

**TOWN OF FARMINGTON, CT
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
June 14, 2023
Town Council Chambers**

Present

Bill Wadsworth
Daniel Kleinman
Phil Chabot
Bob Reeve
Pete Ramchandani
Tommy Hyde
Warren Hua
Ed Giannaros

Staff

Rose Ponte

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Wadsworth at 5:30 pm.

B. A Community Input Meeting to discuss establishing a Cultural District

Rose introduced Amanda Roy, from the Greater Hartford Arts Council. The Greater Hartford Arts Council is responsible for moving the application forward to the Connecticut Office of the Arts and DECD.

C. Cultural District Presentation

Amanda Roy presented the benefits derived from establishing a cultural district, and the process of establishing the district. The presentation is attached.

D. Q & A and Community Input

A lively discussion ensued concerning the establishment of the Farmington and Unionville Cultural District. Concerns raised included:

- a. Taxing volunteers that are already heavily involved in arts and culture organizations.
- b. Participating in a state initiative that does not provide funding
- c. What additional benefits will the districts provide.
- d. What data is available from towns that have already established districts.

Several positive comments were received in favor of establishing the Cultural Districts, they can promote Farmington's assets to a larger audience and strengthen the arts and culture organizations in town.

E. Adjournment

Chairman Bill Wadsworth asked for any final questions or comments and hearing none, thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 PM

**Respectfully Submitted,
Rose Ponte Economic Development Director
CC: Economic Development Commissioners**