

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF THE ARTS**

**Connecticut Arts Council Meeting
Monday, February 27, 2017
1 Constitution Plaza, Hartford, CT 06103**

Present: Fritz Jellinghaus, Mary DeCroce, Lisa Scails, Amy Wynn, Ted Yudain,
Mary Ellen Eckels

Absent: Jimmy Greene, Catherine Smith, Jan Dilenschneider, Helen Klisser During,
Karen Osbrey

Staff: Kristina Newman-Scott, Bonnie Koba, Tamara Dimitri, Adriane Jefferson,
Rhonda Olisky

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:09 pm.

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Fritz Jellinghaus, to table the approval of minutes to the next Arts Council meeting.

III. Chairman's Report

Fritz Jellinghaus reported that we have a board vacancy in the Arts Council. Fritz will be following up on getting vacancy refilled as well as board terms that have expired and need reappointments.

IV. Director's Report

Kristina Newman-Scott reported that an Arts Council meeting via conference call will be scheduled for next week to approve the CT Arts Endowment and the Elizabeth Mahaffey Fellowship grants.

Kristina gave an update on CT Arts Day, scheduled for March 2nd, 2017. We expect to have over 400 registrants, which is an increase of last year's 340 attendees.

Rhonda Olisky presented and reviewed with the Arts Council members an at-a-glance schedule for Arts Day.

Kristina reported on the FY18 proposed Governor's budget. For the first time there is an additional \$600,000 allotted for COA's Arts Commission discretionary line, which is an increase of 40%. In addition, the proposed budget eliminates the funds allocated directly to the line item recipients. Rather the funds will be distributed in two discretionary pools: a) Arts & Historic Preservation; and b) Tourism – approximately a total of \$5 million. Please note that this is subject to approval by the Legislature.

Kristina informed that the Creative Communities Exchange (CCX) will be hosted by Southeastern Connecticut Cultural Coalition from June 8-9, 2017 in New London, CT. The CCX is a peer-to-peer exchange of the strategies used in successful creative economy initiatives around New England. The CT Office of the Arts will be offering ninety \$100 scholarships (10 participants from each of our 9 Regional Service Organizations) to be able to attend CCX.

Kristina also reported that for FY17 the Elizabeth Mahaffey Fellowship will be awarded to one Emerging Arts Administrator one Mid-career Arts Administrator. However, this year we will be awarding an additional Mahaffey Fellowship (three in total) as result of a donation made to our office from the estate of Constance Sattler.

Kristina reported that COA has been working with our nine Regional Service Organizations (RSO) in developing the FY18 Partnership Agreement with COA. For FY18 each RSO will receive \$34,000 and addition can apply for an additional \$6,000 in add-on services. The \$6,000 add-on services funds, are also being offered to three of our RSOs who are line item recipients. The new partnership agreement aligns with COA's new Strategic Plan.

Kristina also informed that COA staff presented a live webinar for our FY18 Arts Grants program offerings. We had about 50 people register. The link to the webinar will be posted on our website so applicants can access it at any time.

We hope to continue using the webinar platform for future professional development opportunities as well as future interactive council meetings.

Kristina informed that the CT Office of the Arts, along with SHPO and Tourism will be moving to 450 Columbus Boulevard in September 2017. The DECD staff house at 505 Hudson Street will hopefully join us in November 2017.

VI. Other Business

No other business.

VII. Adjournment

A motion as made to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:07 pm.

The next Arts Council meeting will be held on Monday, April 17th, 2017 at 2:00 pm at the DECD/CT Office of the Arts offices.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lu Rivera
Administrative Assistant