



*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, January 8, 2025, at 6:30 PM in Meeting Room 1-3 in City Hall, 111 North Main Street, Bristol, CT 06010.

1. Call to Order

Chair Lewandowski called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

a. Attendance

Members Present:

Chair Walter Lewandowski
Vice Chair Andrea Adams
Commissioner Julie Carensa Crist
Commissioner Juliet Norton
Commissioner Maria Salice
Commissioner Nigel Wynter
Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault

Absent:

Commissioner E Brad Yancy
Superintendent Josh Medeiros
Deputy Superintendent Sarah Larson

2. Approval of Minutes

a. Approval of Minutes - December 6, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Made by Vice Chair Adams to Approve the December 6, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

Seconded by Chair Lewandowski, all in favor, motion carried.

3. Public Participation

LaQuita Gonzales, of 42 Merriman Street, Bristol, is in attendance on behalf of Maxine Bowden with Paradigm Events. She stated the Soul Sessions event is right on track. They have allocated the money from the Arts and Culture Grant, for the upcoming Soul Sessions show. Mrs. Gonzales also Thanked the Commission for they generosity and help with the event.

Tom Lagasse, of 20 UConn Drive, Bristol, was in attendance with an update about having a possible poetry event. He had spoken with Creative Jam Art Co. about having the poetry event on the last Wednesday of every month, starting in March; discussion followed.

4. Arts and Culture Supervisor's Report

a. Supervisor's Report

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Supervisor's Report; discussion followed.

b. Project Updates

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

c. Year-to-Date Financials

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Year-to-Date Financials; discussion followed.

5. Chairman's Report

None.

6. Old Business

a. Approve the Name for the Adopted Carousel Museum Horse

Chair Lewandowski presented the Name for the Adopted Carousel Museum Horse; discussion followed.

MOTION: Made by Vice Chair Adams to Name the Adopted Carousel Museum Horse, ARTimus.

Seconded by Chair Lewandowski, all in favor, motion carried.

b. Adopt the 2025 Arts & Culture Vision Board

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the 2025 City Arts & Culture Vision Board. Each Commissioner is to bring their top 2 (two) items they would like to

accomplish most in 2025. This has been tabled until next meeting when all of the members of the Commission are in attendance; discussion followed.

c. Discuss the Proposed Winter/Spring Market Event

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault opened the Discussion of the Proposed Winter/Spring Market Event. Commissioner Julie Carensa Crist will present an update at the February, City Arts & Culture Meeting; discussion followed.

d. Presentation of the 2025-2027 Strategic Plan

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the 2025 - 2027 Strategic Plan; discussion followed.

e. By Commissioners

None.

7. New Business

a. Approve the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Proposed Arts & Culture Commission Budget and the Arts & Culture Fund Budget and refer to the Comptroller's Office

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Fiscal Year 2025 - 2026 Proposed City Arts & Culture Fund Budget to refer to the Comptroller's Office; discussion followed.

MOTION: Made by Vice Chair Adams to Approve the Fiscal Year 2025 - 2026 Proposed City Arts & Culture Fund Budget of \$15,000.00 to refer to the Comptroller's Office.
Seconded by Commissioner Salice, all in favor, motion carried.

b. Approve the 2025 Arts and Culture Commission Meeting Calendar

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the 2025 City Arts & Culture Commission Meeting Calendar. Supervisor Therriault suggested the time change of the meeting from 6:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.; discussion followed.

MOTION: Made by Vice Chair Adams to Approve the 2025 City Arts & Culture Commission Meeting Calendar.
Seconded by Commissioner Norton, all in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Made by Vice Chair Adams to add Tom Lagasse as the City Arts and Culture Poet Laureate.
Seconded by Commissioner Carensa Crist, all in favor, motion carried.

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault requested add New Business Item of a Vote for Commissioner Andrea Adams to be Vice Chair of the City Arts and Culture Commission.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Carensa Crist to Appoint Andrea Adams as the Vice Chair of the City Arts & Culture Commission.

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

c. Discuss the Cultural District Walk through with the CT Department of Economic and Community Development on Tuesday, May 13, 2025 from 10AM-1PM.

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Cultural District Walk Through with the CT Department of Economic and Community Development on Tuesday, May 13, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; discussion followed.

d. By Commissioners

None.

8. Reports and Committee Reports

a. City Council Liaison's Report

City Council Liaison Cheryl Thibeault presented the City Council Liaison's Report. City Council Liaison Thibeault updated the Commission on the status of Center Square. Pure Foods and Dark Moon Gifts are scheduled to open in early 2025. There is a new bakery going in Forestville where San Genaro was. City Council Liaison Thibeault also presented some updates on some other restaurants opening up soon; discussion followed.

9. Adjournment

MOTION: Made by Vice Chair Adams to Adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

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

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