

MINUTES
Otis Cultural Council
May 21, 2025

This meeting was conducted in person.

- I. **Call to Order:** 6:09 p.m. Present: Jeanne Randorf, Carole Burke, Arlene Tolopko, Deb Fogel, Susan Hicks
- II. **Approval of the minutes of March 19, 2025:** Deb Fogel approved the minutes, and Susan Hicks seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.
- III. **Chair Report (Jeanne):**
 - A. Welcome New Members: Susan Hicks and Tricia Smith
 - B. Membership Status of Committee Members: All members are active except Shanon Albee. Her end date is June 30, 2025.
 - C. Election of Officers: The committee will elect officers at the June meeting.
- IV. **Financial Report:**
 - A. Shannon was ill and did not attend the meeting.
- V. **Programs:**
 - A. Beautify Otis Flower Barrels: Jeanne bought 5, \$70.00 barrels from Home Depot, and coupons for gardeners. Jeanne will write an article for the Otis Observer for next month.
 - B. Concert Series: Jackie Gentile withdrew her proposal for a home concert series.
 - C. Sue Ebitz Proposal: The book club will be reading Weeping Under the Same Moon by Jana Laiz. Sue Ebitz proposed that the Cultural Council sponsor the author to attend the July 17th Book Club meeting by funding the speaker fee of \$100. Arlene approved the motion, and Susan seconded the motion. It was approved by the committee.
 - D. Revitalization Committee Request for funding: Jackie Gentile proposed that the Cultural Council fund the \$200-\$250 for the Revitalization Committee to join the Southern Berkshire Chamber of Commerce. Jeanne said that this was not in our mission statement, and we will not be providing the funds to the Revitalization Committee.
- VI. **Recycling (Deb):**
 - A. The recycling committee needs volunteers. Our new member, Tricia Smith, has volunteered to help out.
- VII. **Other Business:**
 - A. The committee discussed providing a Zoom invitation for members who can't attend in person.
 - B. Farmer's Market Table: The committee discussed participating this year at the Farmer's Market.
 - C. Summer Concert Series: The committee discussed the possibility of sponsoring a free concert for the community at Town Hall. This topic will be reviewed at the June meeting.
- VIII. The next meeting will be on June 18, 2025.
- IX. The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Deb Fogel