

## **Cultural Affairs Commission Meeting**

### **April 7, 2025**

**Attendees:** M. Cajigas, T. Dhonup, I. Gardin, R. Moore, K. Wuzzardo, R. Moore, N. Gilson, L. Stanger

**Absent:** A. Crutchfield, M. Monk Flake, K. Flores, M. Loter

**Staff:** K. Futrell

Meeting called at 5:07pm. Welcome of new commissioners.

#### **I. Minutes**

To be revisited in May meeting

#### **II. Directors Report**

Studio Haven - M. Riley provided an update on March activities such as the PRU Abolition of Slavery program. The Elm City Flow Open Mic series launches on Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.

Neighborhood Cultural Vitality Grant Program - We received 58 applications for a total request of over \$440k. Panel awarded 30 awards totaling \$95k 18 awards to new or not previously funded applicants. Members discussed grant writing support, information sessions and partner workshops.

New Haven Airport – Members discussed recent airport visit and potential paths for highlighting local artists/creatives, student work

Canal Dock Boathouse has been receiving many requests for bookings. Currently holding late January – March for a potential partnership with Long Wharf Theatre. Holding Summer/early Fall of 2026 for possible slab repairs.

Participate in New Haven’s Comprehensive Plan ‘Vision 2034’ survey if you have not already done so. Recordings and documents of each committee listening session can be viewed <https://newhavenvision2034.com/documents>. The final workshop is scheduled for 5:30pm on April 29, 2025.

Tree Lighting – 2025 event is scheduled for Thursday, December 4 on the Green. Members suggested incorporation of community information tables providing basic needs/services; potential event sponsors

College Street Music Hall Group – starting a tech training program for

I. Gardin noted Diasporacon (Comic Book and Graphic Novel Conference) will be held at NXTHVN on April 27.

#### **III. Old Business**

None discussed.

#### **IV. New Business**

Budget – funding for the department as outline in the Mayor’s Budget is \$190,000. KF to forward next public hearing date.

T. Dhonup discussed concept of an event celebrating New Haven’s immigrant cultures.

Members went into executive session.

#### **V. Public Comment**

None.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned 6:24pm. R. Moore motioned to adjourn. Seconded by L. Stanger

**NEXT MEETING MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025 AT 5:00PM IN PERSON AT CITYSEED**