



*City of Bristol
Arts & Culture Commission*

INFORMATION TO ACCESS THIS MEETING

<https://bristolct-gov.zoom.us/j/83837598503?pwd=7mmPQw4bSobMWVv0x40Niq9zNhCcqm.1>

The regular City Arts and Culture Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 7, 2026, at 6:00 PM. in City Hall Meeting Room 1-3 111 North Main Street, Bristol, CT 06010.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
 - a. Pledge of Allegiance
 - b. Attendance
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Approval of Minutes: December 3, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes
3. Public Participation
4. Arts and Culture Supervisor's Report
 - a. Supervisor's Report
 - b. Project Spreadsheet
 - c. Year to Date Financials
5. Chairman's Report
 - a. Heart Project Location Suggestions
6. Old Business
 - a. Update and Final Decision on the Location of the New Heart Sculpture Donated by the Broad View Fund
 - b. Creative Jam Art Co. Outstanding Community Engagement Certificate

- c. Cultural District Map
 - d. Holiday Stroll Outcome
 - e. By Commissioners
- 7. New Business
 - a. Cultural District Stipend from CT Office of the Arts
 - b. Approve the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Proposed City Arts and Culture Commission & Arts and Culture Fund Budget and refer to the Comptroller's Office
 - c. By Commissioners
- 8. Reports and Committee Reports
 - a. City Council Liaison Report
- 9. Adjournment

Per Order of the Chairperson
Walter Lewandoski



*City of Bristol
Arts & Culture Commission*

INFORMATION TO ACCESS MEETING

<https://bristolct-gov.zoom.us/j/86280576918?pwd=iQ7DubdYbSAm0Dse5gszhgaOeTG2Z1.1>

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The regular meeting was held on Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at 6:00 PM in Meeting Room 1-3 in City Hall, 111 North Main Street, Bristol, CT 06010.

1. Call to Order

Chair Lewandoski called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

a. Pledge of Allegiance

b. Attendance

Members Present:

Chair Walter Lewandoski
Vice Chair Andrea Adams
Commissioner Julie Carensa-Crist
Commissioner Juliet Norton
Commissioner Maria Salice
Commissioner Nigel Wynter
Commissioner E. Brad Yancy
City Council Liaison Greg Hahn
Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault

Absent:

2. Approval of Minutes

a. Approval of Minutes: November 19, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Made by Vice Chair Adams to approve the November 19, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes.

Seconded by Commissioner Carensa-Crist; all in favor; motion carried.

3. Public Participation

None.

4. Supervisor's Report

a. Arts and Culture Supervisor's Report

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Arts and Culture Supervisor's Report. Supervisor Therriault stated that there will be 35 shows in 2025 with about \$198,000.00 in revenue. The Arts and Culture Division are offering a Make It with Yarn and a Break-Dancing class this winter if anyone is interested. To register for this class, you can register on Bristolrec.com. Supervisor Therriault provided an update on The Holiday Crawl. It will take place on December 13th, with ten businesses currently signed up and more expected. The event focuses on the Cultural District and is being led by the Arts and Culture Commission to ensure targeted support and long-term continuity, with the goal of making it an annual tradition.

a. Project Spreadsheet

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the update on the Project Spreadsheet. This is nothing new to report.

b. Year to Date Financials

Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault presented the Year to Date Financials Report. Supervisor Therriault stated that the Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services department would like to request the City Arts and Culture Commission budget be restored to \$1500 for Fiscal Year 2027. Downtown Live at the Rockwell Theater is at \$170,054.00 in revenue to date; discussion followed.

Vice Chair Andrea Adams presented our new City Council Liaison, Greg Hahn. The Arts and Culture Commission was established during Mayor Ellen Zappo-sasu's first term at her request and with her full support. Greg served as the City Council liaison at the time. The commission has continued successfully over the years and played a key role in opening the theater.

