

**Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism
Executive Committee
July 16, 2008**

Present: Helen Higgins, Fritz Jellinghaus, Larry McHugh, Michael Price, and Ted Yudain

Excused: Carolyn Cicchetti, Arthur Diedrick, Bruce Fraser and Clem Roy

Staff: Leigh Johnson (recording), Karen Senich

I. *Call to Order*

Michael Price called the meeting to order.

II. *Approval of the April 14, 2008 Minutes*

A motion was made by Larry McHugh, second by Helen Higgins, to approve the minutes from the April 14, 2008 meeting as circulated. (Y-3, N-0)

III. *Action Items*

A. *On a motion by Fritz Jellinghaus, second by Helen Higgins, the Executive Committee of the Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism approved a grant award to the following: PAST, Inc, City of Danbury and two grant awards to the CT Trust for Historic Preservation. (Y-3, N-0)*

B. *On a motion by Larry McHugh, second by Fritz Jellinghaus, the Executive Committee of the Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism approved a grant award to the American Mural Project/Wall of America Foundation. (Y-3, N-0)*

IV. *Other Business*

Budget

Executive Director Senich reported that the agency budget was cut by 5% across the board including organizations who receive legislatively directed funds through CCT's budget with the exception of the Stamford Center for the Arts and the Mark Twain House. All CCT grant programs were cut by 5% across the board.

Tourism districts budgets were also reduced by 5%. The regions submitted new budgets reflecting the 5% reduction. The budgets were reviewed by CCT staff and all budgets submitted were under the administrative cap.

Historic Preservation Division

Interviews were conducted for the vacant historic preservation division director's position. Four candidates were interviewed with one candidate withdrawing from consideration. The remaining three candidates are excellent candidates which makes it difficult for the selection process.

Tourism Division

Interviews for candidates who applied for the tourism division director's position will begin next week. There was not a large pool of candidates to choose from and only six (6) applicants will be interviewed.

Motion to adjourn – all in favor.