



*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, November 6, 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 6:35 p.m.

a. Attendance

Members Present:

Chair Walter Lewandowski
Commissioner Andrea Adams
Commissioner Julie Carensa Crist
Commissioner Juliet Norton
Commissioner Maria Salice
Commissioner Nigel Wynter
City Council Liaison Cheryl Thibeault
City Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault

Absent:

Superintendent Dr. Joshua Medeiros
Deputy Superintendent Sarah Larson

2. Approval of Minutes

a. Approval of Minutes – October 2, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Cersensa Crist to Approve the October 2, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes.

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

3. Public Participation

Maxine Bowden of 42 Meriman Street, Bristol, is currently working with Downtown Live for the Soul Sessions Show on January 18, 2025. Soul Sessions is a show that will celebrate the essence of Jazz through music, poetry, and more. Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault is currently working with Maxine Bowden for promoting the show; discussion followed.

David Krezel of 5 2nd Street in Bristol, has presented an update on the Wood Carving Park Bench. He has presented the plans with the Board of Park Commission and the Department of Public Works with hopes of locally sourcing a tree. Mr. Krezel was going to meet with Public Works again about the trees that are scheduled to be removed. He is also going to work on the Sustainable CT Communities Match Fund to help with additional funding; discussion followed.

Danny Mendoza of 215 High Street, Bristol, spoke about how his company can help with advertising for the Arts and Culture Commission. He is currently having conversations about the possibility of working with Bristol Economic and Community Development and The American Rescue Plan and Task Force; discussion followed.

4. Arts and Culture Supervisor's Report

a. Financials

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Year to Date Financials. Supervisor Therriault stated that she is currently thinking about the Fiscal Year 2026 budget and will need to go up on advertisements. She stated that the other financial are on track; discussion followed.

b. Project Updates

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Project Updates. Supervisor Therriault also presented what the new Downtown Live website will look like with hopes of being able to add more to the website such as gift cards, and sponsorship opportunities; discussion followed.

c. Downtown Live Updates

a. Concessionaire Update

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Downtown Live and Concessionaire Updates. Supervisor Therriault stated that she was going to meet with Iris White, the acting Superintendent of Public Schools, about the food and drink policy in the theater. She is still having difficulty with communicating with the current vendor for concession and will think of an alternative solution; discussion followed.

d. Halloween Spooktacular Review

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Review of the Halloween Spooktacular. Supervisor Therriault stated that it was a bit windy. She may also cut back on food trucks next year. She stated that the vendors that she had spoken with had done well, and the coffin race was a success; discussion followed.

5. Chairman's Report

Chair Walter Lewandowski presented the Chairman's Report. Chair Lewandowski stated that he spoke with Lindsey Rivers of Bristol Public Works about the possibility of an art display, but the request was declined. He also presented an update on the Heart Sculpture at Stocks Park. Chair Lewandowski met with Superintendent Josh Medeiros on the placement, and they decided on the entrance to the parking lot by Casey Field; discussion followed.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Adams to move up Items 7.a. and 7.b. on the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Salice, all in favor, motion carried.

7. New Business

a. Arts and Culture Commission Vision Setting

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault had the Commission and answer a series of questions to better understand what everyone would like to see in the future for the Arts and Culture Commission. The Commissioners went around the room and wrote down their answer and Supervisor Therriault would collect the results for the next meeting.

b. By Commissioners

Commissioner Julie Carensa Crist presented an event idea to the Commissioner. Commissioner Carensa Crist suggested an outdoor market for either the spring or the winter. With the Bristol Bazaar, the Arts and Culture Commission can create an outdoor market to support the small businesses with entertainment and food; discussion followed.

Commissioner Adams brought up the idea of making a donation as an official sponsor at the Downtown Live theater. This would result in the Arts and Culture Commissioner having a plaque under a beautiful photo of the theater; discussion followed.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Adams to donate \$500 to have the City Arts and Culture's name on a plaque at the Bristol Arts and Innovation Magnet School inside the Downtown Live Theater.

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

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented a suggestion for the commission to attend the next meeting with potential names for the Carousel Museum Horse.

Chair Walter Lewandowski presented the idea of a group that can help support the events that the City Arts and Culture Commission would like to facilitate.

8. Reports and Committee Reports

a. City Council Liaison Report

City Council Liaison Cheryl Thibeault presented updates from the Bristol City Council. She presented updates on the dog pound, the possibility of a 3rd Carrier Homes building, and the new Firehouse 3 on Church Ave; discussion followed.

9. Adjournment

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Adams to adjourn at 8:32 p.m.
Seconded by Commissioner Salice, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted
Amaris Estrada
Recording Secretary
City Arts and Culture Commission