

**Connecticut Arts Council Meeting**  
**Monday, April 7, 2025**  
**1:00 pm**  
**Zoom**

**MINUTES**

Present: Floyd Green, Jacqui Hubbard, Mary Ellen Kingsland-Eckels, Andrew Linde, Sarah McKay, Judy McElhone, Jack Rosenberg, and Elizabeth Shapiro,  
Guest: Rufus de Rham, Denise Massingale-Lamb, and Maddie Myers  
Absent: Dwayne Harris and Brian Walters  
Staff: Tamara Dimitri and Mel Díaz

**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 January meeting minutes.

*Motion to approve the minutes of the March 4<sup>th</sup> meetings.*

Motion: M. Kingsland-Eckels | Second: S. McKay | Discussion: No additional discussion.

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

January meeting minutes approved.

**CT Arts Alliance**

CT Art Alliance Director Rufus de Rham gave a brief overview of his background. Council members and staff also introduced themselves. Afterward, he reported on his work with Connecticut Humanities (CTH) and the request to the legislature for a portion of the 1% Meals Tax to support the arts and culture. de Rham recommended that Council Members connect with CT's federal delegation and write to their legislators in support of funding for the arts and cultural sector.

Council member Floyd Green advised the Council to pay attention to what is happening on the national level, as it will impact items on the state and local levels.

**Follow-up from Council Planning Session**

Sarah McKay recommended submitting a letter to the legislature on behalf of the Council using the template from CTH. Chairman Rosenberg requested that McKay write the letter and circulate it to the Council via email.

McKay also recommended adding “Community Input and Advocacy Updates” as a regular agenda item. Rosenberg agreed to have it as a standing item on the agenda and asked McKay to lead it.

### **Director’s Report**

Director Elizabeth Shapiro reported that this year’s Arts Awards took place the previous week. Over 300 people registered to attend the event, and more than 200 attended. Staff is also planning Poetry Ourselves events, and the Poetry Out Loud national competition will take place in the first week of May. Director Shapiro stated that she will be the keynote speaker for the Arts Track at this year’s Tale Innovation Summit at the end of May.

### **Chairman’s Report**

Chairman Rosenberg thanked everyone for volunteering.

### **Other Business**

There was no “other business” to discuss.

### **Adjournment**

Rosenberg asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

*Motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:58 pm.*

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 1:58 pm.