5. Chairman's Report

Chair Walter Lewandoski presented the Chairman's Report. A developing community art workshop and studio space. The Chair has been participating in preliminary discussions with local stakeholders. However, this initiative is not sponsored or operated by the commission. A walkthrough of the proposed site is scheduled for next Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. The potential location is the former Bank of America building on North Main Street near the Polish Club. The concept involves a shared studio environment where artists may rent workspace through a membership model. Specific operational details, including costs and policies, remain under discussion as the project is in its early stages. The effort is being spearheaded by Creative Jam, with involvement from additional community partners. The project aims to support artist collaboration while activating an otherwise vacant downtown space. Further updates will be provided as planning progresses. Updates were shared on public art projects, including the Pocket Park at Riverside and North Main Street and the Heart project. Current installations, such as seven locks at Stocks, are beginning to populate, and the Chair is gathering information from similar projects in other cities to guide local efforts.

Joanne Moran's mural grant request was denied by the Main Street Foundation. She has revised her proposal, but the project remains costly, and the current budget does not allow funding. The Chair advised her to revisit the project in spring. Ms. Moran aims to use a community mural to kick off her concept and plans to connect with Max, owner of Express Kitchen, who is interested in collaborating on murals. Communication will be facilitated via email, and she plans to attend the upcoming meeting to stay informed.

6. Old Business

Conceptually approve the installation of public art wraps on four (4) traffic boxes located at the intersections of Broad Street and Central Street, Pine Street and Lincoln Avenue, West Street and Center Street, and Stafford Avenue and Washington Street, and refer to staff for the creation of an RFP.

- a. Accept donations through the Arts & Culture Commission Contribution Fund to offset the cost of the four (4) public art traffic box installations, to total approximately \$3,600.**

The Commission discussed accepting donations through the Arts and Culture Commission Contribution Fund to help offset the cost of traffic box installations, estimated at approximately \$3,600 total (\$800–\$900 per box for a wrap). It was clarified that accepting donations does not commit the Commission to using wraps or exceeding the budget; it simply allows funding to be collected to support the project.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Carensa - Crist to accept donations through the Arts & Culture Commission Contribution Fund to offset the cost of the four (4) public art traffic box installations, to total approximately \$3,600.

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

b. Update on the Heart Sculpture Sponsored by the Broad View Fund

The Commission discussed the next steps for the heart sculpture project. It was agreed that while funding has been secured from Bob through the Main Street Community Foundation, the **official order** should not be placed until a final installation location is confirmed. The total cost of the sculpture is approximately \$834, with shipping estimated between \$400 and \$500.

Potential locations discussed include the Memorial Boulevard Veterans Garden, Federal Hill, and a site in front of a school under the Board of Education. Considerations for placement include visibility, high traffic areas, and vulnerability to vandalism. Approval from relevant authorities, including the Parks Board, Veterans Board, and any property owners, will be required prior to installation.

The Commission agreed that members should identify and propose potential locations before the next meeting to finalize placement, ensure approvals can be obtained, and proceed with ordering and installation planning.

c. Ace Awards Update

Commissioner Salice was to present the Ace Awards Update. There is nothing to report at this time.

d. Plaque for the Locks at Stocks Sculpture from the Artistic Bronze

The Commission inquired about a plaque for the Locks at Stocks Sculpture from the Artistic Bronze. An update will be presented at the next meeting after pricing is acquired.

e. By Commissioners

The Commission inquired about an update on the Cultural District Map. Chair Lewandoski stated that he would get the complete file of the Cultural District Map.

7. New Business

a. Approval of the 2026 City Arts and Culture Commission Meeting Calendar

The 2026 City Arts and Culture Commission Meeting Calendar was presented to the commission for review.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Norton to approve the 2026 City Arts and Culture Commission Meeting Calendar.
Seconded by Commissioner Carensa-Crist; all in favor; motion carried.

b. Request for Official Community Impact/Alignment Award or Recognition for the Free Community Open Mic Series by the City Arts and Culture Commission

Arts and Culture Supervisor Therriault presented the Request for Official Community Impact/Alignment Award or Recognition for the Free Community Open Mic Series by the City Arts and Culture Commission; discussion followed.

