

**David R. Martin**  
Mayor

**Thomas Madden, AICP**  
Director of Economic  
Development

**John R. Varamo Jr.**  
Program Manager of  
Arts and Culture



**S T A M F O R D**  
**ARTS & CULTURE**  
**COMMISSION**

**FOSTERING THE PERFORMING, VISUAL, & CULTURAL ARTS**

**Lynne Colatrella**  
Chair  
**Jennifer McIntosh**  
Vice-Chair  
**Marti Etter**  
Secretary

**Members**  
Dennis Collins  
Valerie Cooper  
Lisa Cuscuna  
Angie Durrell  
Michael Moran  
Lou Ursone

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**Arts and Culture Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**Stamford Government Center, Stamford Connecticut**  
**Wednesday, September 16, 2020**

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Colatrella called the meeting to order at 8:34 AM

**2. Roll Call**

Commissioners Present: Lynne Colatrella, Marti Etter, Lisa Cuscuna, Valerie Cooper, Angie Durrell, Jennifer McIntosh, Michael Moran, Lou Ursone

Commissioners Absent: Lisa Cuscuna

Staff: John Varamo, Program Manager of Stamford Arts & Culture

**3. Reading and Approval of Minutes**

Chair Colatrella asked if all commissioners have read the minutes from the meeting held on July 15, 2020. She then asked for a motion to accept these minutes. A motion to approve was made by Ms. Etter and was seconded by Mr. Ursone. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Old Business**

a. BLM Mural – Valerie Cooper

- i. Ms. Cooper said that it was an amazing day thanks to Stamford citizens and everyone who embraced the mural. It was a day full of art, fun and community featuring chalk art, dancing, a DJ, and story time by the library. The mural was painted by 16 African American artists who designed each letter. They raised a little over \$10,000 for the mural.

b. CAPP/SAC Grant Updates

- i. The commissioners made numerous major changes to the SAC Grant application process
  1. A nonprofit that receives city money can apply for the grant on behalf of another organization (as a fiduciary agent), as long as they do not charge any administrative fees
  2. Allow one nonprofit to act as a fiduciary for multiple applicants who have trouble identifying a nonprofit partner
  3. Reaffirmed that organizations that are not based in Stamford on their 990 are not eligible to receive SAC Grant funding
  4. Moved the application funding period to calendar year (Jan 1-Dec 31)

5. Have the application be submitted online only
6. Split applications between commissioners to hold one-on-one interviews with each applicant

c. **Strategic Plan**

- i. There were no updates at this time. Next meeting will cover updates on the leadership interviews and next steps.

**5. New Business**

a. **Restart Act and Save our Stages Bill**

- i. Mr. Moran stated that Senator Blumenthal is co-sponsoring the two bills and he believes there is bipartisan support to get them rolled into a future CARES stimulus package.

**6. Next Meeting**

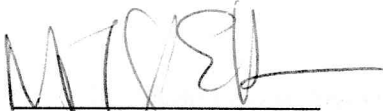
a. **Confirmation**

- i. Next Meeting – Wednesday, November 18, 2020

**7. Adjournment**

Chair Colatrella asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10 AM. Mr. Moran made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Etter. The motion passed unanimously. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was concluded.

Respectfully submitted,



Marti Etter  
Secretary  
Stamford Arts and Culture Commission