



**Minutes**  
City of St. Catharines  
**Culture Committee Meeting**  
November 5, 2013  
**Committee Room 1, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, City Hall**

**Present:** Tracy Cotton, Monica Dufault, Angie Harris, Wynne Nicholson, Josefina Perez, Rick Rochon, Peter Vietgen, Jennifer Wallace, Andrea Wilson (arrived at 5:30pm)

**Regrets:** Mark Elliott, Brian Narhi, Lyn Royce, Steve Solski, Sandy Middleton, Kathy Powell, Lyn Royce, Laurie Sadowski, Lilita Stripnieks

**Staff:** Rebecca Cann, Kim Payne

**1. Welcome**

T. Cotton welcomed J. Perez to the committee.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion:** to approve the meeting agenda of November 5, 2013

Made by: P. Vietgen

Seconded by: M. Dufault

**Carried**

**3. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion:** to approved the meeting minutes of October 1, 2013

Made by: R. Rochon

Seconded by W. Nicholson

**Carried**

**4. Business Arising**

R. Cann reported that City Council approved the changes to the Festivals & Events policy and process so that it will now fall under the purview of the Culture Committee.

**5. Correspondence**

Prior to the meeting a letter was distributed via email announcing nominations are open for the Provincial Premier's Awards for Excellence in the Arts: Deadline Dec 2, 2013.

**6. Culture Plan 2020**

The Draft Inspire St. Catharines: Culture Plan 2020 was distributed to the committee in advance of the meeting with a request that members review the first 28 pages, the Executive Summary. R. Cann is seeking comments from the Committee in advance of the Plan going forward to City Council. Comments from the group noted it was a good document, stronger than earlier drafts, but fairly long. A question was asked about the 2020 reference and R. Cann clarified that the plan is supposed to take the municipality to that year, when a review and renewal should be considered. The Committee should review the implementation plan before the next meeting as they are referenced in it.

**Action:** There were three requests for hard copies, which will be distributed once printed.

## **7. Subcommittee Reports**

SCCIP Committee – R. Rochon reported that a meeting is being set up to review the Festival and Events program and evaluation matrix.

**Action:** All SCCIP Committee members please respond to the email sent by J. Cadieux to finalize a date.

Arts Awards Committee – W. Nicholson reported that plans are moving ahead. Nomination forms will be on line by the end of the week. The Committee has set the goal this year of 30 nominations. They are challenging Culture Committee members to assist with these nominations. W. Nicholson outlined the number of nominations per category last year and their goals for this year, as follows:

Established Artist Award

2013 – 3 Nominations: Goal for 2014 – 5 Nominations!

Emerging Artist Awards

2013 – 4 Nominations: Goal for 2014 – 5 Nominations!

Making a Difference Awards

2013 – 7 Nominations: Goal for 2014 – 7 Nominations! (holding steady)

Volunteer in the Arts Award

2013 – 2 Nominations: Goal for 2014 – 4 Nominations!

Arts in Education Award

2013 – 2 nominations: Goal for 2014: 4 Nominations!

Patron of the Arts Awards

2013 – 3 Nominations: Goal for 2014 – 5 Nominations!

She reported that four sponsors are confirmed: From Brock: Music Department (Education Award), Visual Arts Department (Making a Difference Award), and the Centre for the Arts (Emerging Artist Award) as well as the Pen Centre with gift certificates.

R. Cann reported that the Arts Award Design Task Force had a first meeting and began the discussion of what the goals of the process are. There is not yet a final recommendation and A. Wilson has directed a series of questions back to the Arts Awards Committee for this Task Force's feedback. The goal is to develop a Call for Artists in 2014 with the intent of having a final design executed in time for the 2015 Awards Ceremony.

## **8. Reports**

Public Art Advisory Committee –no report, PAAC meets next month.

Festival and Events Policy – K. Payne handed out the F and E application which was released a week ago and summarized its contents and the program's goals. He noted the application says there is \$27,770 available but this amount has now been reduced to \$19,700. Six groups have expressed intention to apply to date so funds available per group are lower than last year. K. Payne noted that successful applicants will likely be ineligible to apply for fee waivers.

Report from Cultural Services Office – R. Cann reported that the accessibility ramps and landscaping are completed at the St. Catharines Cenotaph in time for Remembrance Day ceremonies. They have had consultants in town to review the bronze sculptures in the City's art collection and provide cost estimates for re-patination and restoration. The Welland Canal Fallen Workers Memorial project expects to release a Call for Expressions of Interest for Design next week. Today the City heard word that they have been approved to submit an application to host the Creative City Network Summit in either 2017 or 2018. This summit would provide an opportunity for St. Catharines to showcase its cultural growth and successes to municipalities from across Canada. Staff are working on two more collective marketing initiatives that have emerged from the environics research initiated by the Performing Arts Centre: a Classical Music cohort and a Family Programming cohort will be finalizing marketing materials for postal drops before the end of the year. R. Cann reported that in order to meet the City's obligations under the province's Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), staff will distribute booklets to all volunteers that outline the Act as well as Integrated Accessibility Standard Regulations.

**Action:** Culture Committee members to review the volunteer training module, complete and submit the short questionnaire at the back of the book at next culture committee meeting

R. Cann reported that Tracy Cotton and Wynne Nicholson were nominated by staff to receive recognition at the new 60 over 60 Volunteer Awards. They have been selected as two of the honourees and will be attending a luncheon and ceremony next week.

Performing Arts Centre – *no report*

Heritage Committee – no report

Report from Museum – no report

## **9. Other business**

R. Cann informed the group they will be receiving booklets on Accessibility Training soon and these will need to be reviewed by December 15th.

### **13. Roundtable**

- [Essential Collective Theatre](#)'s show An Evening with Lucky Jim Lacroix is playing from Nov 20 – 24<sup>th</sup> at the Sullivan Mahoney Courthouse Theatre.
- [Deadmau5 tweeted](#) about the plethora of haunted houses in Niagara Falls and how arts and culture have had no funding compared to sports. It has stimulated debate locally about cultural investment. <http://www.stcatharinesstandard.ca/2013/11/05/deadma5s-comments-stung-because-they-were-true>
- The Niagara Region has a report under review on developing a Cultural Investment Program, which has been distributed to Committee members. The report went to the Integrated Planning Committee but quorum was lost during the debate; it subsequently was brought forward to Regional Council and then referred back to Committee. The

ICP will be reviewing it again on November 13<sup>th</sup>. Public attendance is welcome.

- [Chorus Niagara](#) had a magnificent concert last weekend fabulous and flyers were distributed for their upcoming Christmas show which includes 90% Canadian-composed music
- On November 25<sup>th</sup> Monica Dufault is directing a play reading titled Wolves the Spaniard Came by local playwright Michael Donoghue. She will be working with Brock students and will send out more details via email.
- Tonight's [Giller Awards](#) Ceremony has St. Catharines' content: nominee Craig Davidson is from St. Catharines and his nominated book, Cataract City, is based in Niagara Falls.

14. **Next Meeting:** December 3, 2013