



Methuen Cultural Council 2026

Ellen Baranowski - Chair
Olivia Chung - Member
Taana Latu -Member
Luis Sanchez - Member
Carey Smith- Member
Catherine Zembruski – Member

Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 10, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Location: Nevins Memorial Library, *Study Room*

1 Call to Order/Roll Call/Vote to Accept Agenda/Public Participation

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM. In attendance: Ellen Baranowski, Olivia Chung, Taana Latu, Carey Smith, Catherine Zembruski. Absent: Luis Sanchez. There was no public participation.

2 Reading and Approval of Minutes- June 8, 2026 meeting

Minutes were amended to change the date to June 8, 2026 (not 2025). Motion to accept minutes as amended: Taana. Second: Olivia. Vote: 6 yes, 1 absent. Motion passed.

3 Financial Report- Update *Ellen shared an update of the 2026 finances with the group.*

4 Unfinished Council Business

June/July/August/future events #10 James Manning; “Stomp, Chomp, and Read” @Nevins

Memorial Library 07/14; 10 AM (Carey)

#13 Music and History at MMMH 07/16 (and 09/23)

#6 Gigi and the GravityMen@Senior Center 07/21; 1:00 PM (~~Catherine~~
Ellen)

#19 StoryTelling Workshop 07/28@MAN, Inc at 10 AM and @Nevins
Memorial Library 12:00 PM (~~Ellen/Carey~~)

#8 Artful Aging @Methuen Housing Authority 07/28 at 2 pm (Ellen)

#7 Cultural Reflection of the 1960s 08/05@Senior Center 1 pm (*Ellen*)

#18 Belly Dancing for Seniors 10/21@ Senior Center 1 PM ()

#22 Tommy Rull Musical Journey 11/18 @ Senior Center 1 PM ()

Report-outs were shared with the group.

5 New Council Business

Salma Boulal

The question as to her membership status is in the hands of James McCarty and Mayor Beauregard

October 3rd Methuen Day ~~10:00-11:00~~ 11:00-3:00 /Discussion and Schedule

The MCC will apply for a table at the event.

Table schedule: 10:30-12:00- Taana and Ellen

12:00-1:30- Catherine and Luis

1:30-3:00- Carey and Ellen

Following discussion, Olivia will create a short survey for the public to share their ideas of what they would like to see in Methuen around arts and cultural experiences. Members of the Engagement and Outreach Committee will cull the data from that survey.

August 28th Guidelines and Priorities Due to MA CC/Discussion

Guidelines and Priorities were adjusted slightly to submit for 2027

September 1-October 15 "2027 Grant Season"

Taana created a great flyer that will be edited and shared with Ellen for copying (100 copies). Hopefully, we can add QR Codes for the public to join us on Facebook and/or Instagram. We will post at the library and City Hall. We will have them on our table at Methuen Day. We will share with City Council and School Committee, as well as the Methuen Superintendent's Office.

6 Engagement and Outreach Subcommittee Report

Application Announcement Poster

7 Announcements/Miscellaneous

At our next meeting, we will do a quick review of the 2026 grants, in anticipation of the new grant season opening.

8 Adjourn

Motion to adjourn: Catherine. Second Taana. Vote: 6 yes. 1 Absent. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM

Next Regular Meeting: September 14, 2026; 6:30 PM

Anyone needing an access accommodation to participate in City of Methuen programs or services, please contact Sandy Almonte, ADA/DEI Coordinator at 978-382-2123 or salmonte@ci.methuen.ma.us at least two weeks in advance, or two business days before a board or commission meeting. This notice is available in alternate formats upon request.