

Connecticut Arts Council Meeting
Monday, November 4, 2024
1:00 pm
Zoom

MINUTES

Present: Floyd Green, Dwayne Harris, Mary Ellen Kingsland-Eckels, Andrew Linde, Judy McElhone, Sarah McKay, Jack Rosenberg, Elizabeth Shapiro, and Brian Walters

Guest: CT-N

Absent: Jacqui Hubbard

Staff: Mel Díaz and Kim Parsons-Whitaker

Call to Order

Chairman Jack Rosenberg called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Rosenberg asked if there were any comments, questions, or edits to the minutes. Hearing none, he requested a motion to approve the October meeting minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes of the October 7th meeting.

Motion: M. Kingsland-Eckels | Second A. Linde: | Discussion: No additional discussion.

In favor: 8, Opposed: 0, Abstentions: 0

October meeting minutes approved.

Director's Report

Director Elizabeth Shapiro introduced the newest member of the COA staff, Kim Parsons-Whitaker, and stated she would be working mostly on the Cultural Districts and Air programs. Shapiro gave a brief update on the Supporting Arts and Every Child Art Experience grant programs which received 237 and 83 applications respectively. Staff attended the NASAA conference in Puerto Rico which concentrated on telling impactful stories, collecting data, and arts and health. The Art Pharmacy partnership is official with a signed contract and a strategy kickoff meeting in the upcoming week. DECD is also moving forward with a Midnight Oil Collaborative partnership to help the arts be part of the growing Connecticut's innovation economy by supporting incubation areas over the next five years. The first year would be to help theaters to become incubators as some theaters are already doing this. The Cultural District program is growing with Farmington and Norwalk making official announcements. Shapiro closed her report stating that she accepted to be the keynote at the Yale Arts Innovation Summit in May 2025.

Committee for the Governor's Arts Awards

Council members shared their experiences at the first Governor's Arts Awards event in four years. The event was a success! Chairman Rosenberg thanked the council members involved and the staff at Five Points for all their hard work. The discussion closed with additional options for event locations.

Chairman's Report

The Council continued their conversation about a visioning session to identify priorities. Council member Sarah McKay stated that she would be sending out a Doodle Poll to see what date worked for everyone. The idea is to have the first session with Kelly Barsdate of NASAA for an overview of how the responsibilities of a nonprofit board are different and the role of the Council. Then there would be an in-person session with a facilitator to identify the Council's priorities.

Other Business

There was no "other business" to discuss.

Adjournment

Chairman Rosenberg asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting after thanking the Council for volunteering.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:44 pm.

Motion: F. Green | Second: M. Kingsland-Eckels | Discussion: No additional discussion.

In favor: 8, Opposed: 0, Abstentions: 0

The meeting adjourned at 1:44 pm.