



DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Friday, January 9, 2026 – 9:00 am
Rath Building 10th floor Conference Room
95 Franklin Street, Buffalo NY 14202

The Erie Arts and Cultural Advisory Board Meeting was held on Friday, January 9, 2026 at the Rath Building 10th floor Conference Room, 95 Franklin Street, Buffalo NY 14202, and by video conference, in accordance with NYS Open Meetings Law.

Voting Members Present:

Lila Balali
Jennifer Colwell
Michael De Freitas
Patricia Johnson
Susan Kirkpatrick
Carolyn Morris-Hunt
Gina O'Neill

Ex-Officio Members Present:

Colette Balisteri
Mariely Ortiz
Zachary Evans

A. Welcome & Introductions

- The Erie Arts & Cultural Advisory Board (EACAB) meeting was called to order by Acting Chair Johnson at 9:15 AM.
- The Board welcomed a new member, Gina O'Neill.

B. Chair position

- Upon a motion by Mr. De Freita, and seconded by Ms. Morris-Hunt, the vote to elect Vice Chair Patricia Johnson as EACAB Chair was carried unanimously.

C. Vice-Chair nominations

- Members will submit Vice Chair nominations via email prior to the next meeting on January 30, 2026.

D. Logo

- Members reviewed mockups of logos to serve on EACAB letterhead. Upon a motion by Ms. O'Neill, and seconded by Ms. Morris-Hunt, a vote for the logo displayed below was carried unanimously.



E. 2026 Review

- Awards & Legislative Add-Ons
- Cohort data

F. 2027 Kick off

- Application changes/edits
 - i. Ms. Ortiz discussed anticipated edits to the 2027 application to include questions regarding the Erie County Comptroller Cultural Grant Monitoring Reports.

- Review/scoring changes/edits

G. 2026 Conflict of Interest Disclosure forms

H. Public Participation - None

I. Next Meetings –

- 1/30/26
- 5/8/26
- 7/10/26

J. Adjournment

- Upon a motion by Chairperson Johnson, seconded by Ms. O'Neill, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 10:01 AM.