MOTION: Made by Vice Chair Adams to award the Creative Jam Art Co. an Official Community Impact/Alignment Award for hosting the Free Community Open Mic Series by the City Arts and Culture Commission.
Seconded by Commissioner Carensa- Crist; all in favor; motion carried.

c. By Commissioners

None.

8. Reports and Committee Reports

a. City Council Liaison Report

City Council Liaison Greg Hahn spoke with the Mayor, Ellen Zoppo-Sassu, about restoring the \$15,000 City Arts and Culture Commission Budget in Fiscal Year 2027. Liaison Hahn also noticed the lack of art in the new City Hall Building. He proposed that they have local students submit artwork for a chance to be placed on the wall within the building.

9. Adjournment

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Carensa-Crist to adjourn at 7:21 p.m.

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

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



Arts and Culture Commission City of Bristol
 111 North Main Street, Bristol, CT 06010
Arts and Culture Commission Supervisor Report

A. Financials:

- See attached financials

B. Project/General Updates

C. Downtown Live:

- **On track to make a significant profit this year**

Event numbers as of 12/17/25

Event	Issued	Remaining	Revenue
The Soul Session 2026 Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat Jan 17, 2026 5:00 PM - 10:30 PM	40	576	\$1,353.66
Harvest & Rust - A Neil Young Experience Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Fri Feb 6, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	155	461	\$5,473.03
HUSH Crew - KPop Dance Crew Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat Mar 7, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	91	525	\$3,180.85
Fleetwood Macked: The Ultimate Tribute to Fleetwood Mac Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat Mar 14, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	226	390	\$10,144.59
M•PACT Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat Apr 25, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	53	563	\$2,633.39
Taylorville Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat May 2, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	63	553	\$2,838.29
Hey Nineteen Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat May 9, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	71	545	\$2,991.12
EagleMania Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat May 30, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	126	490	\$6,073.51

