



CT Arts Council

Connecticut Arts Council Meeting

Monday, June 5, 2023

1:00 pm

Zoom

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Alexandra Daum, Floyd Green, Jacqui Hubbard, Mary Ellen Kingsland-Eckels, Sofia Lewitt, Judy McElhone, Jack Rosenberg, and Elizabeth Shapiro
Staff: Mel Díaz, Kolton Harris, Rhonda Olisky, and Tekowa Omara-Otunnu
Guest: Andrew Lindy and Denise Massingale-Lamb

Call to Order

Chairman Jack Rosenberg called the meeting to order at 1:0 pm.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Rosenburg asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the May meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes of the May 1st meetings.

Motion: J. Hubbard | Second: S. Lewitt | Discussion: No additional discussion.

In favor: 6, Opposed: 0, Abstentions: 0

May meeting minutes approved.

Announcements

Rosenberg informed the Council that Calida Jones and Adriane Jefferson had resigned from the Council and promised to send out their resignation letters. He then introduced Andrew Linde and Denise Massingale-Lamb as Council nominees.

Director's Report

Director Elizabeth Shapiro reported that staff was in the process of accepting the NEA allotment of \$1,021,100, and State funds are used to match those funds. She announced that the State budget had been released, and COA received flat funding at \$1,497,298. The Arts, Culture, and Tourism Roadmap did not get approved. DECD staff is going through the budget to see what falls under DECD. Summer at the Museums will be funded with \$10 MM. There are a few additional ARPA funds for arts organizations and theaters. Shapiro explained that ARPA funds did not impact COA as they were passthrough funds and not funds for the office. Data will be collected and analyzed to see how those additional funds affect cultural organizations. However, no one knows the impact of the

loss of funds. She asked Council members to share any funding opportunities as the information could be shared with partners if COA cannot apply.

Shapiro shared additional updates from the staff. The AEP6 survey collection is wrapping up. It will be interesting to see how the regions look when the report comes out in October. HOT Schools is doing a daylong conference to show the methods of including the arts in teaching other subjects.

Chairman's Report

Fiscal year 24 meeting dates will be the first Monday of the month unless it's a holiday. The Council will not meet in August and will reconvene in September in person.

Chairman Rosenberg suggested the Council organize a committee to help select recipients for the Governor's Arts Awards and the presentation. He announced that Brian Walters had been nominated to the Council and has a long history of curating art shows and events, so might be an additional help.

Office of the Arts Action Item

Program Associate Rhonda Olisky informed the Council about the Elizabeth L. Mahaffey Arts Administration Fellowship grants. Applicants can ask for up to \$2,500 for professional development. With additional funds, COA is able to award four grants.

Motion to approve the Artists Fellowship grants.

Motion: J. Hubbard | Second: J. McElhone | Discussion: No additional discussion.

In favor: 7, Opposed: 0, Abstentions: 0

Artist Fellowship grants approved.

Other Business

There was no other business to discuss. Rosenberg thanked Commissioner Alexandra Daum for joining the meeting.

Adjournment

Chairman Rosenberg thanked everyone for volunteering their time and efforts. He asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:43 pm.

Motion: F. Green | Second: J. Rosenberg | Discussion: No additional discussion.

In favor: 6, Opposed: 0, Abstentions: 0

The meeting adjourned at 1:43 pm.