

## Franklin Cultural District Committee Meeting Minutes | February 12, 2026

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**Meeting Name:** Cultural District Committee Meeting

**Date:** February 12, 2026

**Time:** 7:00-9:00 pm

**Location:** Franklin Historical Museum

**Chairperson:** John LoPresti

**Secretary:** Katherine Botelho

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### 1. Call to Order

- **Time:** 7:01 p.m.
  - **Chairperson:** John LoPresti
  - **Attendance:**
    - **Present Members:**
      - John LoPresti
      - Pandora Carlucci
      - Peter Rochat
      - Roberta Trahan
      - Patrick Conlon
      - Sue Cass
      - Katherine Botelho
      - **Absent Members:**
      - None
    - **Guests/Other Attendees:**
      - Cory Shea, Director of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy
      - Maxwell Morrongiello, Franklin Town Council
      - Gino Carlucci, Sons & Daughters of Italy
      - Mitzi Gousie, Franklin Public Library
      - Margaret Munson, Franklin Art Association
      - Alan Earls, Franklin Historical Commission
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### 2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- **Minutes from January 15, 2026**
  - **Approved:** Yes

- **Amendments:** No

### **3. Agenda Items from February 12 Meeting:**

#### **a. Updates from the Chairperson**

- Chairman LoPresti confirmed that all of the MCC grants funds will be used for specific initiatives approved by the committee. Those initiatives include marketing funds for Porch Fest. He reported that one long term goal is for more displays of outdoor art.
- LoPresti asked vice-chairman Carlucci to report on planned cultural weekends. She stated the weekends will provide opportunities to experience more than one event per weekend. Funds will be used for wayfinding and publicity.
- LoPresti said the committee will again assign members to act as ambassadors for various events. Selections will be made at the March meeting.
- LoPresti noted that MCC funding for next year is uncertain. Carlucci participated in the cultural check-in and reported that some funding is anticipated for next year, but that reapplication as a cultural district will be required the following year. Cory Shea noted that the MCC wants increased town and partner involvement.

#### **b. Program/Event Updates**

- Cory Shea provided an update on planned World Cup activities. She is waiting for streaming license costs and police detail needs. Residents can check the town website which will highlight other events during the same time period.

The Fairy Trails & Franklin Tales event will take place in May at the Franklin Sculpture Park. In April, groups will be invited to make houses to be displayed at the park.

- Member Trahan reported on plans for the town's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Proposed events include an opening gala in September 2026. Events in 2028 will include a golf tournament in June, a family picnic at Beaver Pond in July, a parade in September and closing gala in November. Local churches will participate in bell ringing, and the school department is formulating a curriculum for the elementary schools.

### **4. Old Business (Voting if applicable)**

- No votes were taken

### **5. Round Table**

Alan Earls reported that many people don't know that the Historical Museum exists. The museum tells stories about the town which are not well known. One example is the

former production of shoddy cloth in town. The museum is in need of funds and volunteers.

Gino Carlucci noted that the Sons and Daughters of Italy will hold an April 12 presentation on Italians in Franklin. The group is also planning a dinner and an exhibit highlighting 100 years of the organization.

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## 6. Next Meeting

- **Date:** March 12, 2026
  - **Time:** 7:00 pm
  - **Location:** Franklin Senior Center
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## 7. Adjournment

- **Time:** 8:19 p.m.
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**Minutes Prepared by:** Katherine Botelho

**Date of Preparation:** February 25, 2026

### Future CDC Meetings

March 12, 2026 – Franklin Senior Center

April 9, 2026 – location pending

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### Roberts Rules of Order - [Resource](#)

**WHAT MINUTES MUST INCLUDE** • The kind of meeting begin held..regular, special, etc.

- *The name of club*
- *Date, time and place of meeting*
- *Names of person running meeting*
- *Names of everyone in attendance.*
- *Approval of past meeting minutes with any corrections.*
- *Summaries of reports from officers.*
- *Exact final working of all motions with names of movers and seconders.*
- *Results of all votes.*
- *Points of order raised an appeals made, with the chair's ruling on each.*
- *Announcements.*

- *The time of adjournment.*
- *The signature of the secretary or person who took minutes.*