David R. Martin Mayor

Thomas Madden, AICP Director of Economic Development

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



CITY OF STAMFORD

ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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

COMMISSION

Arts and Culture Commission Meeting Minutes Stamford Government Center, Stamford Connecticut Wednesday, May 16, 2018

1. Call to Order:

Chairman called the meeting to order at 8:00am.

2. Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Lou Ursone, Marti Etter, Valerie Cooper, Lisa Cuscuna, Jennifer McIntosh, and

Michael Moran

Late: Angie Durrell arrived 8:10am.

Absent: Lynne Colatrella, Bonnie Wattles

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

Guests: Kerry Fahan

3. Reading and Acceptance of Minutes:

Chairman Ursone asked if all commissioners have read the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on March 28, 2018. He then asked for a motion to accept these minutes. A motion by Commissioner Cooper and second by Commissioner Cuscuna and motion passed unanimously.

4. Correspondence:

No correspondence for this month.

5. **Committee Reports:**

a. Arts Inventory – Commissioners: Bonnie Wattles and Valerie Cooper – Commissioner Cooper reported that the OTHRA art policies were located, but were not as developed as expected. Commissioner Cooper said she will partner with Mr. Varamo to extrapolate relevant information from the policies and share it with the commission.

Commissioner Durrell arrived at 8:10am.

- b. Grants Angie Durrell and Jennifer McIntosh
 - i. Mr. Varamo said a spreadsheet of grants will be completed by the next meeting.
- c. Organizations Lisa Cuscuna and Marti Etter
 - i. Chairman Etter said that the commission has received 21 responses to the survey. She will distribute a list of phone calls for each commissioner to make to urge responses.

Old Business: 6.

7. New Business:

- a. Grant Opportunities
 - i. Mr. Varamo discussed the possibility of needing a Treasury officer if the commission were to start applying for grant money.
 - ii. Fairfield County Community Foundation- Commissioner Cooper discussed a possible strategic planning grant available to the city to help the commission develop a mission.

Other:

- A decision to hold an evening planning session with a facilitator was discussed, and a date will be determined using an online poll.
- Commissioner Etter made the point that the Arts & Culture website should include upcoming grant opportunities for various organizations to apply for.
- CAPP Grant- Mr. Varamo explained that he will be administering the Stamford CAPP grant, with the commissioners evaluating the applications. More information will be provided at the next meeting.

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, June 20, 2018 8:00 am)

9. Adjournment -

Chairman Ursone asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 AM with motion from Commissioner Moran and second from Commissioner Etter. Motion passed unanimously. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was concluded.

Respectfully submitted,

Marti Ette Secretary

Arts and Culture Commission