

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

**Connecticut Arts Council Meeting
September 9, 2019
2:00 pm
450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT 06103**

MINUTES

Present: Fritz Jellinghaus, Pedro Bermudez, Chris Bruhl, Jan Dilenschneider, Helen During, Mary Ellen Eckels, Ted Yudain

Absent: Titus Kaphar

Staff: Elizabeth Shapiro, Tamara Dimitri, Adriane Jefferson, Bonnie Koba, Rhonda Olisky, Jane Schneider

Guest: Jack Rosenberg

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:12 pm

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes of April 8, 2019.

Motion: Chris Bruhl

Second: Ted Yudain

(Y-7; N-0)

III. Chairman's Report

Fritz Jellinghaus welcomed Jack Rosenberg to the meeting. Mr. Rosenberg has been appointed by the Governor to serve as member of the Connecticut Arts Council. We expect that by the November meeting his appointment will be official.

Mr. Jellinghaus reported that a request will be submitted to the legislature to increase the number of board members to the Council. The goal is to seek candidates that will find ways to

be more strategic in addressing issues and looking at the bigger picture of the role of the CT Office of the Arts (COA).

Mr. Jellinghaus also reported that a facilitated board retreat in October is being planned to review COA's strategic plan and determine what additional goals need to be added.

Mr. Jellinghaus passed out a list of nominees for the 2020 Governor's Arts Award and Patron of the Arts. The dates of June 4th and June 11th have been submitted to the Governor's office and we are awaiting confirmation on which date the Governor can commit to attend. The Wadsworth Atheneum is the venue for this event. They are holding these dates and are awaiting confirmation as well. A request will be made to the Governor's office for his signature on the letter notifying the chosen nominees of these awards. Council member, Pedro Bermudez, will be producing vignettes on each of the awardees.

A motion was made to accept the nominees listed as 1st choice or 2nd choice if needed.

Motion: Ted Yudain
Second: Mary Ellen Eckels

(Y-7; N-0)

A new category has been recommended: Lifetime Achievement Award; along with 1st choice nominee Jasper Johns and Meryl Streep as second.

A motion was made to add the new category of Lifetime Achievement Award and the nominees presented.

Motion: Helen During
Second: Ted Yudain

VI. Action Items (continued)

FY20 Supporting Arts Grants

It is recommended that the Connecticut Arts Council approve one-hundred and nine (109) Supporting Arts grants for a total of \$632,800.

Motion: Fritz Jellinghaus
Second: Chris Bruhl
Recuse: Ted Yudain

(Y-6; N-0; Recuse: 1)

III. Chairman's Report (continued)

Mr. Jellinghaus reported that the Council has created task force where board members serve in areas of interests as well as understand to a greater degree the programs that COA manages as well as serve as advisors in policies and procedures.

IV. Director's Report

Ms. Elizabeth reported that for FY20 the CT Office of the Arts (COA) was appropriated flat funding from the state legislature, a total of \$1,497,298; and from our federal partner, the National Endowment for the Arts, we received \$737,400 for a grand total of \$2,234,698. Most of these funds are allocated to COA's grant programs.

Ms. Shapiro stated that COA's Strategic Plan (2017-2021) is currently at mid-point review. COA staff is reviewing stated goals and objectives to assess if we are in alignment with the plan. In FY21, funds will be allocated in the budget to begin process of developing the next 5 year Strategic Plan to be in place by September 2020.

Ms. Shapiro also report that the Cultural District legislation was approved and will be launched in October 1, 2019. The model being used is very similar to Massachusetts. Districts who wish to be designated as a Cultural District will go through an application process. There is no funding mechanism to this designation.

VI. Action Items

FY20 Regional Initiative Grants

It is recommended that the Connecticut Arts Council approve forty-six (46) Regional Initiative Grants for a total of \$155,850.

Motion: Jan Dilenschneider

Second: Ted Yudain

(Y-7; N-0)

FY20 Arts Project Grants

It is recommended that the Connecticut Arts Council approve twenty-eight (28) Arts Project Grants for a total of \$271,200.

Motion: Mary Ellen Eckels

Second: Jan Dilenschneider

(Y-7; N-0)

FY20 Arts Learning Presentation Grants

It is recommended that the Connecticut Arts Council approve ten (10) Arts Learning Presentation Grants for a total of \$9,800.

Motion: Chris Bruhl

Second: Ted Yudain

(Y-7; N-0)

FY20 Folk & Traditional Arts Grant

It is recommended that the Connecticut Arts Council approve a partnership grant to the Connecticut Historical Society for the Connecticut Cultural Heritage Arts Program for a total of \$15,000.

Motion: Chris Bruhl

Second: Mary Ellen Eckels

(Y-7; N-0)

FY20 Designated Regional Service Organization Partnership Grant

It is recommended that the Connecticut Arts Council approve six (6) Designated Regional Service Organization Partnership grants in the amount of \$34,000 each for a total of \$204,000.

Motion: Ted Yudain

Second: Chris Bruhl

(Y-7; N-0)

VII. Other Business

No other business.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ted Yudain, second by Jan Dilenschneider, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lu Rivera

Administrative Assistant