

## **Cultural Affairs Commission Meeting**

### **May 6, 2024**

**Attendees:** M. Caijgas, A. Crutchfield, I. Gardin, K. Flores, K. Wuzzardo

**Absent:** F. Vignola

**Staff:** A. Jefferson, K. Futrell, T. Rich

**Guests:** M. Riley, T. Punzo

Meeting called to order at 4:42pm by M Caijgas.

### **I. Minutes**

M Caijgas. K. Wuzzardo motioned to approve minutes. Seconded by I. Gardin.

### **II. Directors Report**

#### Staff Reports

ARPA update – T Rich updated members on grant reporting. Recent offerings Creative Workforce Summit, Unapologetically Radical, Marketing have closed and been awarded.

- Creative Workforce Summit will be a focused portion Creative University in partnership with CT Office of the Arts, Sweet Sounds at SCSU in October 2024. Members made recommendations for further outreach and marketing to communications and education departments/students.
- NBC CT interviews with local artists and cultural creatives highlighting their businesses and offering swill air in June 2024.
- Unapologetically Radical – will be a hybrid event held in Fall 2024

Social Media - T Punzo updated members on social media efforts. T Punzo to share social media handles and branding guidelines with commissioners

Events - M Riley is working closely with the Poet Laureate to host the monthly Open Mic events at City Hall. The next event is Friday, May 10 from 6-8:30pm. Other activities include:

- Assisted with overall success of the Tlaxcala event by providing technical and logistical support for the event on the Green and other locations the weekend of April 19.
- Planning the upcoming Fred Harris exhibit opening at City Hall. Future activation plans in city hall will include cultural conversations, exhibitions. M. Riley expressed interest in potentially highlighting sister cities.

Yale Climate Mural – K. Futrell reported current call for artist apprentices through May 19. The apprentices will be working directly with lead mural artist who will provide training on mural process. The mural is estimated to be complete by Fall 2024.

Neighborhood Cultural Vitality Grant Program – K Futrell reported twenty-three (23) applicants received awards for the 2024/2025 grant cycle. Award amounts range from \$1,100 - \$7,000.

The Department will host a Yale Presidential Fellow again this year who will start June 3. The fellow will assist with the Creative Workforce Summit, Unapologetically Radical and Black Wall Street Festival.

### **III. Old Business**

Membership - M Caijgas will reach out to potential commissioners for a brief meet and greet. A Crutchfield, I Gardin and K Wuzzardo volunteered to assist.

**IV. New Business**

None discussed.

**V. Public Comment**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 5:42pm. Motioned by K Wuzzardo. seconded by A. Crutchfield.

**NEXT MEETING MONDAY, JUNE 3, 2024 AT 4:30PM**