

David R. Martin  
Mayor

Thomas Madden, AICP  
Director of Economic  
Development

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



# STAMFORD ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION

FOSTERING THE PERFORMING, VISUAL, & CULTURAL ARTS

Lou Ursone  
Chair  
Jennifer McIntosh  
Vice-Chair  
Marti Etter  
Secretary

Members  
Valerie Cooper  
Lynne Colatrella  
Lisa Cuscuna  
Angie Durrell  
Michael Moran

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## Arts and Culture Commission Meeting Minutes Stamford Government Center, Stamford Connecticut Wednesday, September 18, 2019

### 1. Call to Order

Chairman Ursone called the meeting to order at 8:33 AM.

### 2. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Lou Ursone, Marti Etter, Lisa Cuscuna, Valerie Cooper, Lynne Colatrella, Angie Durrell, Jennifer McIntosh, Michael Moran  
Staff: John Varamo, Program Manager of Stamford Arts & Culture

### 3. Reading and Approval of Minutes

Chairman Ursone asked if all commissioners have read the minutes from the meeting held on July 17, 2019. Mr. Moran mentioned that discussion of the Boxer Square sculpture should be added. Chairman Ursone then asked for a motion to accept these minutes as amended. A motion was made by Ms. Colatrella and was seconded by Ms. McIntosh. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Ursone asked if all commissioners have read the minutes from the meeting held on August 21, 2019. He then asked for a motion to accept these minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Moran and was seconded by Ms. Cooper. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Ursone asked if all commissioners have read the minutes from the meeting held on August 29, 2019. Ms. Durrell mentioned that the meeting with Mayor Martin to discuss the applicants should be added. He then asked for a motion to accept these minutes as amended. A motion was made by Ms. Colatrella and was seconded by Mr. Moran. The motion passed unanimously.

### 4. Staff Report – John Varamo

#### a. Supporting Arts Grant

- i. Mr. Varamo announced the Arts & Culture Commission received a \$5,950 matching grant from the CT Office of the Arts to develop and implement a strategic plan.

#### b. CAPP Grant Awards

- i. Mr. Varamo reminded the commissioners of the CAPP Grant award ceremony will be held on Thursday, September 26 at 10AM in the lobby of Government Center.

#### c. Daugherty Mural at Tully

- i. Mr. Varamo mentioned that the James Daugherty mural titled "The World Outside" was successfully mounted in the lobby of the Tully Health Center and that he was working on the details for an unveiling ceremony. Ms. Cooper mentioned that she would like to help develop a description of the context of the mural and potentially have it printed onto a poster and/or pamphlets for the event.

- d. StamfordCTArts Instagram
  - i. Mr. Varamo mentioned he created the StamfordCTArts Instagram profile for the commission, and urged them to tag it and use #StamfordCTArts when posting on their Instagram pages.
- e. Arts Policy Approval
  - i. Mr. Varamo stated that the Mayor's Office alerted him the Arts Policy that was drafted and approved by the Arts and Culture Commission would not need to be approved by the Board of Representative. The official approval was finalized when the Arts & Culture Commission voted to approve the policy on March 20, 2019.
- f. Outside Art Contracts
  - i. Mr. Varamo indicated that he had reached out to UCONN Stamford and the State Dept. of Transportation regarding two works of art that are owned by the city, but being displayed on non-city property. He is working to get new long-term loan contracts signed for the two works of art. The sculpture Stamford Column by Carlus Dyer is displayed at the Stamford Transportation Center on N. State St. while the mural Sports by James Daugherty is on display in the UCONN Stamford Library.
- g. CAPP Memo to the Commission
  - i. The commission discussed potential changes that could be made to the CAPP Grant process for next year. It was decided that a special meeting should be held to discuss the CAPP Grant at length. Mr. Varamo said he would follow up by email to discuss potential dates for the meeting.

## 5. Old Business

- a. Core Values – Angie Durrell
  - i. Ms. Durrell stated she would meet with the Harvard Business Group to discuss when they could come to assist the commission with expanding upon the Core Values.
- b. Strategic Plan – Lynne Colatrella
  - i. No update to report on the strategic plan until Ms. Sandra Goldstein retires from her position with the DSSD in January of 2020.

## 6. New Business

- a. Open Commissioner Seat – Lou Ursone
  - i. Chairman Ursone alerted the commission that Ms. Bonnie Wattles has stepped down from the commission and urged them to reach out to colleagues to apply for the open seat.
- b. State of the Commission Email – Marti Etter
  - i. Ms. Etter mentioned she would draft an email to send out to the arts commission email list to stating what the commission has accomplished over the past year. Ms. McIntosh and Mr. Varamo offered to help Ms. Etter draft it.
- c. Mommy's Shoes
  - i. Ms. Colatrella informed the commission that the DSSD paid over \$8,000 to complete the restoration of Mommy's Shoes by Prince Monyo and that it was reinstalled in Latham Park.

## 7. Adjournment

Chairman Ursone asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:44 AM. Ms. Colatrella made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. McIntosh. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was concluded.

Respectfully submitted,



Marti Etter  
Secretary  
Stamford Arts and Culture Commission