

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF THE ARTS**

Connecticut Arts Council Meeting

Monday, November 26, 2018

2:00 pm

450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 5, Hartford, CT 06103

MINUTES

Present: Fritz Jellinghaus, Pedro Bermudez, Christopher Bruhl, Helen During,
Jan Dilenschneider, Titus Kaphar, Catherine Smith, Ted Yudain, Michael Price

Absent: Mary Ellen Eckels

Staff: Elizabeth Shapiro, Tamara Dimitri, Adriane Jefferson, Bonnie Koba,
Rhonda Olisky, Jane Schneider

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:13 pm

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes of September 17, 2018.

Motion: Ted Yudain

Second: Catherine Smith

(Y-8; N-0)

III. Commissioner's Update

Commissioner Catherine Smith gave a status on the refilling process for the position of Director of Culture. She stated that the applications received reflect a group of diverse candidates. The group of volunteers have begun reviewing the resumes and interviews will begin shortly.

Commissioner Smith also reported the Governor elect Ned Lamont has created a policy committee for Arts, Culture and Tourism led by Wendy Bury, executive director of the

Southeastern Connecticut Cultural Coalition and Stephen Tagliatela, president of the Connecticut Tourism Coalition. This committee will be drafting recommendations for the incoming Lamont administration's policy agenda.

Commissioner Smith stated that all state agency heads and/or appointed personnel by previous administration must submit their resignation letters by January 9th, 2019. She also stated that appointees to the Connecticut Arts Council can be unappointed by new governor.

Commissioner Smith will make recommendations to the governor elect that current Connecticut Arts Council governor appointed members continue to serve as such.

IV. Chairman's Report

Fritz Jellinghaus stated that he will contact Wendy Bury to receive the final document that will be submitted to Governor Lamont.

Fritz reported that the transition team will make a request that 20% of the hotel taxes be allocated to Arts & Tourism and that funds be non-lapsing.

V. Interim Director's Report

Interim director Liz Shapiro reported that the Office of the Arts will be offering a new accessibility grant – *ARTE-Accessible*. Grants will range from \$500 - \$3,000 and funds can be used towards improving access to all audiences, staff training and professional development for artists on accessibility, translators and interpreters.

Liz also reported that the Office of the Arts will be presenting Creative Conversations on COA's READI statement; Arts & Economic Impact; Arts Workforce; and Arts Education.

Liz informed that COA will be doing field visits to each Regional Service Organization. We will also be scheduling a meeting with the executive directors and their board chairs. Our goal is to strengthen our relationship and keep our partnership in alignment with COA's strategic plan and how we can continue to work together.

VI. Action Items

FY19 Arts Access Grants

It is recommended that the Connecticut Arts Council approve the allocation of up to \$25,000 to fund subsequent rounds of Arts Access Grants as reviewed and approved by staff.

Motion: Catherine Smith
Seconded: Chris Bruhl

(Y-8; N-0)

VII. Other Business

Fritz Jellinghaus stated that the Governor's Excellence in Arts award needs to be revised and will be putting together a team to discuss further.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ted Yudain, second by Chris Bruhl, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lu Rivera
Administrative Assistant