

ARTS COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 13th, 2026

Time: 7:00 PM

IN ATTENDANCE

Kaye Carroll

Garrett Williams

Kit Pedraza

Brian Foote

Emilia Shaw

Glen Fant

Kelsey Socha-Bishop

Holly Rowland

Ron Smith

Luke Cavagnac joined at 7:20

Clara Barnhart

Inde

MEETING MINUTES

The committee voted to approve the meeting minutes from November (2 meetings) and December (2 meetings)

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Garrett spoke to a First Night attendee who likes to collect the buttons, but she does not like that they are all stamped as ADULT or CHILD. The committee discussed the design of the buttons.
- The council also discussed an artist contest to design a button and potentially overhaul the button program.
- Eliminate the “child” button and provide a “Day” and “Night” button only?
- Potential group rate for families?
- One of the biggest factors in attendance is weather. We should work to increase presales of buttons (holiday shopping?)

FIRST NIGHT REVIEW

- Revenue is considerably down from last year.
- Brian will go over the financials next month.

- **The meeting was hacked at 7:28. Brian fixed the meeting permissions.**

GRANT UPDATE

- Recipients and non-recipients have been notified
- One applicant asked to be reevaluated by the MCC, but it did not advance.

PUBLIC ART UPDATE

- Brian Applied for a mural grant and was awarded funding
- Identified a location on King Street
- Northampton Greenfield Coop Bank owns the building and gave permission
- Clara mentioned the need for temporary art in Northampton. How do we seek out opportunities and call artists to participate?

POET LAUREATE UPDATE

- The committee has chosen Ari Banias as the new Poet Laureate

MEMBER UPDATE

- Clara Barnhart is officially a new member of the Council

VOLUNTEER UPDATE

- Volunteers are needed for the Silver Chord Bowl on Super Bowl Sunday. Sign up via the Google Form.

NEW BUSINESS

- The Iron Horse renewed the Jazz workshops on Saturdays from 9-11. Ron will be hosting the seminars
- The Western District Music Festival is coming up this Saturday and Ron is a member
- Kit is creating promotional images for Magnolia Masquerade. Drag Queens as super heroes
- Glen is working on FloFest in Florence. They need help getting artists to apply to participate/ perform.

The meeting adjourned at 8:47