

# CREATIVE PORTLAND

84 Free Street | Portland, ME | 04101 | 207-370-4784

## **Board of Directors Meeting**

Wednesday, June 3, 2026

3:30 PM

IN PERSON ONLY at CP HQ

84 Free Street, Portland ME

### **AGENDA**

#### **1. Welcome and President's Comments (Herb Ivy)**

- A. Consent Agenda: May minutes (April financials previously approved on 5/4/26)  
**VOTE:** to accept consent agenda

#### **2. Executive Director Update (Dinah Minot)**

- A. First Friday Art Walk - June 5
- B. Monday Morning Drop By recap - June 1st
- C. 500 for the Arts - new pilot program - Third Wednesdays 4-7pm- art activation in Arts District
- D. July 17 - Road to Everywhere Screening at PMA to benefit CP
- E. September 22 Arts & Culture Summit (Board roles)
- F. Hear Here 4 - February 14
- G. FY27 Work Plan & Budget Discussion  
**VOTE:** to approve Work Plan & Budget

#### **3. Board Business**

- A. Discuss Executive Committee slate for November '27
- B. Discuss Sustainability & Fundraising strategies
  - 1. Board Challenge
  - 2. Board Recruitment/Governance
  - 3. Board Retreat in January 2027
  - 4. Advancement/Fundraising Committee
- C. Volunteer schedule

1. PPAC rep
2. FFAW host volunteers
3. Arts Summit on 9/22

D. Board Share

4. **2026 Remaining Board Meeting Dates: (no meeting in August or December) July 1, September 9 (note: 2nd wed), October 7, November 4 (in person annual meeting)**

# Creative Portland Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 6, 2026 (google meet)

## **Attendance:**

### **Board Members:**

Mike Bove, David Brenerman, Tae Chong, Heidi Dikeman, Gib Foltz, Elyse Grams, Lindsay Hancock, Sam Hamilton, Lee Hartman, Zsofia McMullin, Dinah Minot (Assistant Secretary), Dave Page, and Matt Schwach (Secretary)

**Absent:** Kate Anker (Immediate Past President), Haj Carr, Clare E. Hannan (Vice President), Herb Ivy (President), Daniel Minter, Councilor Regina Phillips, Greg Watson (ex officio)

**Staff:** Dinah Minot, Walks Tall  
**Guest:** Ronnie Wilson, CP volunteer and PPAC rep

## **1. Welcome & President's Comments (3:34pm)**

Secretary Matt Schwach called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees.

## **2. Consent Agenda (3:35pm)**

April Minutes, April Financials

**Action:** Vote to approve the Consent Agenda:

Motion first by Mike Bove and seconded by David Brenerman.

**Unanimously approved.**

## **3. Executive Director Update (3:35pm - 4:51pm)**

- Walks Tall is moving to California but will hopefully stay engaged as a remote contractor.
- We are looking for a part-time office coordinator to handle office management and customer service.
- Board members are invited to volunteer to “housesit” at the office during regular business hours, as well as First Friday Art Walk.
- June 10 is proposed for our next board meeting (in lieu of June 3), [in-person.To](#) be confirmed after a tally with seven absent board members.

## **Programs**

- Creative Portland Gallery
  - We hosted the artists' opening reception for our ninth juried art exhibition *Resistance* on April 30, 2026. The event was very well attended. A public opening was held the following day on First Friday, May 1.
  - Monday Morning Drop By was held on May 4th. 2 ½ dozen participants attended, including artists and venue owners. Lots of connections made.

- We will be collecting testimonies to show how our programs build capacity and strengthen the local arts ecosystem.
- Lee Hartman has offered to submit a [Data Innovation Project](#) (due June 5th), a year-long subsidized fellowship to collect the data that best serves our needs.
  - All board members, please send any data suggestions to Lee Hartman.

### **City Arts Issues and Amendments**

- The City passed an order to correct the original .5% of CIP to PPAC, elevating the budget to \$230,000 from 50K capped PPAC funding. Councilor Sykes proposed this amendment that was passed 5-4.
  - This will be a significant increase for Portland public art if it manages to be approved in the FY27 budget.
- The City passed an amendment 5-4 to extend a buffer zone from 100 feet to 750 feet between music venues, thwarting the development of the Live Nation proposed Music Hall location across from Merrill Auditorium.
  - The MMA advocacy against Live Nation got the attention of City Councilors and motivated their decision.
- Ronnie Wilson, PPAC rep for CP reported that the PPAC has commissioned a new sculpture at the base of India St. called *Portland Harbor Commons*.
  - The vetting process in response to an open call - or RFP -has been narrowed down to three artists, Gabriel Frey, Celeste Roberge and Isabel Catherine Kelley.
  - On May 20th, at 4pm at City Hall, the PPAC will hear presentations from the three contenders. This is a public meeting.
  - CP is looking for a volunteer to be the PPAC rep for a two-year term. Meetings are on the third Wednesday at 4pm.

### **Arts & Culture Summit**

- September 22, 2026 at USM
- Reception location TBD - possibly outdoors on the patio by theCrewe Center, then move to McGoldrick Center with breakouts there and in Abramson Center.
- President Jacqueline Edmonson will provide the welcome and elected officials will be in attendance.
- May 11th, 2026 steering committee meeting.
- Possible Topics
  - Policy Changes
  - Public Art
  - Cultural civic infrastructure; Arts Advocacy discussion

### **Work Plan FY27 draft**

- We added “Community Civic Outreach” as an initiative

- Discussed our Arts Activation Program to add vibrancy in Arts District and to include lights, projections and performing artists to the 500 block.

#### **Other community news**

- Dinah is the juror for the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust “Paint for Preservation” and the Boys & Girls Club show on May 29th.
- All Roads Music Festival May 15 & 16.
- SPACE has joined the UAW Local 2110 union.

#### **4. Board Business & Board Share (4:51pm – 5:04pm)**

- Lee Hartman shared growth in only one year at the USM Crewe Center
  - Ticket sales - 18,000 last year, 42,000 this year (no increase in ticket price)
  - Ticketed patrons - 1,900 last year vs 4,500 this year

**Motion to Adjourn:** David Brenerman

**Seconded by:** Mike Bove

**Unanimously approved. Meeting Adjourned:** 5:04pm

**Meeting minutes** submitted by Walks Tall Keith.

# CREATIVE PORTLAND<sup>ME</sup>

## FY27 Work Plan

500 for the Arts

Annual Report to the City (November 2027)

Arts Activation Partnerships (ie PMA Pavillion, vacancy storefronts)

Arts & Culture Summit - Sept 22, 2026 (USM campus)

Board Development & Governance

CP Gallery - Resistance Show + new opening May 1, 2027

Community Civic Outreach / Government Affairs

First Friday Art Walk

Fiscal Sponsorship Program

Fundraising/Advancement Projects

Hear Here 4 - Feb 14th

In-house Marketing, Public Relations & Outreach for CP programs

Marketing Wheel (newsletter, website, CP app, socials)

Monday Morning Drop By (Open house/convening)

