



CITY OF
ST. CATHARINES

Culture Committee
Oct 1, 2013
City Hall, 3rd Floor – Ante Room

Present: Tracy Cotton, Mark Elliott, Angie Harris, Sandy Middleton, Brian Narhi, Wynne Nicholson, Rick Rochon, Lyn Royce, Laurie Sadowski, Lilita Stripnieks, Peter Vietgen, Jennifer Wallace, Andrea Wilson (arrived at 5:50pm),

Regrets: Monica Dufault, Steve Solski, Kathy Powell, Jennifer Wallace, Josefina Perez,

Staff: Jason Cadieux, Rebecca Cann, Kim Payne

1. Welcome and Introductions

T. Cotton called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending. A brief round table followed to introduce newest representative from the Province (L. Royce).

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion: to approve the Agenda

Made by P. Vietgen

Seconded by W. Nicholson

Carried

3. Review of Minutes from July 16 and Sept 3, 2013

T. Cotton noted that as committee didn't have quorum at the September meeting; notes are for information purposes only.

Motion: to approve minutes from July 16.

Made by R. Rochon

Seconded by W. Nicholson

Carried

K. Payne summarized the discussion at September's Culture Committee meeting regarding aligning the Festival and Events Grant program more closely with the St. Catharines Cultural Investment Program (SCCIP). K. Payne noted that aligning the two programs will help to remove confusion and increase transparency in the administration of the program as it enters its second year. The Festival and Events Grant Program and budget would continue to be administered by staff in the Economic Development and Customer Services (EDCS) department. However, staff would like to recommend that evaluating applications and making recommendations for funding be undertaken through the Culture Committee and its SCCIP subcommittee. Policy objectives will remain the same and the SCCIP committee will work with one member of the tourism community and one EDCS staff person. A SCCIP meeting will be arranged in the near future once Council has approved the changes.

Motion: to support staff recommendation that the Festival & Events Grants program be administered through the SCCIP framework with funding recommendations to be made by Culture Committee for City Council's consideration.

Made by R. Rochon

Seconded by P. Vietgen

Carried

4. Business Arising

None



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5. Correspondence

T. Cotton reviewed call for nominations for the 60 Over 60 Volunteer Awards. Committee did not put forward any nominations.

6. Subcommittee Reports

SCCIP Committee – R. Rochon noted that SCCIP Recommendations were approved by Council on August 26, 2013. R. Cann confirmed that funds have been distributed. R. Rochon looks forward to future discussions with K. Payne regarding dovetailing SCCIP with the new Festivals & Events Grant program.

Arts Awards Committee – W. Nicholson noted that the subcommittee met for the first time since June. Arts Awards will take place May 3, 2014 at Rodman Hall Arts Centre, Brock University. Call for nominations will be released by the end of October with the deadline for submissions Feb 14, 2014.

7. Reports:

Cultural Services Office – R. Cann noted the art installation of Port of Spain artwork in the Ante Room. She reported that cultural services staff has successfully executed the first phase of a collaborative marketing initiative. Working with arts consultant Judy Harquil, who has been hired by Steve Solski to work with future user groups of the Performing Arts Centre, and members of the Downtown Alliance of Performing Arts (DAPA), the initiative utilized market research and postal codes, targeting residents most likely to be interested in live theatre and dance. Staff designed a card that featured 7 theatre companies and advertised a ticket giveaway contest. 12,000 postcards were dropped in targeted neighbourhoods. This is an excellent test case to increase traffic to Niagara and build marketing capacity and audiences for local arts groups.

A motion to Regional Council was put forward by Mayor Brian McMullen to create a cultural investment program and was approved on September 19. R. Cann was contacted by Regional staff regarding SCCIP, what works, what our challenges were etc.

NASA (Niagara Arts Service Alliance) project managers Annie Wilson and Kate Leathers presented the initial findings from community consultations at an open house at the Sean O'Sullivan Theatre regarding the potential for a new arts service organization. The overall goal is to create a sustainable organization that serves the needs of arts organizations across Niagara. A second open house is tentatively scheduled for December.

Action: Jason to forward summary of report once it's available.

Lord Cultural is putting the finishing touches on a final draft of the new Culture Plan. Hopefully it will be ready soon! R. Cann distributed postcards for Merritton Exhibit in Centennial Gardens. The Downtown Association exhibit is up on the 2nd floor of City Hall – check it out. R. Cann is working on a report to Council for the Welland Canal Fallen Workers Memorial and project is working with the Public Art Advisory Committee to finalize a design selection panel.

Public Art Advisory Committee – P. Vietgen reported that the committee met Sept 19 at Buchanan house to inspect and discuss the future use for 6 murals currently installed in the house. The



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Committee also reviewed a draft call for the next juried art exhibition at City Hall. This exhibit will focus on fiber arts. The newly formed St. Catharines Arts Award Design Committee will be meeting soon to discuss the commission and creation of a permanent award. R. Cann also noted that the Committee approved the purchase of Danny Custodio's beautiful photograph, Ships #13, for the City's art collection

Performing Arts Centre – M. Elliott reported that the walls are currently being poured! Construction is primarily focused on film and recital halls and the lower level of the PAC. Sign up for backstage pass newsletter - [click here to sign up!](#)

St. Catharines Museum – In K. Powell's absence R. Cann reported that the Shipman's Shindig fundraiser is set for October 19, and a major 1812 exhibit opening this Friday. Visit <http://www.stcatharines.ca/en/experiencein/StCatharinesMuseum1.asp> for details.

8. Other business:

None

9. Round table

- S. Middleton: New show at Jordan Art Gallery – James Kerr's **Brush with Life**. Visit www.jordanartgallery.com for details.
- L. Sadowski is co-coordinating an intergenerational arts program utilizing photography and portrait taking, 55+ seniors needed! Those interested should contact Laurie for details.
- P. Vietgen noted that Rodman Hall is holding an opening Thursday Oct 3 for current exhibits - visit <http://www.brocku.ca/calendar-events/23819> for details.
- A. Wilson – Fort Erie Historical Museum's Battle of Ridgeway outdoor exhibit opens Oct 26. All are welcome.
- L. Royce - Celebrate Ontario Grant program is now open. Deadline for applications Nov 12 – visit <http://www.grants.gov.on.ca/GrantsPortal/en/OntarioGrants/GrantOpportunities/OSAPQA005140> for details.
- R. Rochon – next gig for the new band is Oct 11 at the Pyro Pub in Thorold! Email Rick for details.
- Harris – Chorus Niagara's first concert will take place Nov 2nd, All Handel all the time! Visit <http://www.chorusniagara.ca/> for details
- J. Cadieux noted ECT events – Devil's Night fundraiser and the first show of the season An Evening with Lucky Jim Lacroix. Visit www.ectheatre.ca for details.

10. Next Meeting:

November 5, 5:00pm to 6:30pm Committee Room 1 – 3rd Floor – City Hall

Meeting terminated @ 6:20pm