard, Vice-Chair (Late)  
Rev. Michael Hall  
Yves Gakunde

**Staff Present:**

Meghan Spaulding, Recreation Programmer  
Andy Bohannon, Parks & Rec Director

**Members Not Present:**

Mandi Slate  
Dottie Morris

**1) Call to Order and Roll Call -**

Chair Hay called the meeting to order at 5:07 PM. Roll call was conducted. Chair Hay welcomed Maddie Tremblay as a guest. Ms. Tremblay is a potential student member of the Committee. Chair Hay also welcomed Dianna Costello, Executive Director of MONIFF.

**2) Approval of Minutes – January 4, 2017**

Mr. Gakunde made a motion to approve the minutes of January 4, 2017 as submitted. Rev. Hall seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Ms. Everard noted there was erroneous information with regards to Page 3, first paragraph; Ms. Tremblay does not live in Jonathan Daniels home, but her grandparents do.

**3) Finance Report – (Page 8 of 8)**

Ms. Spaulding reported the current balance \$8,262.66; there was an expenditure of \$500.00 for the MLK Breakfast.

Rev. Hall made a motion to accept the Finance Report as presented. Ms. Everard seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**4) Request of Funds- MONIFF (Page 5 of 8)**

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Ms. Costello reported this will be the 5<sup>th</sup> year for the Festival. She noted the intent to expand the Festival into a fourth day; which will be the Best of the Fest to show films in Peterborough. Ms. Costello also commented on NH Magazine voting MONIFF the “Up and Coming Film Fest”. Ms. Costello explained both foreign and regional films are shown; film makers come from Vermont, Massachusetts, and Maine. She also noted the importance of the volunteers from both KSC and Keene High School.

Ms. Costello said the highlight of the festival is the Jonathan Daniels award presented on Saturday night; this year the date is April 22nd. She indicated how the organization’s mission intersects with the Committee’s. Ms. Costello discussed some of the 28 films that will be shown this year and previous award recipients.

Addressing the request for \$2,000 Ms. Costello advised MONIFF provides a \$1,000 honorarium to the film maker and the trophy (award). Ms. Costello noted last year’s trophy was made by a local sculptor, John Brandt. MONIFF also picks up their travel and hotel costs. In return for the Committee’s support they will receive 1) exposure via MONIFF’s website, other social media, and be included in press releases, the Committee’s name will be included in the program guide, a member of the Committee will help present the award, and the Committee would be included in the sponsorship trailer shown before each film. Ms. Costello also noted the huge educational component to this endeavor. In her closing remarks Ms. Costello noted the importance of the festival right now because of the current political climate (lesbian/gay issues, immigration, and anti-Muslim rhetoric). She thanked the Committee for inviting her and noted she hopes the Committee will consider supporting MONIFF this year.

Mr. Bohannon reported he had a conversation with Ms. Costello regarding this funding request.

Rev. Hall commented on the amount of the request, noting the Committee has not given that size amount in the past. He also addressed the total provided on the request form (\$12,000); Ms. Costello responded it costs approximately \$60,000 to put on the event. She also noted the possibility of co-sponsorships for a lesser amount. Ms. Spaulding noted the Committee would not be voting on an amount until the March meeting. Ms. Costello explained the ad deadline is March 11<sup>th</sup> and it takes about two weeks to put the production guide together.

#### Discussion-

In response to Ms. Everard, Mr. Bohannon explained past donations and their usage by MONIFF. He explained how the first donation was for the creation of a bust to be used annually as the award; this was not carried through to the second year. He noted the amount of this requests would consume 25% of a non-fundraising Committee’s budget. Mr. Bohannon explained how the Committee acquired the funds in the current budget. After additional comments Mr. Bohannon noted it is his opinion there is nothing to be gained by this Committee in supporting the request for \$2,000. Chair Hay noted his disagreement with Mr. Bohannon’s opinion.

Discussion continued with Committee members making the following suggestions for discussion at the March meeting:

- Determine the various levels of sponsorship.
- Give less and get less?

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- Distribute a signup sheet at the event to obtain contact information.
- Sponsor a panel or cocktail party (to recoup some of the money); this could be the Committee's annual participation in the festival.
- How much would it cost to place "Get out the Vote" flyer as an ad in the program guide?
- Make a Slim Jim about Jonathan Daniels that can be distributed, at the event, with every program to solicit donations for the Committee.
- Define what getting something back means.

Mr. Bohannon explained the City's Community Events budget process and noted this may be a way for MONIFF to obtain funds from the City and not this Committee. Noting he is on the Film Review Committee, Chair Hay said he would speak to Ms. Costello about what the Committee could get for a lesser contribution.

Committee members agreed to forward any additional ideas to Ms. Spaulding. As no objections were posed regarding a cocktail party, Ms. Everard agreed to contact Kristen's Bakery to see if they would be willing to contribute Hors d'oeuvres for a cocktail party. Committee members agreed to further discuss a cocktail party at the March meeting.

Due to the hour Chair Hay recommended tabling the rest of the agenda until the March meeting; no objections were presented.

Ms. Everard reported after discussing the Wallace's book with Nancy Ancharki it was determined the book would not be a suitable reading level for 5<sup>th</sup> grade readers. Ms. Everard continued it would not be a good idea to try to bring the book into the Elementary Schools; she suggested it would be suitable for the Middle Schools. Mr. Bohannon commented bringing the Wallace's into the Middle School would be a good event for the Committee to sponsor.

**5) Election of Officers-** Chair and Vice-Chair

**6) Request for Funds Protocol Review –** (Page 6 of 8)

**7) Programming Ideas –**

**8) New Business –**

**9) Adjourn-**

There being no further business Chair Hay adjourned the meeting at 6:01 PM.

**Next meeting date:** March 1, 2017

Respectfully submitted by,  
Mary Lou Sheats-Hall, Minute Taker  
February 1, 2017