

**West Hartford Commission on the Arts**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**February 24, 2021 at 6:30 PM**

This Regular Meeting of the West Hartford Commission on the Arts will be conducted as a virtual meeting. Members of the public may view the meeting on West Hartford Community Interactive: Comcast Channel 5, Frontier TV Channel 6098, on YouTube and [www.whctv.org](http://www.whctv.org).

Members of the public may also provide comments on agenda items by calling at the scheduled date and time and using the following access code:

February 24, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

1 (415) 655-0001

Access Code: 182 854 6377

**I. Meeting Opening**

A. **Call to Order** -meeting was called to order at 6:32pm.

B. **Roll Call** -present: Karen Bachman, Chuck Coursey, Nancy Hoffman, Carol McCabe, Mirela Panaitisor, Susan Rothenberg. Absent: Matthew Bragg, Javier Colon, Latanya Farrell. Quorum met.

C. **Approval of the minutes from January 7, 2021 meeting** -Carol McCabe made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Susan Rothenberg. All 6 members voted YES. No opposed.

Latanya Farell joined the meeting at 6:46pm to give an update on the Artist Outreach Committee. Javier Colon joined the meeting at 7:02pm.

**II. Old Business**

A. **Web Site/Social Media**- Chuck informed the members of the commission that the West Hartford Arts and Culture Collaborative's website is fully operational and they agreed to host the Artist Job Bank.

B. **Public Murals**-update will be given by the Partnership Committee.

**III. Committee Updates**

A. **Partnerships** – Mirela & Sue- Mirela gave an update regarding the progress made by the West Hartford/Bloomfield/Simsbury Planning Committee in charge of the Electric Vehicle Charging Station Parking Spots-Art Project.

B. **Communications** – Carol & Chuck -Carol shared an art idea that could benefit our local artists by having art displayed into empty storefronts. Nancy informed the Commission members about a similar existing project coordinated by the Art League. Chuck suggested that Carol, Karen and Nancy reach out to Roxanne Stachelek (the Art League's executive director) to further discuss this idea and then report back to the commission about the best way to support, continue, expand this project.

C. **Artist Outreach** – Javier & Latanya -Latanya gave an update regarding the WH Artist Job bank, reporting over 40 individual artists or groups already included into the database.

**D. Town Outreach** – Chuck

Public Parks Availability- The town is working on creating a policy regarding the use of public parks for outdoor events.

**E. Finance** – Matt -no updates

**F. Events** – Nancy, Karen -no updates

**IV. New Business**

**A. WH Symphony Orchestra – Spring Outdoor Pop Concert** -Mirela shared with the members of the commission the request of support received from the WHSO's music director. Chuck suggested that the Partnership and Events Committees join forces, invite Mr. Chiarappa to discuss and plan the necessary steps in organizing the outdoor concert, and then report back to the commission.

**B. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Mural**- Chuck updated the commission on a public art project, seeking to paint murals of Dr. MLK Jr. in several CT communities. West Hartford was chosen to have that privilege.

**C. West Hartford Bear Fair**- Chuck was also informing the commission about the West Hartford Bear Fair - a private enterprise, not a town sponsored initiative. The members weighed in on the Commission on the Arts' involvement with this project and everyone was in agreement that West Hartford Bear Fair doesn't fall within the lines of our mission.

**V. Reports** -none

**VI. Public Comment** -no comments

**VII. Adjournment** -Nancy Hoffman made a motion to adjourn, Mirela Panaitisor seconded the motion. All members voted YES. No opposed. Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.

The Chairman will provide the procedure for participating in the virtual meeting at the start of the meeting.

"ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY WHO NEEDS SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN A MEETING OR PUBLIC HEARING SHOULD CONTACT SUZANNE OSLANDER, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, 860-561-7580 AT LEAST TWO DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING OR PUBLIC HEARING."