

Amesbury Cultural Council - Poet Laureate Support Committee Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: June 8, 2026 at 6:30pm

Location: Zoom only

Attendance:

On Zoom: Clare Dombrowski, Anne Ferguson, Lisa Usani Phillips, Bryan Riley,
Matthew Cockreham

Call to Order: Bryan Riley 6:37pm

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. Future Poet Laureate Support Committee meetings at Cultural Center
 - Bryan Riley will contact Bonnie Brady who is on the subcommittee that manages the space.
 - Bryan will copy Amesbury Cultural Center co-chairs.
 - PLSC discussed when to meet next.
 - No need to meet again ahead of summer events.
 - Next meeting scheduled for September 14.
4. Current financial status update
 - PLSC received authorization for funds to cover Storywalk expenses.
 - Fundraiser events planned.
 - July: Karaoke event
 - October: Flatbread event
 - The committee discussed ideas for additional financial support.
 - Appeal to Poet Laureate email subscribers for financial support of the Poet Laureate program.
 - Ask Whittier Home subscribers to subscribe to the Poet Laureate email list.
 - Use Google Groups for email distribution.
5. Recent and planned Poet Laureate activities update
 - Karaoke Fundraiser
 - July 15 at BareWolf
 - Flyers advertising the event are at Vermette's and Stop & Shop (in both Amesbury and Andover)
 - DJ secured
 - 50/50 Raffle
 - Scarlet Fire BBQ will be closed.
 - This has been communicated in the event advertisements.
 - Event begins at 7:00pm, late enough that food does not need to be provided.
 - No need for PLSC to bring anything to set up.

- Evening with the Poets
 - Aug 12 at the Cultural Center.
 - Town Hall style format.
 - Event will be televised.
 - Bryan contacted Amesbury Community Television.
- Open Mics September – November.
 - Dates and featured readers to be determined.
- Information for all events is posted on the ACC website.
 - Some dates/times need correction.
 - Bryan will meet with Bailey Campbell.
- Bailey would like to do an interview series.
 - Bailey will contact Bryan to make arrangements.
- Tapestry of Voices
 - Bryan will participate if able.

6. Review postings and management for PL mailing list and Facebook page

- Facebook page access
 - Lisa Usani Philips confirmed that she is an administrator for the page.
 - Lisa will make sure that Bryan has administrator access.
 - PLSC discussed giving Bailey and Rachel administrator access.
 - Bailey and Rachel should also have administrator access to the Poet Laureate email subscriber list.

7. Public Comment

- None

8. Matters not reasonably anticipated in advance of the meeting

- None

Adjourn: 7:19pm