



**Connecticut Office on
Culture and Tourism**



**Culture & Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting
Department of Economic & Community Development
Connecticut Office on Culture & Tourism
One Constitution Plaza/Conference Call
Hartford, Connecticut
Monday, January 9, 2012
1:30 PM**

MINUTES

- Present:** Chairman Michael Price, Dick Allen, Frank Borres, Carolyn Cicchetti, Arthur Diedrick, Anne Elvgren (via phone), Betty Hale, Hans Hartman (via phone), Helen Higgins (via phone), Renny Loisel, Stuart Parnes (via phone), Paul Pozzi, Rita Schmidt, Ann Sheffer (via phone), Will Wilkins (via phone), and Ted Yudain
- Absent:** Nicholas Bellantoni, Charles Bunnell, Philip Eliasoph, Herbert Jay, Fritz Jellinghaus, Larry McHugh, Guy Ortoleva, and Walter Woodward
- Staff & Guests:** DECD Main Conference Room: Kip Bergstrom, David Bahlman, Randy Fiveash, and Leigh Johnson

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Price called the January 9, 2012 meeting to order.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Arthur Diedrick, and second by Carolyn Cicchetti, the Advisory Committee on Culture and Tourism approved the December 12, 2011 meeting minutes and December 22, 2011 Special Meeting Minutes of the Advisory Committee as circulate. (Y-13, N-0)

III. ACTION ITEMS

- a) On a motion by Ann Sheffer, and second by Ted Yudain, the Advisory Committee on Culture and Tourism approved the Rescission of Action Items A & D from the Special Meeting of December 22, 2011 to reflect technical funding changes and are replaced with Action Items B & C. (Y-13, N-0)
- b) On a motion by Ann Sheffer, and second by Carolyn Cicchetti, the Advisory Committee on Culture and Tourism approved the Urban Canvases Project. (Y-13, N-0)
- c) On a motion by Carolyn Cicchetti, and second by Renny Loisel, the Advisory Committee on Culture and Tourism approved the Shakesperience Projections. (Y-13, N-0)



CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- d) **On a motion by Paul Pozzi, and second by Ted Yudain, the Advisory Committee on Culture and Tourism approved a Supplemental Certified Government Grant to the Town of Clinton (Y-13, N-0)**
- e) **On a motion by Paul Pozzi, and second by Ted Yudain, the Advisory Committee on Culture and Tourism approved Ten grant awards to non-profit organizations and municipalities. (Y-13, N-0)**

IV. REPORT OF THE CHAIR –Michael Price reporting

No report at this time.

V. REPORT OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER – Kip Bergstrom Reporting

Deputy Commissioner Bergstrom noted he was interviewed by the Hartford Business Journal (HBJ) regarding the new direction in arts funding, and the article was featured in today's paper. With the story featured in the HBJ, this served as an out-of-the-box channel to talk about arts funding by making the connection between arts and economic development.

Public Forums

Invitations will be sent to the arts community (arts organizations & artists) which will expand on the theme of the new direction statement for the state's arts programs. In conjunction with the Connecticut Arts Alliance, five (5) public forums will be scheduled mid-late January and February. The forums will not only explain the direction of where we're going, but start the conversation of what does this really mean; art as place-making art as economic development. This conversation will continue after the forum in a planning effort coordinated in each of the five (5) areas by the regional arts councils working with staff that have been assigned geographically to each location. It is requested that members of the Advisory Committee attend at least one public forum or all, and participate actively in the discussion.

It is anticipated that the planning process will occur during Feb, March, and April with a request for grants being issued by late April; a grant deadline date in late May or early June; followed by the issuance of new grants to take effect by July 1st.

Office of the Arts

Deputy Commissioner Bergstrom indicated the agency received approval to refill the vacant position created by the retirement of Cathy DeMeo. With the previous reassignment of Rhonda Olisky to the Office of the Arts, and the position refill approval, the office of the arts now has five (5) full-time professional staff. When all the structures are in place for the new grants, and if the agency is successful in receiving more money by shifting earmarks to competitive process; we will not need to expand our professional base as those staff members will be able to manage the increased funding.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made and so moved. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 5, 1:30 p.m., One Constitution Plaza, Main Conference Room.