



City Arts & Culture Commission

Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth & Community Services – 51 High Street, Bristol CT

<https://bristolct-gov.zoom.us/j/89112508167?pwd=aTZVMmErSGVIOHp3OHZCem81SXpNdz09>

Regular Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order

- a. Chair Walter Lewandoski call the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.
- b. Attendance

Present: Walter Lewandoski, Chair
 April Dews, Vice Chair
 Andrea Adams, Commissioner
 Tiffany Howe, Commissioner
 Julie Norton, Commissioner
 Nigel Wynter, Commissioner
 Cheryl Thibeault, City Council Liaison

Dr. Joshua Medeiros, Superintendent

2. Acceptance of meeting minutes

- a. **MOTION:** Made by Commissioner Adams to accept the March 1, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes. Seconded by: Vice Chair Dews, all in favor; motion carried.

3. Public participation

- a. John Gianoni, of the Forestville Village Association, provided updates on the 2024 Duck Race and requested a 500-ticket commitment from the commission with a profit of \$2.00 for each ticket sold to be disbursed to the commission; discussion followed.
- b. Hannah Hintz, Bristol resident, inquired about a clean-up effort and potential mural for the underpass bridge located on Mellen Street; discussion followed.
- c. Lindsey Vigue, Bristol business owner, submitted a grant application form requesting \$1k from the commission to sponsor the Donate Life Connecticut Drag Queen Bingo Event at the New England Carousel Museum on June 9, 2023; discussion followed.

4. Superintendent's Report

- a. Superintendent Medeiros reviewed the financials; discussion followed.
- b. Superintendent Medeiros provided personnel updates; discussion followed.
- c. Superintendent Medeiros reviewed the Project Updates, and added a mural on the Mellen Street underpass bridge as a potential future project.

5. Chairman's Report

- a. Artist, Brian Trecolo, inquired about creating a mural on the Terryville Road underpass bridge; discussion followed.
- b. Chair Lewandoski provided update on the Cultural District window clings.

6. Old Business

- a. Commissioner Wynter provided updates on the Heart Sculpture and communications with Artist, Robert Hudson; discussion followed.

- b. Discussion took place on the logistics of the Cultural District Celebration. A list of commissioner and staff action items will be completed prior to the May meeting.
MOTION: Made by Commissioner Adams to set a \$5k budget for the Cultural District Celebration, allocating \$1k to the Donate Life Connecticut Drag Queen Bingo Event at the New England Carousel Museum on June 9, 2023 as the kick-off event to the Cultural District Celebration weekend.
Seconded by: Vice Chair Dews, all in favor; motion carried.
MOTION: Made by Commissioner Adams to book Lori and the Legends for three hours of entertainment at the Cultural District Celebration on June 10, 2023.
Seconded by: Commissioner Norton, all in favor; motion carried.
- c. Vice Chair Dews provided updates on the City Poet Laureate proposal; discussion followed.
MOTION: Made by Vice Chair Dews to table the City Poet Laureate proposal for FY24.
Seconded by: Commissioner Wynter, all in favor; motion carried.
- d. By Commissioners:
 - i. Vice Chair Dews reported the historic frame on the corner of George and South Street needs removal, and inquired if there have been any leads to fill the vacant commissioner position; discussion followed.

7. New Business

- a. The Rockwell Theatre Volunteer Rewards Program has been tabled for the May meeting.
- b. **MOTION:** Made by Commissioner Adams to approve the request from New England Carousel Museum for Juneteenth Event Funding of \$2,500k with the caveat of being named as a premier sponsor.
Seconded by: Vice Chair Dews, all in favor; motion carried.
- c. By Commissioners: None.

8. Committee Reports

- a. City Council Liaison Updates: City Council Liaison Thibeault reported the Sift Grant has been awarded to the city for the revitalization of Riverside Avenue; discussion followed.

9. Adjourn

- a. **MOTION:** Made by Commissioner Adams to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m.
Seconded by: Vice Chair Dews, all in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jazzya Coakley
Recording Secretary
City Arts & Culture Commission