

## **First Day Café**

This is a proposal for setting up a coffee house at Friends Meeting at Cambridge. Tentatively, the plan is to hold a concert one Sunday evening a month in the Meeting House. Each concert would have an opening performer who is local and not yet well known to be followed by a performer who has been active for awhile and thus has name recognition.

Sunday evenings are selected so that parking would be more available. I envision limiting it to acoustic music so that neighbors won't complain. We would use the Friends Room for refreshments during intermission. We would need to purchase or have the use of sound equipment, develop and maintain a website, buy and serve refreshments, join the Boston Area Coffee House Association, prepare and distribute publicity, book performers, maintain a separate bank account, handle reservations and possibly tickets, and probably purchase and arrange a number of other things.

Trustees would be consulted about the financial relationship between this endeavor and FMC. The request is for a grant of \$2,500 for purchasing equipment and getting the operation started.

### **Overview**

• *Why this project now, and will it engage with or benefit the FMC community? If so, how?*

This project is proposed now because there is a lack of community social opportunities and outreach events. This project would provide an opportunity for the community to work together, to attract the public to our buildings, to bring the FMC community together to enjoy music, and to give members of the community opportunities to perform.

• *How will this project deepen the spiritual life of FMC and reflect its testimonies?*

The performers who are hired would present music which is consistent with Quaker Testimonies, so the programs would give FMC an opportunity to appreciate pieces which speak to our values and would provide a venue for sharing such music with the public.

• *How much is being requested, and what do you hope these funds will accomplish? Will you personally oversee execution or will it involve another organization or non-FMC persons? Over how many years will the funding be used?*

I am interested in personally being involved in this project, and I have had experience in setting up similar programs with the International Day of Peace programs for the last 13 years. Some of the people from that organization may be interested in participating.

I imagine the funding would be used to purchase equipment and get the coffee house started, and I am not making any request for any additional funding.

• *Is this a local proposal, elsewhere in the U.S., or international? Or for FMC itself?*

This request is for a coffee house at 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge, MA.

• *Who will carry out this project, both short-term and long-term if applicable? What are the roles, who will be doing them, and will there be adequate support?*

I would be interested in helping make the project a success, and I am hoping to interest the Peace and Social Justice and Fellowship and Outreach Committees in sponsoring and assisting in the effort. The roles need to be worked out, but I would not start it up if there is not going to be adequate support.

### **Use of Funds**

• *Does this proposal advise keeping some or all of the bequest for FMC's capital or budget use?*

I am not quite sure what this question means. The request of \$2,500 is for just a small part of the bequest – it does not make any request for the remaining funds.

• *Is this the only funding for this project or is it part of a larger effort?*

This is the only funding for this project. Income from the concerts would provide funding for the operation of the coffee house.

• *Is it ongoing after these funds are depleted?*

The coffee house would only continue if it is self-supporting.

• *Is this funding for a start-up, a program already up and running, or is this for an expansion?*

This funding is for a start-up.

• *If being given to an existing program, what portion of that budget will this represent?*

This is not an existing program.

• *If an existing project, are members and/or attenders at FMC already engaged with this project, and if so, how? Are community members welcome to become involved and how?*

This is not an existing project, but numerous members of the FMC community attend or perform at similar venues. I hope to involve the Fellowship & Outreach and Peace & Social Justice Committees and plan to invite members of the community to become involved through announcements and personal contact.

## **Budget**

Costs need to be quantified whether or not a grant is to be carried out by you or given to another organization to carry out.

- *Personnel cost including taxes and benefits if applicable, and/or "in-kind" volunteers*

I expect the management of the program would be done by volunteers. There will be payments to the musicians (75% of the income with a guarantee of about \$500 is a standard for the main performer).

- *Capital costs*

I received a rough estimate of \$2,000 for the sound equipment needed for a concert in the Meeting House (including speakers, microphones, sound board, and cables).

- *Cost of supplies, equipment*

I think I covered most of this in Capital Costs. We would price the Refreshments to at least cover the costs of the refreshments and service supplies (or we will use Meeting House supplies and wash them).

- *Travel needs*

I expect our volunteers would be local and not need reimbursement for travel. We would mainly have performers from the local area, but we may offer travel cost reimbursement for performers from outside the Cambridge area.

- *Additional?*

Website domain name – about \$20/year.

Software for handling reservations and/or tickets – possibly \$59/month

Rent of FMC facilities – to be negotiated with FMC.

Membership in the Boston Area Coffeehouse Association - \$25/year

## **Request**

I apologize for not having more details worked out – I haven't had time to work out the details and need to work out which of the possible arrangements makes the most sense. I welcome anyone interested in this proposal to contact me.

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