

**Arts Culture Torrington- Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, November 21, 2019 – 9:00 am**  
**City Hall, 140 Main St, Torrington, CT 06790**

*In attendance:* Edward Cannata, William Haygood, Rachel Kelly, Steph Burr, Janet Iffland.

*Public:* N/A

*Absent:* Kim McAllister, Mike McAllister

**Next regular meeting to be held on Wednesday December 18, 2019.**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Rachel Kelly at 9:02 am.

**Minutes:** Ed made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting, Rachel seconded. All in favor. **Approved.**

**Public Comment:**

Rachel mentioned that according to the bylaws of the organization, as reviewed at the special meeting on 11/4, the term limits of some members may be expired.

**Motion: The group should seek a list of term limits for all members of the commission for the next meeting.** Rachel made the motion, Janet seconded. All in favor. **Motion Carried.**

**Motion: Rachel proposed another special meeting to review the bylaws.** Bill seconded. All in favor. **Motion Carried.**

**The special meeting was set for 10am on Wednesday 12/4 at city hall.**

Steph brought up the new legislation currently in development through the CT Office of the Arts to designate Cultural Districts in cities around the state. She reported that the NWCT Arts Council considers Torrington among one of the strongest cities in the region for the program, but expressed concern that there is a lot of organizational work that needs to be done within ACT in order to prepare for this process.

**Motion: Rachel motioned to add an item to the agenda: Report on her meeting with the Western Tourism Board.** Steph seconded. All in favor. **Motion Carried.**

**Report on Western Tourism Board:** Rachel reported that she had her first meeting as representative on the Western Tourism Board. The board is one of 3 boards in the state and reports to the state DECD. The commission gets \$400K from the state annually to promote tourism in the western part of the state. The organization was previously defunded, and the money was transferred to Housatonic Heritage. Rachel then gave a brief overview of regional tourism initiatives.

Off agenda: there was discussion about Main Street Marketplace and Small Business Saturday.

**Holiday Ornaments:** Ed reported that 85 ornaments were ordered, and 10 would go to each business. Most were pre-sold, some were reserved to be sold for \$12/each at the table to be set up at Light-Up Main St on 11/29 from 5:30-7:30.

**Artist Relocation Program Update:** This agenda item was not discussed.

**City Hall Gallery Update:** Bill reported that he, Janet, and Eric Hammer will continue to curate new shows in the City Hall Gallery. They will have a sub-committee meeting on 12/13 to discuss. Bill mentioned that Mark McEachern from the Historical Society is interested in hanging some WWI photos at City Hall. Bill will move forward managing this project.

**Artspace Update:** This agenda item was not discussed.

**New Business:** The agenda items for the next meeting were discussed and set:

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Finance Report
4. Community Outreach (Rachel)
5. City Update
6. Regional Update
7. New Commissioner Recommendations
8. New Business/Personal Announcements
9. Adjourn

**Adjournment:** Rachel made a motion to adjourn and Steph seconded the motion. All in favor.

***Motion carried.***

*The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 am*

Respectfully submitted,  
Steph Burr