



Connecticut Office on  
Culture and Tourism



State of Connecticut  
Department of Economic and  
Community Development

**Culture & Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting  
Department of Economic & Community Development  
Connecticut Office on Culture & Tourism  
One Constitution Plaza/Conference Call  
Hartford, Connecticut  
Monday, March 5, 2012  
1:30 PM**

**MINUTES**

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

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Price called the Advisory Committee meeting to order.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**On a motion by Paul Pozzi, and second by Rita Schmidt, the Advisory Committee on Culture and Tourism approved the January 9, 2012 meeting minutes of the Advisory Committee as circulate. (Y-13, N-0)**

**III. ACTION ITEMS**

- a) **On a motion by Paul Pozzi, and second by Ted Yudain, the Advisory Committee on Culture and Tourism approved 12 submission preparation grants totaling \$60,000 and seven (7) project grants totaling up to \$930,856 for the City Canvases Initiatives. (Y-12, N-0, Abstaining: Member Wilkins)**

***Discussion:*** 12 responses were received from entities that submitted their Letter of Intent (LOI), which included one more than was originally invited to the launch of the project. In addition to the 11 cities, Milford and Vernon submitted LOI's, with Vernon's application not qualifying. All 12 qualifying LOI's submitted proposals. A selection committee consisting of: Margaret Bodell, Rod Frantz, Fritz Jellinghaus, Richard Klein, Tamara Dimitri, and Kip Bergstrom met to review and rated the 12 proposals. The selection committee is recommending the approval of seven (7) out of the 12 proposals received.



CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

On a motion by Hans Hartman, and second by Stuart Parnes, the Advisory Committee on Culture and Tourism approved Consent Agenda Items:

- a. A Survey & Planning Grant to the Jewish Historic Society of Greater Hartford (Y-13, N-0);
- b. Basic Operating Support Grant to the Hartford Preservation Alliance (Y-13, N-0);
- c. Rescission of Action Item C from the Advisory Board Meeting of January 9 for replace with Consent Agenda Item D (Y-13, N-0);
- d. A \$350,000 non-matching grant to support the planning implementation, and management of Connecticut's Hot Schools program, including the July 2012, nineteenth annual Hot Schools Summer Institute (Y-13, N-0);
- e. The distribution of \$670,530 in FY2011 interest earnings of the Connecticut Arts Endowment Fund to 101 eligible organizations (Y-12, N-0, Abstaining: Members Wilkin, Price, Ted Yudain, Carolyn Cicchetti, Larry McHugh, Betty Hale, Ann Sheffer );
- f. 17 grants for FY2012 Arts Project Support Grants totaling \$174,968 (Y-13, N-0);
- g. A grant in the amount of \$6000 to Cultural Alliance of Fairfield to support a statewide artist needs assessment as an extension of the 2010 "Taking Care of Business" artist career development conference series (Y-13, N-0).

At that request of Member Parnes, Consent Agenda Item H was pulled from the consent agenda item list as he was interested in hearing further discussion on how the place-making pilot planning/projects were applied for, the composition of the review committee, and too learn more about these interesting projects.

Deputy Commissioner Bergstrom stated, a notice was place on the agency's website for the place-making pilot projects. The concept of doing pilot projects was to have the same effect as City Canvases, but instead or large public art installations; these could be any project that would indicate the potential of creating art for place-making.

The criteria for the pilot program for this round would be for projects that could be done, started and completed quickly to build momentum and to give examples of the new funding envisioned for the arts.

**Brief Summary of Place-making Projects**

**Building Blocks:** are a number of projects meant to bring more arts intensity into downtown Bridgeport, i.e. Bridgeport storefronts, and a complementary initiative to bring greater foot traffic to the downtown area.

**iQuilt Phase 3:** The agency has been a part of Phase 1 & 2 of this project and Phase 3 is the detail design portion of "Green Walk" and for the reintroduction of "Surface Water in the Park" along with "Vision Quest" which marks both the 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Charter and the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Bushnell Park simultaneously. This project is a combination of art and innovation.

**Art Meets Science:** fostering interactions between individual artists and scientists utilizing a "speed-dating" format to pair-up individuals, and documenting the process through to fruition.



*Riverside Heights*: is a transformative project that brings together arts-based parks master-planning and arch infusion into the neighborhood and the commercial hub.

- h. On a motion by Carolyn Cicchetti, and second by Paul Pozzi, the Advisory Committee on Culture and Tourism approved Four (4) non-matching place-making pilot planning/projects totaling \$550,00 to Cultural Alliance of Fairfield County, Building Blocks: Activating the Creative Economy; iQuilt Partnership Inc., IQuilt Phase 3: Urban Design for Bushnell Park North; Arts Council of New Haven, Arts Meets Science; and New London Landmarks, Inc., Riverside Heights: a transformative project of encompass a park, a historical neighborhood, and a small business district. (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**

*Line Item Earmarks*

Deputy Commissioner Bergstrom reported: out of 24 organizations receiving earmarks – 12 are arts organizations. Of the \$15 million in earmarks, \$5-6 million are earmarked for arts. It was noted in earlier meetings it was DECD's intent to address earmarks and move away from them in a phase-out strategy commencing next year. Deputy Commissioner Bergstrom reiterated DECD's position as recently as the morning of the day when the total phase-out of the earmarks was announced that afternoon. The Governor proposed 80% funding to the existing earmarks with 20% being placed into a competitive account to be defined. DECD will be establishing new guidelines for the 20% (with input from the organizations receiving earmarks) by mid-March.

*Staffing Issues*

DECD has received approval to refill the Director of Arts and Culture vacancy and will be positing the position and forming a selection committee for interviews.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn was made and so moved. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 7, 1:30 p.m., One Constitution Plaza, Main Conference Room.