

ARTS COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 10th, 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

Clara Barnhart

Inde

Jen Pollins

MEETING MINUTES

- The council voted to approve the minutes from our last meeting.
- Jen Polins abstained

PUBLIC COMMENT

- No public comments were recorded.

REVIEW OF GROUP MEETING NORMS

- The council reviewed the group meeting norms.
- A question was raised about confidentiality in meetings. These meetings are not publicly recorded or posted.

POET LAUREATE UPDATE

- Ari Banias is very excited to be the new Poet Laureate of Northampton
- Kelsey nominates them to become the Poet Laureate
- The motion passed with 11 votes and 1 abstention.
- Work from Ari can be found at their website aribanias.com/work
- The group discussed the possibility of bringing back the youth poet laureate search
- We will discuss the Youth Poet Laureate search at our next meeting

VOLUNTEER UPDATE

- Congrats on selecting a Poet Laureate
- Silver Chord Bowl was a success - "a good time was had by all"
- We raised about \$961 for the BJ Goodwin Fund
- Kids Best Fest kicks off this Monday at the Academy of Music
- Garrett and Brian are running the Northampton Youth Cinema Festival

GRANT UPDATES

- The BJ Goodwin Fund has funding
- No financial report today
- There may be no Arts EZ grant round this year. Brian will look at it.

PUBLIC ART UPDATES

- Brian met with the Youth Commission. Talked about the 63 King St. Project
- Brian met with the Tiny Art Festival organizers

- Inde is postponing their work on the frog mural until the spring
- The mayor's office wants to build a billboard area that could be wrapped with vinyl digital art.

NEW BUSINESS

- Inde is working on their album and finished recording last week.
- The album release show is at Bombyx on March 21
- Glen is working on FloFest, which will be September 19th
- He's looking for volunteers, people to run logistics

The meeting adjourned at 8:04