



**Connecticut Arts Council Meeting**

**Monday, September 11, 2023**

**1:00 pm**

**Zoom**

**MINUTES**

Present: Floyd Green, Jacqui Hubbard, Mary Ellen Kingsland-Eckels, Andrew Linde, Judy McElhone, and Jack Rosenberg

Absent: Alexandra Daum and Elizabeth Shapiro

Staff: Mel Díaz, Tamara Dimitri, Tekowa Omara-Otunnu

Guest: Denise Massingale-Lamb and Ted Yudain

**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 July meeting minutes.

*Motion to approve the minutes of the July 10<sup>th</sup> meetings.*

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

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

June meeting minutes approved.

**Office of the Arts Action Item**

There was no Arts Action Item to discuss.

**Director's Report**

Program Specialist Tamara Dimitri gave a brief report in Director Elizabeth Shapiro's absence. She reported there were several upcoming deadlines for COA, including the Arts Hero Award (9/11), the Emerging Creative Award (10/15), and the Artists Respond grant (10/25). She also reported that COA has partnered with libraries in a creative aging program that provides professional development for teaching artists.

When asked, Dimitri provided an overview of the selection process and timeline for the Arts Hero Award.

### **Arts Education Update**

Arts Education Manager Tekowa Omara-Otunnu reported on the new Art Education grant *Every Child Art Experience* – a \$2500 grant to support schools taking students to arts experiences in theaters, museums, or the community. The program aims to help provide all students access to art and art education. Understanding that not all students have equal access to the arts, this program seeks to close the gap in access. It prioritizes schools in Alliance and Opportunity Districts. Teachers applying would choose the art experience of their choice and lead the experience since they know their students and schools the best. The deadline is November 30<sup>th</sup>, with selections in December and notification in January to allow for field trip planning, as the funds must be spent before the school year ends.

### **Chairman's Report**

Chairman Rosenberg asked Committee members to consider what the Governor's Arts Awards and Patrons Awards should look like and what selection process should be used. A brief history of the Governor's Arts and Patrons Awards was given, explaining how they differ from the Art Hero Awards. Committee members contemplated leveraging COA awards or grant recipients. They also discussed keeping the awards separate to spread recognition throughout the year.

Rosenberg also stated that the Council should restart a statewide award design and fabrication selection process. Committee members agreed that reaching out to different people than those involved in the past would be beneficial. Committee member Mary Ellen Kingsland-Eckels suggested contacting art schools and having it be a student competition.

Chairman Rosenberg asked for the Committee to prepare ideas for the following meeting.

### **Other Business**

There was no "other business" to discuss. Committee members asked for everyone to be mindful of the date and that 9/11 was a traumatic time for the country.

### **Adjournment**

Chairman Rosenberg asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

*Motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:12 pm.*

Motion: M. Kingsland-Eckels | Second: J. Hubbard | Discussion: No additional discussion.

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

The meeting adjourned at 2:12 pm.