

Amesbury Cultural Council - Poet Laureate Support Committee Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: March 9, 2026 at 6:30pm

Location: Cedar Street Studios (1st floor meeting space) 14 Cedar St. Amesbury, MA 01913

Attendance:

In person: Lisa Usani Phillips, Anne Ferguson, Matthew Cockreham, Bryan Riley

On Zoom: Elizabeth Wolf

Call to Order: Matthew Cockreham 6:56pm

Agenda:

1. Appoint someone to take notes
 - Matthew Cockreham volunteered.
2. Review and approve minutes of previous meeting
 - Approved by all members in attendance.
3. Present Poet Laureate plaque to Bryan Riley
 - Plaque presented
4. Current financial status update
 - Amesbury Cultural Council confirmed that the Flatbread fundraiser money is accounted for.
 - Exact balance of Poet Laureate Support Committee funds is not known at this time.
 - The committee discussed the need to find out if there is a Poet Laureate account separate from the ACC account.
 - Lisa Usani Phillips will talk to the treasurer of the ACC.
5. Recent and planned Poet Laureate activities update
 - Bryan Riley shared details of events still in planning stage.
 - Poetry in the Pines
 - Currently planned for April 25, rain or shine
 - Karaoke Night at Barewolf (50/50 fundraiser)
 - Possible June date
 - Evening with the Poets (roundtable event)
 - No dates planned yet
6. Review of updated Poet Laureate Support Guidelines from February meeting
 - The committee approved the proposed changes with no additional edits.
 - The committee agreed to present to the ACC two copies of the guidelines:
 - One marked up copy that shows the changes.
 - One clean copy that shows just the final results.
 - Elizabeth Wolf volunteered to prepare the documents and send them to Bryan.
7. Public Comment
 - None

8. Matters not reasonably anticipated in advance of the meeting

- Storywalk
 - The committee agreed that the PLSC in collaboration with the library will sponsor the Storywalk up to \$150 as long as the PLSC has sufficient funds.
 - Bryan will talk to Bailey Campbell about communications for the Storywalk.

Adjourn: 7:23pm