

Public Art Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday September 19, 2013

3:30pm Buchanan House | 4:00pm Kiwanis Aquatics Centre

Present: Councillor Mark Elliott, Lesley Bell (Chair), Sandra Merk, Peter Vietgen, Michael Zuberec
Regrets: Marcie Bronson
Staff: Rebecca Cann, Emma German, Scott Ritchie, Jennifer Tupling

1. Tour of Buchanan House

The Public Art Advisory Committee toured Buchanan House and viewed the works onsite by artist John Sakars. Decisions regarding the work will be undertaken at a later date.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion: To approve the agenda for Thursday September 19, 2013.

Moved: P. Vietgen **Seconded:** M. Elliott **Approved.**

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve the meeting minutes from Wednesday August 28, 2013.

Moved: M. Zuberec **Seconded:** M. Elliott **Approved.**

4. Correspondence

Nothing at this time.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

a. Acquisition of work from Beyond the Wall

R. Cann announced that the acquisition process is complete and the artist is excited to have his work in the City of St. Catharines' Civic Art Collection.

b. Twinning Artwork

R. Cann reported that the donated artwork is now installed in the Mayor's office and other Trinidad works from the collection are displayed in the Anteroom. Port of Spain Mayor Louis Lee Sing will be visiting St. Catharines this month.

6. Community Public Art Initiatives

a. Burgoyne Bridge project update

Nothing to report at this time. R. Cann will follow-up with the Engineering Department regarding the letter from this committee.

b. Welland Canal Fallen Workers Memorial

R. Cann reported that the Call for Selection Panel Members is now out and responses have started to come in. She requested assistance with reviewing the applications and selecting the final panel members.

Action: R. Cann will email possible dates for selection and those available will respond.

7. Public Art Initiatives

a. City Hall Exhibits

i. Call for 2014 Juried Exhibit

J. Tupling shared the draft Call to Artists and asked for feedback. She will also distribute via email.

ii. City Hall, 3rd Floor Space

Staff are moving forward on the reframing of the Council photographs, the test image was a success. This will be completed with the renovations of the 3rd floor in the start of 2014.

b. Downtown Performing Arts Centre and Meridian Centre Public Art

Nothing to report at this time.

c. Centennial Gardens exhibit

The exhibit is installed at Centennial Gardens.

8. St. Catharines Arts Award Design Task Force

R. Cann reported that the members of the task force have been confirmed and will be contacted in the coming week to arrange their first meeting.

9. Art Collection

a. Johansson's Bar

It can still not be confirmed what the object is, how it was used and its historical significance to St. Catharines. The working group has explored many possibilities and is continuing their research. There is some thought that it may be a tool used in the quarry work. They asked the committee to share other ideas for information that they may have.

b. Collections Update

R. Cann reported that she is working on getting the two bronze sculptures in the collection evaluated for restoration. Work continues on the St. Catharines Cenotaph, the ramp is being installed and there will be landscaping completed. The site is to reopen in time for Remembrance Day.

c. Twinning Artwork Donation

The committee discussed the painting received by the Mayor this February in Port of Spain and requested more information on the artist; this will be required to complete rating system. R. Cann reviewed the section of the Public Art Policy with them that relates to gifts.

Action: Staff will research and send more information to the committee for review.

9. Development of Public Art Procurement Process

Nothing at this time.

10. Reports

a. Culture Committee – P. Vietgen

P. Vietgen reported that the group reviewed the draft Festivals and Events Grant program that would be administered as part of the St. Catharines Cultural Investment Program (SCCIP). The 2013 SCCIP recommendations were approved by City Council on August 26. The date for the 2014 City of St. Catharines Arts Awards has been confirmed – save the day, May 3.

b. Joint Mural Task Force – S. Merk

Nothing to report.

c. Cultural Services – R. Cann

R. Cann reported that the latest edition of Culture Ink has been released. Cultural Services has been working with the Downtown Alliance for the Performing Arts on a promotional contest through cNiagara.ca. SCCIP funding has been released to approved recipients. The City Core exhibit has been hung at City Hall and other artwork has been put on display. Staff is working with the Friends of the Carousel to organize the upcoming restoration season. R. Cann noted she has been working with two organizations looking at the possibility of a Regional Arts Organization. ArtsVest had 10 submissions in St. Catharines and all have been accepted. The Culture Plan is in the final draft stage.

11. Other Business

R. Cann reported that Council approved a report recommending the Tribute to Workers memorial return to its former location on McGuire Street once the Burgoyne Bridge project is complete.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting of Thursday September 19, 2013.

Moved: P. Vietgen

Meeting Adjourned at approximately 5:14 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday November 21, 2013 – 4:00pm, Ante Room, City Hall