

**Connecticut Arts Council Meeting**  
**Monday, March 2, 2026 | 1:00 pm**  
**Zoom**

**MINUTES**

Present: Jacqui Hubbard, Cinzi Lavin, Andrew Linde, Denise Massingale-Lamb, Judy McElhone, Jack Rosenberg, Elizabeth Shapiro, and Brian Walters

Absent: Dwayne Harris, Sarah McKay, and Dan O'Keefe

Staff: Mel Díaz, Tamara Dimitri, Briley Neugebauer, and Kim Parsons-Whitaker

**Call to Order**

Chairman Jack Rosenberg called the meeting to order at 1:05 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 minutes.

*Motion to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2026 meeting.*

Motion: C. Lavin | Second: J. Rosenberg | Discussion: No additional discussion.

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

January meeting minutes approved.

**Updates from Council Members**

Council Members shared their individual and organizational advocacy and community outreach efforts. Council member Denise Massingale-Lamb announced that the Arts Council Foundation would be launching its inaugural grant for artists that would provide funds and professional development.

**Program Reports**

Program Associate Briley Neugebauer gave an update on the Arts & Health Conference hosted by NASAA and NEA, providing key takeaways and possible future funding priorities. Her update was followed by Program Specialist Kimberly Parsons-Whitaker's presentation on Cultural Districts, giving the Council an overview of the process to apply, and reporting that there are 15 formally designated Cultural Districts, with two awaiting announcement.

**Director's Report**

Director Elizabeth Shapiro stated that she did not have a report for this meeting but would invite the partners of the Collective CT program to the Council's next meeting for a more formal presentation. She reminded the Council that this partnership is between COA, Yale Ventures, and Midnight Oil with funding through the Small Business Development division.

### **Chairman's Report**

Chairman Rosenberg asked that anyone interested in participating in the next round of the Governor's Arts Awards please let him know. The target event date would be the spring or summer of 2027. The previous committee members expressed an interest in leading the endeavor again.

### **Other Business**

There was no "other business" to discuss.

### **Adjournment**

Rosenberg asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

*Motion to adjourn the meeting.*

Motion: J. Hubbard | Second: D. Massingale-Lamb | Discussion: No additional discussion.

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

The meeting adjourned at 2:06 pm.