

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF CHESHIRE PERFORMING & FINE ARTS COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY AUGUST 12, 2025, AT 6:30 PM, BALL & SOCKET ARTS
493 WEST MAIN ST., SECOND FLOOR, CHESHIRE, CT 06410**

Present: Jane Bate, Kristy Endriss, Susan Fenaughty, Joyce Karklel, Donna Lodynsky, Denise Lohr, Patricia Mottola, Donna Myjak, Ilona Somogyi, Youchung Torok

Staff/Guests:

Joann Pilarczyk (Director, Artsplace)

Absent:

Katie Giampietro,

John Gawlak (Director, Cheshire Parks & Recreation),

Gregg Wolff (Cheshire Town Council Liaison: Cheshire Performing & Fine Arts Committee)

1. **DETERMINATION OF QUORUM** - A quorum was present for this meeting.
2. **CALL TO ORDER AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG** - Chairwoman Lodynsky called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM with the pledge of allegiance.
3. **WELCOME REMARKS** – Donna Lodynsky welcomed members.
4. **PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS** – No public comments.
5. **APPROVAL REGULAR MEETING JUNE 17, 2025, MINUTES** –
Denise Lohr would like a correction in old business section D – misspelling “Jersey Mikes.”

Donna Lodynsky motioned to accept the minutes with changes as rendered. Denise Lohr seconded the motion. The motion was passed with one abstention Kristy Endriss.

6. **TREASURERS REPORT: JANE BATE**

Jane Bate states the available budget is 25.8%. Joann Pilarczyk states that it shows this way because it takes off entire amount for rent and leases. All teachers that are not specialty teachers are now to be paid out of payroll which is account ending in 5104.

Kristy Endriss motioned to accept the report, and the motion was seconded by Donna Myjak.

7. **SECRETARYS REPORT: DENISE LOHR**

Denise Lohr states that there is nothing new to report but, the sunshine fund is low if anyone is interested in donating.

8. **PARKS AND RECREATION REPORT: JOHN GAWLAK**

No Report.

9. **FRIENDS OF CPFA**

a. Mahjong Tournament

Donna Mark states that they have confirmed the date with Cheshire Parks and Recreation for October 4th. The Friends of Artsplace will arrive early to make lunches in the Recreation Center Kitchen. Donna states members of the CPFA are expected to arrive around 11:00am to assist with table setup. Two tables will be placed together to make a 4x4 square table. The event is expected to end by 6:00pm but the committee will stay later to clean up after the event.

Entrance fee for the event will be \$50 and include a lunch bag, bottle of water, and a snack. Walk-ins will be accommodated based on availability. Playing time is estimated to be about three hours long, and attendees will sit in the same seat for the entire duration of the event.

There will be an Art Silent Auction, Donna Lodynsky is asking members to contribute a basket valued at \$75 or more for the auction.

10. ARTSPLACE REPORT

a. Artsplace Summer Report and Intern Maura Lewonka

Joann Pilarczyk states that it has been a very busy summer and at this point Artsplace revenue is at about \$11,000. Maura Lewonka will be leaving this month to go back to school, and Artsplace was able to obtain about thirteen to fifteen High School Volunteers to help in classes over the summer.

b. Wallingford Arts & Culture Meeting July 22, 2025.

Joann reports that Wallingford is eager to buy the old train station, to turn it into an Art Gallery.

c. cARTie Event July 26

The cARTie event was well attended. Maura Lewonka along with a high school volunteer did glitter tattoos. Mahjong Classes, and Tournament were promoted as well at this event.

d. Fall classes & Registration & Intern Sophia Johnston

Fall Registration is going well at this time, classes will start on September 6, and there are about 120 students registered, Joann states she expects that to more than double. Sophia Johnston will be joining Artsplace in the fall as an intern, she is currently studying Arts Administration at Southern.

e. Fall Festival – September 13

Joann states that Emily Lennon of Artsplace will be running a booth at the fall festival and promoting the Mahjong Tournament. Joann would like to know if there are any volunteers that can assist Emily on that date. Donna Lodynsky, Donna Myjak, and Kristy Endriss all stated they can spend a few hours assisting.

11. OLD BUSINESS

a. Scarecrows Coming to Town

Emily Lennon will be creating a Scarecrow for Artsplace. Joann asked if anyone would be interested in doing a scarecrow for CPFA. No volunteers currently.

b. Arts Day March 15, 2026: Kristy Endriss

Kristy Endriss states that she had a meeting on Monday August 11th to confirm the date of Sunday March 15th to hold Arts Day. Susan Fenaughty has made a volunteer sign-up sheet to gauge interest in who would be able to help. Kristy states they are looking for eight to ten artists for the event. Kristy asked if CPFA can assist with making a “Selfie” or Photo-op Station. There will not be a theme for Arts Day, but up-cycling will be highly encouraged.

c. Jersey Mikes Update: Donna Lodynsky

Donna Lodynsky states that the promotion will be on social media but, she would also like a member of CPFA to take turns sitting at Jersey Mikes and handing them the paper for the discount. Donna Myjak suggested having the promotion on November 25th, which is the day right before Thanksgiving. Donna Lodynsky agreed that date was a good option.

12. NEW BUSINESS

a. Mahjong Lessons – Donna Lodynsky

Donna Lodynsky states the last Mahjong lesson had three people signed up, and five people attended. The next two upcoming dates have a twelve-person max and are currently full. Donna stated that Mahjong cards will be sold at the lessons for \$5 per card.

13. OTHER

Ilona Somogyi would like to announce that Cheshires new community guide is out, and Ball & Socket has made the cover for 2025-2026. She also would like to announce there will be a concert on August 16th which is going to be Lys Guillorn & the Void Kittens. There will be another concert on August 23rd that will also include two local artists coming out to create a pop art/modern mural outside Ball & Socket.

Patricia Mottola would like to add that there will be a Poetry Night on August 22nd on the outdoor stage at Ball & Socket from 6:00pm -8:00pm

The next CPFA meeting will be held on September 16th at 6:30pm

14. ADJOURNMENT

Donna Myjak motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Susan Fenaughty seconded. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Attest:

KRISTA MASSEY, MINUTES CLERK