

Franklin Cultural District Committee Meeting Minutes | January 15, 2026

Meeting Name: Cultural District Committee Meeting

Date: January 15, 2026

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

Location: Franklin Senior Center

Chairperson: John LoPresti

Secretary: Katherine Botelho

1. Call to Order

- **Time:** 6:32 p.m.
 - **Chairperson:** John LoPresti
 - **Attendance:**
 - **Present Members:**
 - John LoPresti
 - Pandora Carlucci
 - Peter Rochat
 - Roberta Trahan
 - Katherine Botelho
 - **Absent Members:**
 - Patrick Conlon
 - Sue Cass
 - **Guests/Other Attendees:**
 - Margaret Munson, Franklin Art Association
 - Cory Shea, Director of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy
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2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- **Minutes from December 11, 2025**
 - **Approved:** Yes
 - **Amendments:** No

3. Agenda Items from January 12 Meeting:

a. Updates from the Chairperson

- Chairman LoPresti reported that the MCC grant contract has been received and the committee could now move forward with the previously funded initiatives totaling \$10,188. He offered two options for the remaining funds of \$4,812. One would be to call for artists and the other to update the artsy boxes and allocate funds for soccer activities related to the World Cup.
- Member Trahan suggested that the remaining funds were not sufficient to provide grants and that they be used to restore the artsy boxes and fund soccer related activities which would involve the current cultural district partners.
- LoPresti provided an update on previously agreed upon initiatives. Work on the wind phone is scheduled for March or April. Opening and closing acts are being sought for Porch Fest, which will be held on June 6. The committee will move forward to purchase the outdoor frames to display artwork. A call for artists for the Dean Bank mural will take place at the end of January, with the goal of completion for the June 12 Strawberry Stroll. Four artists have been selected for the chain link gallery which will coincide with the April 25 Lady Bug Trail. The artwork on display will have QR codes with information about the artist.

b. Program/Event Updates

- Cory Shea proposed three days of watch party events beginning on June 24 from 3-8 pm at Hayward Manor. The event would include live music and a beer garden featuring a local brewery. A second event on June 25 would serve as a pre-game to a later game taking place in Los Angeles. The third event would be held on June 26 from 3-8 p.m. in conjunction with the Recreation Department and the Farmers' Market. Funding would be required for a printed guide distributed to local hotels as well as for music.
- Shea is preparing a report on the results of the A-Wreath-of-Franklin. She reported that the pop-up vendors were successful, and local businesses noted an increase in sales during the event.

4. Old Business (Voting if applicable)

- The committee voted to allocate \$1,000 for restoration of the artsy boxes and \$3,800 (the remaining MCC grant funds) for events related to the World Cup. Members LoPresti, Carlucci, Trahan and Botelho voted in favor, with member Rochat abstaining.

5. Round Table

Vice-Chairman Carlucci noted that the public comment portion of the Town Council meetings allows for discussion of local activities and suggested that committee members attend to highlight committee sponsored events

Member Rochat suggested that, given recent changes in the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the committee begin exploring alternative funding options.

6. Next Meeting

- **Date:** January 12, 2026
- **Time:** 7:00 pm
- **Location:** Franklin Historical Museum

7. Adjournment

- **Time:** 7:59 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by: Katherine Botelho

Date of Preparation: February 3, 2026

Future CDC Meetings

February 12, 2026 – Franklin Historical Museum

March 12, 2026 – location pending

Roberts Rules of Order - [Resource](#)

WHAT MINUTES MUST INCLUDE • The kind of meeting begin held..regular, special, etc.

- *The name of club*
- *Date, time and place of meeting*
- *Names of person running meeting*
- *Names of everyone in attendance.*
- *Approval of past meeting minutes with any corrections.*
- *Summaries of reports from officers.*
- *Exact final working of all motions with names of movers and seconders.*
- *Results of all votes.*
- *Points of order raised an appeals made, with the chair's ruling on each.*
- *Announcements.*
- *The time of adjournment.*
- *The signature of the secretary or person who took minutes.*