TOWN OF PUTNAM

MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
TOWN HALL
200 SCHOOL STREET • PUTNAM, CT 06260

Putnam Arts Council
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
July 27, 2026 - 5:30 PM
Room 201

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81076283585?pwd=EUkk7ESwraiVbJai2uqzsbIHdoiJSV.1

Meeting ID: 810 7628 3585

Passcode: QQ0cbP

1.Roll Call:

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes: June 22, 2026 *

3. Additions to the Agenda:

4. Finances:
   I. Budget Report

5. New Business:
   I. Shonool Malik : Layalaya Global Arts Festival – Loos Center for the Arts

6. Old Business:
   I. Poet Laureate
   II. Muralfest

7. Corridor Gallery
   I. 2026 Shows

8. Correspondence:
   I. Art Guild Thank You Letter

9. Public Participation:

10. Adjournment*

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Ramos, Economic Development Coordinator

Vote required*

Putnam Arts Council
Special Meeting
Zoom Meeting
June 22, 2026
Minutes

Present: Laura Moorehead, Chair, Elaine Turner, Vice Chair, Anna Ionkin, Beth Johnston
Carmine Angeloni, Julie Reid

Absent: Oliver Williamson

Also Present: Mary Ann Chinatti, Director, Economic & Community Dev/Redev., Susan Ramos, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order: Chairman Moorehead called the meeting to order at 5:31PM
   It was determined a quorum was present.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

   (M/S/C Angeloni/Turner) to approve the minutes of May 26, 2026, as presented. Approved unanimously.
   (M/S/C Reid/Ionkin) to approve the minutes of June 8, 2026, Special Meeting, as presented. Approved unanimously.

3. Additions to the agenda: Chairman Moorehead made a motion to add Grant Update and MuralFest to old business.
   (M/S/C Angeloni/Reid) approved unanimously.

4. Finances:

   l. Budget Report – The budget report was reviewed.

5. New Business:

   l. Review of the Arts Festival and Art Festival Survey

   Chairman Moorehead opened the meeting handing over the agenda to B. Johnston who then explained the positive feedback from artists. 100% of the artists stated they will return next year.

   B. Johnston continued to discuss some of the feedback including asking for more food trucks. A spread sheet of separate tasks was made to discuss for next year filtering down the different tasks. A list of all the contact information was also requested for next year. A vendor stated advertising was an area for approvement. The posts made were not seen. Possibly make a separate Facebook for future Art Festivals. Attendance was also not highly rated, lack of shoppers, more trash cans, paintings didn't sell.

Ideas: Group exhibition tent with a vote for best of, and possibly a bingo card punching out where people visited. Should another survey be sent out and explain what was done for advertising?

E. Turner stated advertising to more affluent towns. Locals are here to get food and buy something for the kids, not normally here for larger money artwork.

Chairman Moorehead stated that advertising is done in the Villager, posters in the Vanilla Bean and Grill 37. Maybe consider an influencer, the New England Couple may be a big plus.

J. Reid suggested getting them approved at the festival for meet and greet.

B. Johnston suggested calling businesses on Facebook and Instagram for advertising.

Chairman Moorehead said June is a busy month with graduations. It was difficult to get volunteers.

J. Reid stated that someone said they thought the Art Festival was Father's Day weekend.

C. Angeloni asked if there were other festivals at the same time.

Chairman Moorehead stated that Westford Hill would be big competition, would people go to both? Would you work together.

B. Johnston asked if we benefited from pairing with Particle Accelerator?

Chairman Moorehead didn't think it was the same kind of crowd attending Particle Accelerator that attended the Art Festival. She also added she sold 5 paintings.

E. Turner stated that you pull people in when you are "famous" your family and friends attend your shows for support.

Chairman Moorehead asked if there were any thoughts good or bad for the festival.

E. Turner stated people said this was the most hospitable town they have been in.

C. Angeloni feels more food is going to be an important factor.

B. Johnston said looking for food vendors will start sooner in the year in hopes to secure more.

Chairman Moorehead was disappointed one truck didn't stay until the end of the event. Suggestions were made to be more detailed with what is expected when the food trucks attend.

J. Reid asked for business cards from M. Chinatti to give food vendor prospects so they can contact her directly and receive the information directly.

