



DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Friday, February 6, 2026 – 9:00 am
Rescheduled date for January 30, 2026 Meeting
Rath Building 10th floor Conference Room
95 Franklin Street, Buffalo NY 14202

The Erie Arts and Cultural Advisory Board Meeting was held on Friday, February 6, 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:

Mary Craig
Michael De Freitas
Patricia Johnson
Patrick Long
Carolyn Morris-Hunt
Davida Tolbert

Ex-Officio Members Present:

DEP Staff
Colette Balisteri
Cynetra Ferguson (virtual)
Dimitri Malliaris
Mariely Ortiz (virtual)
Hailey Whitney

No quorum present

- A. Welcome – meeting commenced at 9:05 AM
- B. 2026 Conflict of Interest Disclosure forms
- C. Approve Draft Minutes: January 9, 2026
 - Due to a lack of quorum, this item is moved to the next meeting agenda.
- D. Resolution
 - 2026 - 1 Resolution of the Erie Arts and Cultural Advisory Board authorizing the use of videoconferencing for meetings
 - i. Due to a lack of quorum, this item was not voted on. This item will not be moved to the next agenda.
- E. Vice-Chair Nominations
 - Nominations may be submitted prior to the next meeting.
- F. 2027 Application Finalization
 - The 2027 Cultural Operating Support Grant application will receive select edits prior to its release on February 18, 2026.
- G. Applicant Briefing

- Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 5:30PM at Buffalo & Erie County Central Library
- H. 2027 Cultural Operating Support Grant Funding Press Release
- I. Public Comment – None
- J. Next Meetings –
 - 5/8/26 – Application Review Training, location TBD
 - 7/10/26 – Funding Recommendations Meeting
- K. Adjournment – The meeting was brought to a close at 10:10 AM