

Item #6C:
Village Trustee Borys
Long Grove Arts & Music Council Funding Request

David Lothspeich

From: Tobin Fraley [tobin@humbugs.com]
Sent: Friday, February 06, 2015 5:04 AM
To: Angie Underwood
Cc: David Lothspeich
Subject: Arts & Music Council BOT Agenda Request
Attachments: LG 2015 Funding.pdf

Hello Angie & Dave,

I'm enclosing a letter requesting funding from the Village of Long Grove for the upcoming season and I'm hoping to find a place on the February 24th Board of Trustees agenda. As stated in the letter, this is the tenth anniversary of the Long Grove Arts & Music Council and this year is particularly important because of the state of the downtown.

I understand that the village is moving towards more matching grant funding and if the Board of Trustees would like the LGAMC to work in that direction, I'm certain that we could find a way to make that work. Our total budget last year was around \$30,000 and I expect that to go up slightly this season based on increasing costs. Items such as higher performance fees, insurance, gallery space rental, portable sanitary facilities for all concerts (since there are no longer any public restrooms) and further improvements to our sound system have all placed pressure on our fundraising efforts.

Any suggestions you might have for community outreach will be greatly appreciated. In the past we have made use of the Bridge, Long Grove Living, Pioneer Press, Daily Herald, WFMT and other venues for notifying residents and audience members from around the area of our concert season and gallery events. Despite all of that publicity, we are committed to increasing our outreach to Long Grove residents, many of whom are still unaware of our activities.

Also, as noted in the enclosed letter, we are requesting at least \$10,000. Half of any funds received would go towards supporting the concert series, while 30% would go towards the artists gallery and the last 20% would go towards promoting the series and community outreach. We understand that the funds provided by the village are truly discretionary and have always been greatly appreciated by the LGAMC.

If there is any further information you would like provided prior to a Board of Trustees meeting, please let me know and I will do my best to forward the requested documents.

All the best,

Tobin Fraley
Director - Long Grove Arts & Music Council
847-722-8989



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February 8, 2015

Angie Underwood
President, Village of Long Grove
3110 Old McHenry Road
Long Grove, IL 60047

Dear President Underwood,

I am writing today with hope that the Village of Long Grove will continue their support of the Long Grove Arts & Music Council. This coming summer represents our tenth season of providing free concerts in the Long Grove's Historic Business District. With the support of the village government, village residents, local businesses and audience members, a small group of dedicated volunteers has brought a truly positive change to this village. By providing residents and visitors with an opportunity to discover extraordinary music and by creating a nurturing venue for local artists, the LGAMC has succeeded in its core mission of bringing the arts to Long Grove.

In 2015, we are at a crossroad. For a variety of reasons, we have lost the use of our gallery although, through the efforts of our members have found a temporary space in the lower level of The Village Tavern. The members of our organization are committed to meeting the goals set forth ten years ago despite the current difficulties. Our costs in locating a more permanent home for the Long Grove Artists Guild gallery will be extensive.

In addition, we are continuing the effort to increase the quality of the musical performances we bring to the village, helping shore up the current state of the downtown. For these reasons I am hoping we can count on a minimum of a \$10,000 grant from the village to help us with these expenses. In 2014, the LGAMC received an equally generous and invaluable grant from the village, but these funds were taken from the 2012/13 budget. The LGAMC has not received any funding from the current year's budget.

We are requesting a village grant at this point because the future for arts funding in the coming year may be very limited. The political and economic climate of Long Grove is transitioning. Although the makeup of future boards is unknown at this time, the atmosphere of uncertainty is clearly expressed in the changes that have taken place through the continued exodus of retailers from the downtown.

Our goal is to continue the process we began ten years ago of providing bright notes for this wonderful village through a local artists' gallery and through what has been referred to many times, as the best free concert series in the entire Chicagoland area. We hope we can count on the support of our village trustees for years to come, but this season represents a watershed moment in the life of the Long Grove Arts & Music Council.

Sincerely,

Tobin Fraley
Founder & Director – Long Grove Arts & Music Council

All ayes, no nays (Motion carried 5 – 0; 1 absent trustee)

D. IL Rt. 53 Extension - Land Use Committee Meeting - February 5, 2015.

Update: Village President Underwood shared that this was a very interesting meeting as it provided a lot of data. Two open houses were held in November requesting feedback from Lake County residents. Residents shared that they want to keep open spaces. There were four scenarios discussed.

Item #6: Village Trustee Barry.

Finance / Pathways

Trustee Barry not in attendance.

A. Village Auditor request for proposals

Update: To be discussed at the next meeting.

