

Notes: Montpelier Community Fund Board, May 5, 2026

City Manager's Conference Room, 39 Main St., Montpelier, & Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81688786853?pwd=QQ4JGDZCvRGeuWIO7yNicqnfeiZmso.1>

Meeting ID: 816 8878 6853; Passcode: 960648

One tap mobile: +13052241968,,81688786853# US

1. Call to order - 12:02 Dan agenda approved by unanimous consent
2. General Business/Public Comment - none
3. Approve Minutes from March. 5 th , 2026, Meeting - didn't review
4. Discussion/Grant Application Review for FY27 Grant
 - Cancer Support Foundation: appreciate their emergency financial assistance for cancer patients \$500
 - Capstone: Appreciate work. Regional organization based in Barre, concern not based in Montpelier. Level Fund \$2K
 - Central Vermont Adult Basic Education: Regional Organization. Appreciate operating in Montpelier and serving many Montpelier residents including many New Vermonters. Level fund \$4K
 - Council on Aging: Appreciate that they numbered 500 unduplicated Montpelierites; and appreciate the 40% increase in residents served since last year. Level fund \$10K
 - CVHOH: No housing in Montpelier for a while, no report for 2025 work, no budget provided: \$0
 - CIRCLE: Appreciate serving residents and they are the only ones doing what they are doing in the county. Recommend full \$3K
 - Community Harvest: Appreciate the work, and understand food prices going up tremendously. (Need to pay staff more!) Level fund \$7K
 - Community Table: Appreciate the mix of people coming to the meals and supporting members of our community. Entire budget is \$8500 and being more than 1/3 of the whole budget is big, but they are new and not counting all the in-kind time. Recommend full \$3K.
 - Downstreet Housing: Appreciate new housing providing in previous years. With such a big budget with such big grants from the government, what difference are we providing. And we have a lot of Downstreet Housing Funding Cut to half \$2,500
 - Elevate Youth Services: Dan recused; Appreciate they are the only teen space in Washington county. They serve 60 kids, would like to see them expand and like to have afterschool; funding full \$15K
 - Family Center of Washington County: Appreciate their work. Level fund \$2K
 - FEAST: Appreciate brand update, expansion and innovation. Appreciate them employing local students and their innovative work preparing take out meals. Good food! Appreciate their program work and honoring different groups. Appreciate local healthy food. First application. AND recognize that they get significant funds from the city as part of the Senior Center using city facility. And when they are in the red, the City picks up the remainder. \$0

- Freeride: new applicant; appreciate their work in the city. Don't have specific Montpelier data. \$500
- Friends of the Winooski: didn't provide Montpelier data, don't get funds from other towns: \$1K
- Good Beginnings of Central Vermont: Appreciate the work they do for Montpelier residents. Unique among the applicants for the work they do. Appreciate low overhead. \$1750
- Good Sam: appreciate all their work. Full fund \$20K
- Home Share: Appreciate their work, recognize their important role. \$2750 is the amount to facilitate one match
- Just Basics: Appreciate Rebrand to Montpelier Community Market. Operating costs - 71% served are Montpelier residents. Appreciate the rising cost of food \$20,000
- Lund: appreciate their work and want to show we care but don't have the funds to go around. \$750
- North Branch Nature Center: Appreciate that they are a local group. Level funds of \$5500
- Pathways: No report on Montpelier impact \$0
- Prevent Child Abuse: Appreciate estimated impact on Montpelier residents in their work \$1000
- VABVI: They support a small number of people and small request: \$500
- VCIL: Appreciate the work they do with their community leadership and support. \$3000
- Vermont River Conservancy: Appreciate that they are in the midst of Montpelier-specific flood mitigation work: \$5,000
- Window Dressers: Appreciate filling a need and their work on low income communities \$1,000
- Youth First: Appreciate their work! \$1,000
- Bright Blue EcoMedia: No budget provided. \$0
- Capitol City Band: appreciate their work providing free outdoor concerts and folks coming in from outside Montpelier. \$500
- Capitol City Concerts: Would like to see more outreach. Level fund \$3,000
- Julia Chafetz and Jamie Carroll: Reapply after opening and see the arts council \$0
- Central Vermont Community Radio: Appreciate the need for the tower. Being in Plainfield and not understanding the impact on Montpelier, come back next year when they are covering Vermont \$0
- TW Wood: incomplete application: \$0
- Festival for Creative Pianists: appreciate supporting Vermont events. \$750
- Green Mountain Youth Symphony: appreciate supporting Montpelier musicians. Level fund at \$750
- Green Mountain Film Festival: Appreciate being a draw during off season: \$2500
- Lost Nation Theatre: Level fund \$4,000
- Monteverdi: appreciate the impact on Montpelierites. Application to support gen ops was not inspiring. Lower to \$3,035
- Montpelier Chamber Orchestra: Appreciate the specificity of the project budget. Level Fund \$1,000

- Montpelier Gospel Choir: Appreciate the musical diversity of their work. \$2,500
- Maple Roots: Do not know impact on Montpelier, projecting profit, and self-sustaining music festival. \$0
- Montpelier Historical Society: appreciate their work preserving history. Appreciate all volunteer work. \$1,000
- Shidaa: appreciate their work with so many groups in Montpelier. \$3,000
- Vermont Historical Society: appreciate incorporating universal design standards. Level fund for half of request \$1140
- Vermont Fiddle Orchestra: appreciate meetings in Montpelier \$750
- Vermont Granite Museum: appreciate supporting Central Vermont tourism. And not in Montpelier. Not a good fit \$0
- Vermont Humanities Council: Appreciate the work on poetry. \$1,500

5. Other Business, if any

- Process notes for the future:
 - Next year, can we list out the whole name in the folder, not acronyms?
 - Next year, should discuss eligibility if they get dollars or in-kind from the city in another way
 - Next year, could explore making a rubric for evaluation so that grants are less reflective of just what they ask for.

6. Adjourn: unanimous consent 2:04