E. Turner said the layout was wonderful and people loved it.

B. Johnston explained she got the layout from Glastonbury, everyone gets a corner.

ll. Pluck a Duck:

Chairman Moorehead has 3 more ticket booklets to sell, E. Turner took one and C. Angeloni took the second, Chairman Moorehead will sell the third.

6. Old Business

l. Schlorships:

Chairman Moorehead gave copies of the three applications to council members for review prior to meeting. It was stated they were offering $1500.00. The money can all go to one student, split three ways, or broken up in three different denominations for the students. She stated we can also up the amount of money given, noting there are sufficient funds in the budget should the amount(s) be increased.

Kaydence Morris was the first applicant reviewed.

E. Turner asked if she going to college? It was not stated in the application and seemed a bit vague.

Chairman Moorehead suggested reaching out to her for more information.

E.Turner stated the cost of classes would be helpful.

Heather Gooider was the second applicant reviewed.

Aubrey Waz-Grant was the third applicant reviewed.

E. Turner suggested the $1500.00 be split three ways for the applicants $500.00 each. They are all fairly equal.
(M/S/C Turner/Johnston) to approve $500 for each applicant.

C. Angeloni asked if we needed to pinpoint where the scholarship money is going.

Chairman Moorehead didn't think that needed to be done.

E. Turner asked if there was a report required with this scholarship.

M. Chinatti stated this has not been done in the past.

Chairman Moorehead felt this should be done in the future so there is proof the money is used for art related subjects. This can be added in the award letters sent to the applicants.

Following discussion, **Chairman Moorehead** stated they would have a year to spend the money and provide proof of monies spent. **(M/S/C Turner/Johnston)** to require proof of how the scholarships were used.

M. Chinatti stated an award letter should come from the Arts Council, on Town letterhead. Chairman Moorehead to draft the letter/forward to M. Chinatti for printing. Chairman Moorehead will sign the letters.

ll. Grant Update

A. Ionkin stated Carley Sage of Silver Circle will send pictures of her podcast, and a post made to advertise looking for an editor. The Council can then share on its social media. Ms. Sage indicated she may attend the next Arts Council meeting.

Chairman Moorehead stated members could speak with her about the Arts Festival for next year, noting the influencers may be a good match up with her.

B. Johnston stated July 18th would be the opening reception for the Art Guild.

lll. MuralFest

E. Turner gave the update and stated there was a donation of $58,000.00 dollars. Walldogs stated it was the largest donation in the history of the Walldogs. We set a new standard for future MuralFests to achieve. The Walldogs asked if the Arts Council members traveling to the Wisconsin event can meet with them at 3:00PM the day they arrive. Contributions surpassed $300,000.00; the goal was $250,000.00.

Chairman Moorehead asked if anything needed to be reviewed for the FOI information in the packet.

M. Chinatti stated it was for informational purposes, the only person who attended from the Art Council was Oliver.

7. Public Participation: None

8. Adjournment* **(M/S/C Johnston/Turner)** to adjourn at 6:22PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Ramos, Economic Development Coordinator
Vote Required*

Arts Council 6-22-2026 TO 7-27-2026

Beginning Balance				**$14,684.90**
6/13/2026	Payment	William Reid	Entertainment Arts Festiva	$200.00
6/14/2026	Payment	Kala Farnham	Entertainment Arts Festiva	$200.00
6/13/2026	Payment	Kevin Williams	Entertainment Arts Festiva	$200.00
6/13/2026	Payment	Sweet Sophia	Entertainment Arts Festiva	$200.00
Ending Balance				**$13,884.90**

Art Guild NORTHEAST

RECEIVED
6-22-26
mac

Dear Members of the Putnam Arts Council,

On behalf of Art Guild Northeast, I would like to sincerely thank you for awarding our organization a $1,000 grant in support of our upcoming juried art exhibit for Guild members.

Your generosity will help make this special event possible by assisting with the rental of the exhibit space, cash prizes for selected artists, refreshments for guests, and live music during the reception. This exhibit will provide an important opportunity for our members to showcase their creativity and connect with the community through the arts.

We greatly appreciate the Putnam Arts Council's continued commitment to supporting local artists and cultural programming in our region.

Our exhibit will run from July 1st through July 31st, with an award reception on July 18th from 5-7pm. We hope members of the Council will be able to attend the reception and celebrate with us.

Thank you again for your support and encouragement of the arts community.

Sincerely,

Beth Johnston

Beth Johnston
President, Art Guild Northeast