B. Treasurer's Report for January 31, 2015 as reported on February 10, 2015.

Trustee Marshall moved to approve the Treasurer's Report for January 31, 2015; seconded by Trustee Lyman.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Trustee Yaeger – aye; Trustee Marshall – aye; Trustee Wachs – aye; Trustee Lyman - aye; Trustee Borys- aye.

(Motion carried 5 – 0; 1 absent trustee).

C. Actual & Budget comparisons for the period ending January 31, 2015.

Discussion: Request by the Long Grove Arts & Music Council (in their 10th year) to have the Village provide support to be able to increase what is provided. Communications about their events bring visibility to the Village. This would come out of the "Community Enrichment Fund". Agreement by Board to fund music and gallery of local artists. Trustee Yaeger shared that this investment is building our brand of Long Grove. They will be getting an hour plug on WFMT.

Trustee Lyman moved to give \$6000 to the Arts and Music Council from the current budget; seconded by Trustee Marshall.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Trustee Yaeger – aye; Trustee Marshall – aye; Trustee Wachs – aye; Trustee Lyman - aye; Trustee Borys- aye.

(Motion carried 5 – 0; 1 absent trustee).

Discussion: Board reviewed the revisions made since last meeting's review.

D. 2015/16 Draft Village Budgets – Second Review Of Draft Budgets. Public Hearing March 10, 2015. Discussion about the various "Community communications" fund options, including the Long Grove Living Magazine. Discussion about water connection costs, prior history of other water connections in place, and where the funds will come from. Discussion about the amount allocated to Matching Grants. Discussion about Village Hall painting; Trustee Marshall to pursue options. Trustee Wachs requested reviewing funds with Village Manager Lothspeich; planning to have Village Accountant provide budget guidance during the next meeting.

Item #7: Village Trustee Borys.

World-class fiddler April Verch plays in Long Grove

By Lilli Kuzma
Pioneer Press

JULY 30, 2015, 1:53 PM

Aclaimed Canadian fiddler and step dancer, April Verch, recently released a milestone 10th album, "The Newpart" (Slab Town Records), and is on tour with her trio (Cody Walters on bass and banjo and Hayes Griffin on guitar) this summer. She will perform Aug. 2 as part of the Long Grove Arts and Music Council's Summer Concert Series. Verch, 37, of Pembroke, Ontario, Canada, won first place in the Canadian Open Old Time Fiddle Championship and the Canadian Grand Masters Fiddling Competition. A former student at Boston's Berklee College of Music, Verch has established herself as a preeminent musician and interpreter of song, and as a renowned singer, songwriter and step dancer.

We spoke to Verch between stops on her summer tour.

Q: You've evolved over your 10 albums and have indicated that, with roots music, you want to go deeper, but you don't want to bring too much novelty to traditional material. How do you strike that balance?

A: For me, my influences and passions are also roots and traditional music, so it doesn't mean using increased instrumentation or rhythms or making it sound mainstream even though it's a traditional tune. It's more about finding the balance between my style and the old-time style that I love. It's figuring out how to pull this off — what bowings and ornamentations are going to work — that keep the tune to its roots, but also makes it clear that it is me interpreting it.

Q: The name of your new album, "The Newpart," is a reference to an addition that was made to your family home. But does the title also refer to the "new parts" you put into your music?

A: I think it does have a double meaning. It is the 10th album, the point where you're looking back and thinking of those things. It's difficult sometimes — you know, I love so many things and part of it is the Ottawa Valley style, the stuff that I grew up with. But our shows aren't all about that anymore. I mean, that's who I am, that's a huge part of my identity, but it's not always a huge part of a set list or an album.

Q: How would you describe the music and dance style of the Ottawa Valley area of Canada where you're from?

A: The Ottawa Valley style is a melting pot, instead of staying true to one settlement, which a lot of Canadian styles did. And it's dance music, so it's very energetic and happy. It has an articulation and a drive to it that should make you want to dance.

Q: Who are some of your biggest influences?

A: A lot of the biggest influences, especially early on, were the local musicians I grew up around. They were the musicians that played every weekend, and had a day job during the week, but they loved the music and they encouraged me. And now my influences have changed quite a bit actually, from traveling and listening to so many different things. John Hartford's been a big influence over the last decade. I wish I had known his music (when) I

started playing the fiddle.

Q: You'll be performing outdoors for the Aug. 2 concert in Long Grove. What are your particular challenges with outdoor performance?

A: The weather, whether it is heat or cold or humidity — it all affects our instruments. I do a fair amount of cross-tuning on the fiddle, so it takes its toll, and sometimes if it's a super hot day or raining out, we'll actually change the set list and not play things that require a lot of cross-tuning, simply because the instruments can't handle it.

April Verch

4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 2

Towner Green on Old McHenry Road, Long Grove

Free.

www.lgamc.org

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