

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 to 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