

David R. Martin
Mayor

Thomas Madden, AICP
Director of Economic
Development

John R. Varamo Jr
Arts & Culture Commission
Staff Liaison



CITY OF STAMFORD
ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

COMMISSION
Lou Ursone
Chairman
Lisa Cuscuna
Vice Chairperson
Marti Etter
Secretary
Valerie Cooper
Member
Lynne Colatrella
Member
Angie Durrell
Member
Jennifer McIntosh
Member
Michael Moran
Member
Bonnie Wattles
Member

Arts and Culture Commission Special Meeting Minutes
Stamford Government Center-Stamford-Connecticut
Wednesday-March 28, 2018

- 1. Call to Order:**
Chairman called the meeting to order at 8:05am.

- 2. Roll Call:**
Commissioners Present: Lou Ursone, Valerie Cooper, Lisa Cuscuna, Angie Durrell, Jennifer McIntosh, and Michael Moran
Late: Lynne Colatrella arrived at 8:12am, Bonnie Wattles arrived 8:20am.
Absent: Marti Etter
Staff: Thomas Madden, Director of Economic Development, John Varamo, Staff Liaison and Theresa Bowen, Office Coordinator
Guests: Dr. Tommie Jackson, Randy Skigen, and Vicki Wray

- 3. Reading and Acceptance of Minutes:**
Chairman Ursone asked if all commissioners have read the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on February 11, 2018. He then asked for a motion to accept these minutes. A motion by Commissioner Cuscuna and second by Commissioner Moran and motion was passed unanimously.

- 4. Correspondence:**
No correspondence for this month.

- 5. Committee Reports:**
 - a. Arts Inventory – Commissioners: Bonnie Wattles and Valerie Cooper –**
Commissioner Cooper reported about the meeting she and Commissioner Wattles had with John Varamo. They reviewed the art inventory files and discussed possible social media opportunities. Next steps will be to have the summer interns update the art inventory spreadsheet with the city's art and current locations.

Commissioner Colatrella arrived at 8:12am.

 - b. Grants –Angie Durrell and Jennifer McIntosh**
Commissioner McIntosh reported that Harvard Business Partners requested that the five (5) bullets be reduced done to one area of focus for them to build upon. The commissioners discussed other options such as applying for strategic planning grants.

Commissioner Wattles arrived at 8:20am.

c. Organizations – Lisa Cuscuna and Marti Etter

i. List Update

Chairman Ursone stated that the survey resulted in 7 new responses and that Commissioner Etter had wanted to have the commissioners' follow-up with phone calls for the non-responders.

6. Old Business:

a. Bloomberg Philanthropies Art Grant-Due March 26th

Chairman Ursone asked if all commissioners had an opportunity to review the two (2) applications. He then asked if any commissioners had a conflict of interest, that they recuse themselves from the discussion and vote. However, the other commissioners could ask questions of them. Commissioners Colatrella and Wattles recused themselves. After review and discussion of both applications, Chairman Ursone asked for a motion to submit the Franklin Street Works/Mill River Collaborative application to the Mayor's office. A motion by Commissioner Moran and second by Commissioner McIntosh and motion was passed with two (2) abstentions.

b. Commissioner Appointments

Mr. Varamo stated that everyone has been reappointed to a 3 year term. Commissioners will need to call the Mayor's office to make an appointment to be sworn in.

7. New Business:

a. OTHRA Arts Committee Policy-

Commissioner Cooper discussed the OTHRA Arts Committee Policy and will send the Commissioners an electronic copy for their review.

b. ARTWALK Social Media Contest

Mr. Varamo discussed the opportunity to have social media contest where the public would take selfies with the public art during ARTWALK.

Other:

- Commissioner Colatrella shared details about Seward Johnson Public Art Exhibit to be June through September for DSSD's ARTWALK. They will be displaying 35 pieces, one of which is the Forever Marilyn, a 26ft tall statue of Marilyn Monroe.
- Mr. Madden mentioned "Iconic Stamford" an Instagram contest that the Stamford Partnership will be promoting.
- Mr. Varamo shared the current status of the city-owned James Daugherty mural "The World Outside." Once the restorer begins in early summer, the restoration will take 6-8 months to complete. Next step will be to put together a timeline for a Homecoming Ceremony.
- Commission Moran shared a discussion that he had with the Mayor's office about a potential mural on the bridge of St. John's Towers and the wall of the Rich Forum.
- Commissioner Colatrella shared details about 'Make Music Day' to be held on June 21. 'Make Music' is a free celebration of music around the world. Stamford is one of 10 cities in Connecticut hosting this event. To participate, go to www.makemusicday.org/stamford

8. Next Meeting

a. Discussion – Next Meeting Agenda-

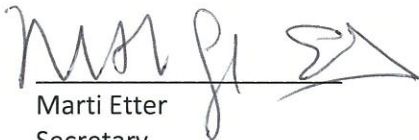
Chairman Ursone reminded the commissioners to e-mail any items to staff.

b. Confirmation – Next Regular Meeting **(Wednesday, April 18, 2018 – 8:00 am)**

9. Adjournment –

Chairman Ursone asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 AM with motion from Commissioner Moran and second from Commissioner Cooper. Motion passed unanimously. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was concluded.

Respectfully submitted,



Marti Etter
Secretary
Arts and Culture Commission