

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

**Connecticut Arts Council Meeting
April 8, 2019**

**2:00 pm
450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT 06103**

MINUTES

Present: Fritz Jellinghaus, Pedro Bermudez, Chris Bruhl, Helen During, Mary Ellen Eckels, Ted Yudain, David Lehman

Absent: Jan Dilenschneider, Titus Kaphar

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 February 4, 2019.

Motion: Ted Yudain

Second: Pedro Bermudez

(Y-7; N-0)

III. Chairman's Report

Fritz Jellinghaus welcomed Commissioner Lehman to his first CT Arts Council meeting. During his term, Commissioner Lehman will serve as ex-officio member of the Arts Council with voting rights as stated in our statutes.

Mr. Jellinghaus reviewed status of appointments to the Council. Fritz recommended that a nominating committee be established with a least three board members of the Council to make candidate recommendations to the legislature to fill the three vacancies Council currently has. Christ Bruhl and Helen During agreed to be on the Nominating Committee. Fritz encouraged all board members to send names of possible candidates by next week.

An additional committee of Council members, has been established to discuss Governor's Arts Awards. The Committee will report out at the next Council meeting in September.

IV. Director's Report

Elizabeth Shapiro reported that COA Staff is reviewing the RSO Partnership Agreement. It is the goal of COA to strengthen our partnership relationship with the nine (9) Regional Service Organizations.

VI. Action Items

FY19 Elizabeth L. Mahaffey Administration Fellowship

It is recommended that the Connecticut Arts Council approve eight (8) Elizabeth L. Mahaffey Arts Administration Fellowship grants for a total of \$15,350.

Motion: Ted Yudain

Second: Pedro Bermudez

(Y-7; N-0)

FY19 Arts Workforce Initiative

It is recommended that the Connecticut Arts Council approve thirty-seven (37) Arts Workforce Initiative grants in the amount of \$3,750 each, for a total of \$138,750.

Motion: Ted Yudain

Second: Mary Ellen Eckels

Recused: Pedro Bermudez

(Y-6; N-0; Recused-1)

FY19 Artists Fellowship

It is recommended that the Connecticut Arts Council approve fifty (50) Artist Fellowship Grants for a total of \$150,000.

Motion: Pedro Bermudez

Second: Helen During

(Y-7; N-0)

VII. Other Business

Liz and COA staff gave updates on the following:

CT Poet Laureate - Tamara Dimitri reported that Margaret Gibson has been selected as the 6th Poet Laureate for Connecticut. Ms. Gibson will serve for a three-year term (2019-2022). Tamara stated that DECD has issued a press release announcing the selection of Ms. Gibson and has been picked up by various media sources.

FY20 Arts Grants – Grant opportunities for FY20 (Funding period: October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020) have been posted on our website all our media platforms. Grants will approved at the September Arts Council meeting.

2019 CT Arts Day – Wednesday, May 1st will be the Arts Hero Awards ceremony at Infinity Hall in Hartford, and Thursday, May 2nd is CT Arts Day in New Haven. All Council members are encouraged to be present for these two major events of COA.

Strategic Plan - Liz reviewed COA's 2017-2021 Strategic Plan. In FY21, COA will begin RFP process for the next one. A copy of the Strategic Plan is available on our website.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ted Yudain, second by Jan Pedro Bermudez, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lu Rivera
Administrative Assistant