



## MEETING MINUTES

Friday, February 6, 2026 – 9:00 am  
*Rescheduled date for January 30, 2026 Meeting*  
Rath Building 10<sup>th</sup> 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