

West Hartford Commission on the Arts
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2023 at 6:30 PM - Virtual

I. Meeting Opening

- Call to Order: 6:40 PM
- Roll Call: Karen Bachman, Chuck Coursey, Latanya Farrell, Carol McCabe, Mirela Panaitisor, Sue Rothenberg
-Absence Excused: Matthew Bragg, Javier Colon, Ginny Kemp
- Approval of September Meeting Minutes: Latanya made motion to approve the minutes, and Carol seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved 6-0.

II. Public Comment: no public comment.

III. Old Business

- Juniper Homecare Mural Unveiling: Event took place Oct 3 11:00 am with Javier participating.
- Meeting with WH Arts & Culture Collaborative: Karen discussed their Sept meeting. Org's all busy, and only 3 members attended. Group now meeting quarterly (Dec next meeting). Karen will keep group informed on WHAC activity. Calendar at www.whywesthartford.com no longer being updated. Chuck will send WHAC members the calendar form. Karen will then resend Collaborative members calendar form to use for event submissions.
- Discussion - "Artify & Enliven West Hartford" – Review Tasks:
 - Prepare talking points/messaging/presentation for Stakeholders, Artists & Media: Chuck reviewed draft messaging with group and post-meeting will provide "Arts & Culture in the Community" Fact Sheet.
 - Member Action: Each member to ID 3 places in West Hartford that have not hosted artists and bring suggestions to Nov meeting to review/assess.
 - Discussion of social media sites that can be used to promote performances, as requested by Latanya: Chuck will share his list with the group post-meeting.

IV. New Business

- Commission Member Terms: Group reviewed whether monthly meetings on third Monday at 6:30 are still acceptable and agreed to keep this schedule. Chuck explained that end of 2023 (and each year), 1/3 of the group will have its term come up for a 3 year renewal. Chuck will send list of members and their renewal terms for awareness.
- Indigenous Peoples Recognition and Reconciliation Task Force: committed to supporting and creating pathways to better educate the community about the importance of West Hartford Indigenous history and culture through a series of gatherings, intercultural dialogue and storytelling workshops, public education, and cultural and arts programs. This Task Force previously held a discussion forum at WH library. Task Force has asked for WHAC support in their mission, and WHAC is awaiting details on this from the Task Force.

V. Adjournment: Sue made motion to adjourn, and Latanya seconded the motion.

Adjournment was unanimously approved at 7:32 PM.