Active Projects	Description	Anticipated Cost	Type of Project	Funding Source	Location	Artist(s)	Completion Date Goal	Maintenance Dates	Notes	Fiscal Year	Status
Pocket Park Sculptor	Choose an artist and design for the planned pocket park on North Main Street	Unsure	Sculpture	City of Bristol Grant	Corner of Riverside Ave. and North Main St.	Undecided	2027			2026	R&D of artist and design
Cultural District Acorn Stickers	Stickers for new businesses within cultural district	\$163.17		A&C	N/A	Rep Email:sethg@decals.com Direct Number:320-391-5309 Main Number:320-391-5250	n/a	n/a		2025	Waiting on remainder of budget
Cultural District Map	Drawn map of Cultural District	\$1,500	District Map	A&C & Fundraising from Advertising	N/A	Sarah May	By Spet. 2025	Yearly Print Outs/Updates	Funding to be provided from A&C commission and also from advertising on the map with different businesses	2025	In process
Projects Completed July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025	Description	Anticipated Cost	Type of Project	Funding Source	Location	Artist(s)	Completion Date Goal	Maintenance Dates	Notes	Fiscal Year	Status
Heart Lock Sculpture	Heart Sculpture with grids for locks and carabiners to attach	In kind for sculpture, \$4,500 for cement pad	Sculpture	In kind farmington metal, cement paid paid through A&C Commission	Stocks Entrance from Lake Ave	Farmington Metal	2025			2024	completed - awaiting plaque
Throwback Thursday Film Sponsorship	Film Sponsorship to Downtown Live	\$ 2,000.00	Donation	ACC Fund	DTL	N/A	2024-2025	N/A	N/A	2024-2025	PAID
Hidden Figures Throwback Thursday Film	Melina Floyd asked for a sponsorship for the Women's History Month film	\$ 350.00	Donation	ACC Fund	DTL	N/A	Mar. 27, 2025	N/A	N/A	2024-2025	PAID
2024 Halloween Spooktacular	Halloween Event held at BAIMS Field	\$ 3,164.00	Sponsorship	ACC Fund	BAIMS Field	N/A	Oct. 26, 2024	N/A	N/A	2024-2025	PAID
The Soul Session	Maxine Bowden requested and received a sponsorship for a talent showcase at DTL with independent artists, including painters, photogs, musicians, & poet laureates	\$ 5,000.00	Grant	ACC Fund	DTL	25 independent artists from CT	Jan. 18, 2024	N/A	N/A	2024-2025	PAID
Cultural District Walk Through Lunch	\$400.00 for Cultural District Walk through Lunch allotted	\$ 400.00	Donation	ACC	Cultural District	N/A	13-May-25	N/A	N/A	2024-2025	PAID
Future Project Considerations	Description	Anticipated Cost	Type of Project	Funding Source	Location	Artist(s)	Completion Date Goal	Maintenance Dates	Notes	Fiscal Year	Status
Canvus Benches	Benches made from wind turbines	\$4-\$7K	Bench installation	ACC fund	TBD	TBD	TBD			TBD	non-priority
Welcome to Bristol Signs	Signs to welcome the public to Bristol	TBD	Signs	ACC Fund	TBD	TBD	TBD			TBD	In discussion
Heart Sculpture	Public Art Sculpture(s) outside of the	\$15,000.00	Sculpture	ACC Fund/Fundraising	exact location requires Park	Robert Hudson (TBD)	TBD			FY24	PENDING
Interactive Mural 1	Pride/Rainbow Mural	\$500.00	Mural	ACC Fund/Other	Carousel Museum?	Brandi Pichette	TBD		Partnership w/ CT Mura	TBD	PENDING
PAN Am Mellen St Bridge	Mural	TBD	Mural	TBD	Mellen St Bridge	TBD	TBD	Resident requested Hannah Hintz. Bridge is not p		TBD	PENDING
Interactive Mural 2	"Mama Bristol" Mural	\$500.00	Mural	ACC Fund/Other	None identified	Brian Triccolo	TBD		Partnership w/ CT Murals	TBD	PENDING
Heart sculpture like lobster landing	Waiting for New idea Check List										
Heart Sculpture	Waiting for New idea Check List										
Cultural District Street Sign											

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2026 13

ACCOUNTS FOR:	ORIGINAL	REVISED					AVAILABLE	PCT
001 GENERAL FUND	APPROP	BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	MTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES		BUDGET	USED
0017021 PARKS ADMINISTRATION								
0017021 583120 ARTS & CULTURE COMM	5,000	5,000	4,050.00	.00	.00		950.00	81.0%
TOTAL PARKS ADMINISTRATION	5,000	5,000	4,050.00	.00	.00		950.00	81.0%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	5,000	5,000	4,050.00	.00	.00		950.00	81.0%
TOTAL EXPENSES	5,000	5,000	4,050.00	.00	.00		950.00	

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2026 13

	ORIGINAL APPROP	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	MTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
GRAND TOTAL	5,000	5,000	4,050.00	.00	.00	950.00	81.0%

