

# Cabo Verdean Cultural Center Feasibility Commission

## Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)

**Date:** February 2, 2026

**Time:** 3:00–3:30 PM

**Location:** Virtual (Microsoft Teams)

**Recording:** <https://malegislature.gov/Events/Hearings/Detail/5544>

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### I. Roll Call

- Senator Liz Miranda, Chair - Yes
- Rep Kip Diggs, Chair - No
- Senator Patrick O'Connor - Yes
- Senator Michael Brady - Yes
- Senator Dylan Fernandes - Yes
- Representative Antonio Cabral - Yes
- Representative David T. Vieira — Yes
- Representative Rita Mendes - Yes
- Manuel Lopes - No
- Monica Vega - Yes
- John Cruz III - Yes
- Angelo Barbosa - Yes
- Vinny deMacedo - No

### Staff Present

- Irondina “Dina” Reis Abreu - Rep. Cabral’s office
- Tobias Cowans - Senator Brady’s Office
- Elizabeth Vater - Senator O’Connor’s Office
- Zach Crowley - Senator Fernandes’ Office
- Rashelle Centeio - Senator Miranda’s Office
- Matthew Connolly - Senator Fernandes

### II. Call to Order

Chair Miranda called the meeting to order. The meeting was convened to review and act on recommendations from the Nominating Subcommittee regarding additional commissioner appointments.

### III. Approval of January 13, 2026 Minutes

**Motion:** Commissioner Lopes

**Second:** Commissioner John Cruz III

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

### IV. Nominating Subcommittee Report

The Subcommittee met over two weeks to evaluate candidates based on geographic representation and professional expertise. Continued public engagement through listening sessions and community participation was reaffirmed.

## **V. Approval of 12 Nominees**

A slate of 12 additional nominees was reviewed and approved.

- Tanya Lobo\*
- Josephine “Djofa” Tavares
- Julius Britto\*
- Professor Abel Djassi Amado
- Former Representative Evandro Carvalho
- Barbara Burgo\*
- Councilor Tina Cardoso
- Tchintcia Barros
- Dina Dray
- Ana Fidalgo
- Jeanne Costa
- Dr. Aminah Pilgrim

\*Names were misspelled in past documents

**Motion:** Representative Cabral

**Second:** Senator Brady

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

## **VI. Next Steps**

- Appointment letters to be issued within one week
- Next meeting: February 23, 2026 (3:00–4:00 PM), publicly noticed with public comment

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## **VII. Adjournment**

**Motion:** Representative Cabral

**Second:** Senator Brady

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:30 PM.