



*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, February 5, 2025, at 6:00 PM in Meeting Room 1-3 in City Hall, 111 North Main Street, Bristol, CT 06010.

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Andrea Adams called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

a. Attendance

Members Present:

Chair Walter Lewandowski
Vice Chair Andrea Adams
Commissioner Julie Crist
Commissioner Juliet Norton
Commissioner Maria Salice
Commissioner Nigel Wynter
Commissioner E. Brad Yancy
City Council Liaison Cheryl Thibeault

Absent:

Superintendent Joshua Medeiros
Deputy Superintendent Sarah Larson

2. Approval of Minutes

a. Approval of Minutes - January 8, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Salice to Approve the January 8, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes
Seconded by Commissioner Carensa Crist, all in favor, motion carried.

3. Public Participation

Sharon Arsego of 21 Seymour Ave, Bristol, started by thanking the City Arts and Culture Commission for the hard work they have been doing to highlight and elevate the various arts and cultures in Bristol. Sharon has shared her lifetime love of the arts by supporting the Downtown Live Theater and other events, and even participating in the Soul Sessions Show on January 18th. She also thanked Tom Lagasse for taking on the role of the City Arts and Culture Commission's Poet Laurette. Sharon believes that there are many more artists around Bristol that will benefit from the continued efforts of the City Arts and Culture Commission.

4. Arts and Culture Supervisor's Report

a. Supervisors Report

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Supervisor's Report. She updated the commission on the upcoming events as well as how the previous shows did in sales; discussion followed.

b. Financials

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

c. Project Spreadsheet

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Project Spreadsheet. Supervisor Therriault updated the Commission on the Locks at Stocks Project and the Cultural District walk; discussion followed.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Wynter to place the Supervisor's Report on file. Seconded by Commissioner Salice, all in favor, motion carried.

5. Chairman's Report

Vice Chair Adams reminded the Commission of the attendance expectations; discussion followed.

6. Old Business

a. Locks at Stocks Budget

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Locks at Stocks Budget; discussion followed.

Chair Lewandowski will follow up on the specifications and pricing on the ADA-compliant sidewalk. He would then report back with his findings to Supervisor Therriault.

b. Winter/Spring Market

Commissioner Carensa Crist presented the Winter/ Spring Market. Commissioner Carensa Crist is working with The Bristol Bizzar about the possibility of early October. She stated that there could be artists, painting, music, and more. Commissioner Carensa Crist will follow up the Bristol Bizzar with more details; discussion followed.

c. Cultural District Walk Through - Lunch Sponsorship

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Cultural District Walk Through, Lunch Sponsorship. Supervisor Therriault proposed the commission sponsor lunch after the walk-through; discussion followed.

MOTION: Commissioner Carensa Crist to Approve a \$400.00 donation to Sponsor the Cultural District Walk-Through Lunch.

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

d. Vision Setting - Review the top priorities of the Arts and Culture Commission, 2025-2026

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the results from the Vision Setting Activity. Supervisor Therriault read aloud the top goals the commission would like to see in 2025; discussion followed.

e. Open Mic Nights at Creative Jam Art Co.

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Open Mic Nights and Creative Jam, hosted by the City Art and Culture Poet Laureate, Tom Lagasse. Open Mic Nights will be hosted at Creative Jam Art Co., every last Wednesday of each month, starting on February 26th. It is free to enter and enjoy, with light refreshments; discussion followed.

f. By Commissioners

Commissioner Yancy suggested an additional section to the Arts and Culture Proposal Form; discussion followed.

7. New Business

a. Make Music Day, Saturday June 21, 2025

Chair Walter Lewandowski proposed a Make Music Day on Saturday June 21, 2025. Supervisor Therriault stated other cities and towns in CT celebrate this day; discussion followed.

b. By Commissioners

Vice Chair Adams was contacted by Laura Bailey, from the Bristol Edition, expressing interest in writing a column about the Arts and Culture in the City. It can include upcoming

events, special planning, and other things they would like to share about Arts and Culture in the City; discussion followed.

8. Reports and Committee Reports

a. City Council Liaison Report

City Council Liaison Cheryl Thibeault presented the City Council Liaison Report. City Council Liaison Thibeault updated the commission on the upcoming restaurants; discussion followed.

9. Adjournment

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Yancy to adjourn at p.m.
Seconded by Commissioner Carensa Crist, all in favor, motion carried.

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