** END OF REPORT - Generated by Amaris Estrada **

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2026 13

ACCOUNTS FOR:	ORIGINAL	REVISED				AVAILABLE	PCT
175 ARTS & CULTURE FUND	APPROP	BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	MTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	BUDGET	USE/COL
1757033 ARTS & CULTURE							
1757033 422004 FEES	-216,540	-216,540	-140,602.93	.00	.00	-75,937.07	64.9%*
1757033 470000 CONTRIBUTIONS	-32,000	-32,000	-6,450.00	.00	.00	-25,550.00	20.2%*
1757033 514000 REGULAR WAGES & SAL	70,795	70,795	31,517.41	.00	.00	39,277.59	44.5%
1757033 515200 PARTTIME WAGES & SA	4,800	4,800	62.83	.00	600.00	4,137.17	13.8%
1757033 520700 F.I.C.A.	4,390	4,390	1,846.71	.00	.00	2,543.29	42.1%
1757033 520750 MEDICARE INSURANCE	1,030	1,030	432.80	.00	.00	597.20	42.0%
1757033 531000 PROFESSIONAL FEES &	121,400	121,400	86,101.93	.00	23,136.68	12,161.39	90.0%
1757033 557700 ADVERTISING	12,600	12,600	8,732.30	.00	.00	3,867.70	69.3%
1757033 561800 PROGRAM SUPPLIES	0	0	2,600.00	.00	.00	-2,600.00	100.0%*
1757033 591500 TRANSFER OUT INTERN	33,525	33,525	10,129.42	.00	.00	23,395.58	30.2%
TOTAL ARTS & CULTURE	0	0	-5,629.53	.00	23,736.68	-18,107.15	100.0%
TOTAL ARTS & CULTURE FUND	0	0	-5,629.53	.00	23,736.68	-18,107.15	100.0%
TOTAL REVENUES	-248,540	-248,540	-147,052.93	.00	.00	-101,487.07	
TOTAL EXPENSES	248,540	248,540	141,423.40	.00	23,736.68	83,379.92	

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2026 13

	ORIGINAL APPROP	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	MTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
GRAND TOTAL	0	0	-5,629.53	.00	23,736.68	-18,107.15	100.0%

** END OF REPORT - Generated by Amaris Estrada **











CERTIFICATE

of appreciation for

Outstanding Community Engagement

Presented to

Creative Jam Art Co. 

Presented to Creative Jam Art Co.

In recognition of your Outstanding Community Engagement, we celebrate the welcoming space you've created through your Open Mic Nights, where voices are heard, creativity is shared, and community is built. Your commitment to fostering connection and artistic expression continues to inspire, empower, and unite.

With gratitude for the impact you make and the stage you provide for all.

Walter Lewandoski
Arts and Culture Chair

January 7, 2026
Date



Bristol connecticut CULTURAL DISTRICT

City
ART
& Culture
COMMISSION
Bristol...A Creative Community



Account Name	Description	Account Number	FY 26 Approved	Supervisor FY 27 Request	Superintendent FY 27 Recommended
Revenue	Ticket Revenue, Concession Revenue	1757033-422004	\$ 216,540.00	\$ 278,800.00	\$ 278,800.00
Contributions	Sponsorships	1757033-470000	\$ 32,000.00	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
Full Time Wages	Arts and Culture Supervisor	1757033-514000	\$ 70,795.00	\$ 72,210.00	\$ 75,315.00
Part-time Wages	Part-time wages for DTL staff	1757033-515200	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 5,310.00	\$ 5,310.00
FICA	FICA for Arts and Culture Supervisor	1757033-520700	\$ 4,390.00	\$ 4,480.00	\$ 4,670.00
Medicare	Medicare for Arts and Culture Supervisor	1757033-520750	\$ 1,030.00	\$ 1,045.00	\$ 1,095.00
Professional Fees & Services	Contracts, BOE Staffing Costs, Piano Tuner, etc.,	1757033-531000	\$ 121,400.00	\$ 153,950.00	\$ 153,950.00
Advertising	Misc printing, business cards, program flyers, billboards, etc.	1757033-557700	\$ 12,600.00	\$ 4,600.00	\$ 25,600.00
Transfer Out Internal Services	Insurance for Arts and Culture Supervisor	1757033-591500	\$ 33,525.00	\$ 37,205.00	\$ 37,625.00
Revenue			\$ 248,540.00	\$ 278,800.00	
Expenditures			\$ 248,540.00	\$ 278,800.00	