



MEETING MINUTES

Friday, May 8, 2026 – 9:00 am
Buffalo Center for Arts and Technology
368 Sycamore St, Buffalo, NY 14204

The Erie Arts and Cultural Advisory Board Meeting was held on Friday, May 8, 2026 at the Buffalo Center for Arts and Technology, 368 Sycamore St, Buffalo, NY 14204, and by video conference, in accordance with NYS Open Meetings Law.

Voting Members Present:

Lila Balali
Matthew Clohessy
Jennifer Colwell
Mary Craig
Russel Davidson
Michael de Freitas

Kathryn Franco
Patricia Johnson
Susan Kirkpatrick
Patrick Long
Carolyn Morris-Hunt
Gina O'Neill

Quorum present

Ex-Officio Members Present:

DEP Staff
Colette Balisteri
Dimitri Malliaris
Hailey Whitney

1. Call to Order – meeting commenced at 9:05 AM
2. Roll Call / Determination of Quorum – Quorum present
3. Approval of Draft Minutes:
 - a. January 30, 2026*
Upon motion by Ms. Morris-Hunt and seconded by Ms. O'Neill, the draft January 30, 2026 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.
 - b. February 6, 2026
Upon motion by Ms. Morris-Hunt and seconded by Mr. Clohessy, the draft February 6, 2026 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.
4. Formal Vote of Chair/Vice-Chair *
Upon motion by Mr. Clohessy and seconded by Ms. Morris-Hunt, the election of Ms. Johnson as Board Chair and Mr. de Freitas as Vice Chair were unanimously approved.
5. Approval / Discussion of Logo *
Upon motion by Ms. Morris-Hunt and seconded by Mr. Clohessy, the EACAB logo was unanimously approved.

6. Conflict of Interest Report
 - Mr. de Freitas led the review of the Board's annual disclosed conflicts
 - Upon motion by Ms. Franco and seconded by Ms. Craig, the conflict of interest report and review were unanimously accepted.
7. 2027 Cultural Operating Support Grant Review Sheet Training

Ms. Balisteri facilitated a review sheet training for the 2027 Cultural Operating Support Grant applications.
8. Next Meeting
 - a. July 10, 2026 – To be rescheduled due to scheduling conflicts
9. Public Comment

No public comment
10. Adjournment – meeting adjourned at 10:27 AM

**Previously discussed items that require a formal vote due to a lack of quorum*

