

Connecticut Arts Council Meeting
Monday, September 8, 2025
1:00 pm
Zoom

MINUTES

Present: Dwayne Harris, Jacqui Hubbard, Andrew Linde, Sarah McKay, Judy McElhone, Jack Rosenberg, Elizabeth Shapiro, and Brian Walters
Guest: Rufus de Rham, Denise Massingale-Lamb, and CT-N
Absent: Mary Ellen Kingsland-Eckels and Dan O'Keefe
Staff: Mel Díaz, Tamara Dimitri, and Kim Parsons-Whitaker

Call to Order

Chairman Jack Rosenberg called the meeting to order at 1:04 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 May meeting minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes of the May 5th meeting.

Motion: A. Linde | Second: S. McKay | Discussion: No additional discussion.

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

May meeting minutes approved.

Updates from Council Members

Council Members shared their individual and organizational advocacy and community outreach efforts.

Presentation by COA Director on Current Initiatives

Director Elizabeth Shapiro gave a PowerPoint presentation that provided an overview of her programs and responsibilities. Shapiro stated that if the Council found the presentation informative, staff could also give similar presentations of their work.

CT Arts Alliance

CT Art Alliance (CAA) Director Rufus de Rham gave an update on the bills introduced in the last session to fund arts, culture, and tourism. While none got to the floor vote, this is the closest a bill has gotten to approval, as there are several legislators who are working on this and will continue to. The Federal session has started, and the country is facing a pending government shutdown. However, outreach to federal delegates should continue to recommend funding to IMLS, NEH, and NEA.

Director's Report

Director Shapiro announced that COA had received its notice of award from the NEA and that she would provide more updates at the next meeting.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Rosenberg presented the option to move the Council meeting to bimonthly. Council members supported the option. A new calendar was shared with Council members following the meeting.

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 1.59 pm.

Motion: J. Hubbard | Second: B. Walters | Discussion: No additional discussion.

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

The meeting adjourned at 1.59 pm.