



*City of Bristol
Arts & Culture Commission*

INFORMATION TO ACCESS MEETING

<https://bristolct-gov.zoom.us/j/86280576918?pwd=iQ7DubdYbSAm0Dse5qszhgaOeTG2Z1.1>

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The regular meeting was held on Wednesday, October 2, 2024, at 6:30 PM in Meeting Room 1-3 in City Hall, 111 North Main Street, Bristol, CT 06010.

1. Call to Order

Chair Walter Lewandowski called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

a. Approval of Minutes: September 4, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Wynter to Approve the September 04, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes.

Seconded by Commissioner Salice, all in favor, motion carried.

3. Public Participation

Danny Mendoza, of 215 High St. in Bristol, attended the Arts and Culture Commission Meeting this evening to get a better understanding of the commission and any plans they have for the future. Mr. Mendoza is the owner of DNA Marketing in Bristol, CT. He has a background in the Arts and Innovation and was interested in ways to help and get involved with the Arts and Culture Commission; discussion followed.

LaQuita Gonzales, of 42 Merriman St. in Bristol, attended the Arts and Culture Commission Meeting to get a better understanding of the commission and any plans they have for the future. Mrs. Gonzales is the owner of Urban Studios in Bristol, CT. Urban Studios is a space made up of 3 studios for podcasts, photography, and creative space. She was interested in ways to help and get involved with the Arts and Culture Commission; discussion followed.

Lauren Cavanaugh, of 336 Main St in Bristol, attended the Arts and Culture Commission Meeting with interest in being a vendor at the Halloween Spooktacular to showcase her work; discussion followed.

4. Arts and Culture Supervisor's Report

a. Financials

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Department Financials Report. Supervisor Therriault stated that the Arts and Culture Fund is still on track. The Downtown Live account is roughly three weeks behind, but the budget for advertisements is high. She stated that she would supply a more up-to-date financial report at the next Arts and Culture Commissioners' Meeting; discussion followed.

b. Project Updates

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Project Updates; discussion followed.

c. Downtown Live Updates

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Downtown Live Updates. Supervisor Therriault presented a list of all the upcoming shows following the New Year. She described the diversity of the acts that are coming to Downtown Live and new ways of advertising. She has been working on the marketing campaign, and she has reached out to a few different agencies for guidance and most agencies have stated Downtown Live would need its own website. Supervisor Therriault presented to the Commission the possibility of changing the name of Downtown Live at the Rockwell Theater instead of the Downtown Live, Bristol Arts and Culture for the social media platforms. City Council liaison Cheryl Thibeault suggested that Supervisor Therriault speak with Corporation Council on how to possibly tie in the city with a new name; discussion followed.

i. Bid Update

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented an Update on the Bid for Concessions. Supervisor Therriault stated that the bid was still up in the air. The agreement is completed, the department of Health application is still in process with the Bristol Burlington Health District, the alcohol permit with the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection is still in process, and the certificate of insurance is being finalized with a broker; discussion followed.

5. Chairman's Report

The City Arts and Culture Commissioners Chair, Walter Lewandowski, presented his Chairman's Report. Chair Lewandowski presented updates on the inquiry about having a Rotating Art Wall in City Hall but has not received a response yet. He also presented an update on the Heart Sculpture for Stock's Park. There has been a scale model of the sculpture made, and he is going to meet with Superintendent of Bristol Parks and Recreation, Youth and Community Services, Josh Medeiros, about the possible placement of the sculpture. Chair Lewandowski also presented a status update on Janessa Mari's application and the break-down of what the funding would be used for; discussion followed.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Wynter to Award Camryn Patton a Grant for \$350 for her upcoming Dance Workshops, Contingent on the Completion of the Grant Application. Seconded by Commissioner Carensa-Crist, all in favor, motion carried.

6. Old Business

a. Kendall Soliwoda Little League Mural

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented an update on Kendall Soliwoda and the proposal of the Bristol Little League Mural. Supervisor Therriault had reached out to Kendall for any additional updates on the project, and he had not received an update from Bristol Little League. Kendall Soliwoda stated that this project will be pushed out until the Spring/Summer of 2025; discussion followed.

b. David Krezel Wood Carving Update

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented an update on David Krezel and his proposed Wood Carved Bench Project in one of the Bristol Parks. David stated he would like to wait until August 2025. Supervisor Therriault stated that David was able to gather the information he needed to move forward with the project. David was going to inquire about using a grant that could potentially help fund a portion of this project; discussion followed.

c. Cultural District Event Timing

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Cultural District Event Timing. Supervisor Therriault opened the meeting for the Commissioners' ideas of events they would like to see and host around the Holiday Season in the future. Commissioner Norton presented the idea of a "Hot March", where you can march to different locations/businesses around town and give out a different hot beverage at each stop. Commissioner Carensa-Crist presented a "Holiday Market", an outdoor Holiday Market, that will include the Bristol Bizzare, food trucks and performances. City Council Liaison Cheryl Thibeault presented the "Carol Crawl". Groups will be stationed in Bristol's Cultural Arts District where the public can walk to each group and enjoy the caroling groups; discussion followed.

Chair Lewandowski presented the idea of the City Arts and Culture Commission creating a group that will help facilitate events. This group would be a collective group of artists that can help group the City Arts and Culture Events. Chair Lewandowski suggested the City Arts and Culture Commission would be the driving force behind the group for funding and providing ideas; discussion followed.

d. Halloween Spooktacular

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented updates on the Halloween Spooktacular. The Halloween Spooktacular will be on October 26, 2024, from 3-8 p.m. Supervisor Therriault went over the vendors, some of the supplies that she had ordered,

and updates on the first ever Coffin Race; discussion followed.

e. By Commissioners

None.

7. New Business

a. By Commissioners

None.

8. Reports and Committee Reports

a. City Council Liaison's Report

City Council Liaison Cheryl Thibeault presented updates from City Council. City Council Liaison Thibeault updated the commission on Iron Horse Pub, which was said to have a soft opening possibly by the end of October. There is a new restaurant called Ventanna that is set to be where the old Better Half Brewery was on North Main Street. Pure Foods is going to be in the Carrier Building but it is still unclear when they will be making the move. City Council Liaison Thibeault also gave up an update on the Dog Pound plans and the plans for Fire House #3.

b. By Commissioners

None.

9. Adjournment

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Wynter to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m.
Seconded by Commissioner Carensa-Crist, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amaris Estrada
Recording Secretary
City Arts and Culture Commission