



Minutes
City of St. Catharines
Culture Committee Meeting
April 1, 2014 ~ 5 pm to 6:30pm
Committee Room #1, 3rd Floor, City Hall

Present: Tracy Cotton (Chair), Councillor Mark Elliott, Angela Harris, Jennifer Hay, Sandy Middleton, Wynne Nicholson, Rick Rochon, Lyn Royce, Laurie Sadowski (5:35pm), Peter Vietgen, Jennifer Wallace, Andrea Wilson (5:20pm)

Staff: Rebecca Cann, Kim Payne

Regrets: Jason Cadieux, Monica Dufault, Brian Narhi, Kathleen Powell, Steve Solski, Lilita Stripnieks

1. Welcome and Introductions

Roundtable introductions took place to welcome Jennifer Hay, new consultant from the Ministry of Culture.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion: to Approve the Agenda

Moved by P. Vietgen Seconded by W. Nicholson **Carried.**

3. Approval of Minutes for the Meeting of Feb 4, 2014

Motion to approve the minutes as presented.

Moved by: M. Elliott Seconded by J. Wallace **Carried.**

4. Business Arising

K. Payne reported that the grants allocated to the Festival and Events program were reduced by a total of \$800.00 which was divided between the applicants.

5. Correspondence

None.

6. Subcommittee Reports

SCCIP Committee – R. Rochon reported that SCCIP applications are now available and staff have begun meeting with prospective clients. The Subcommittee is meeting after this meeting. R. Cann noted that a new situation has arisen with regard to conflict of interest and SCCIP Subcommittee membership. A member of the committee has become a paid staff person of an organization receiving SCCIP funding. After conferring with the City Clerk, R. Cann contacted this person who agreed it was appropriate to step down from the subcommittee to ensure full transparency and neutrality when it comes to recommending funding. The City Clerk has recommended that some verbiage be developed to add to the SCCIP policy to address this issue. Some discussion took place and the committee determined that this will be undertaken after this year's SCCIP review.

Arts Awards Committee – W. Nicholson reported that the Arts Awards are coming up in a month (May 3, Rodman Hall, 7pm start) and tickets are available by donation. See Subcommittee members for yours! There are 32 nominations and the jury meets next week to determine the recipients. The photoshoots of nominees are done; Deanna Jones of Suitcase in Point will be Emcee and entertainment is being lined up with nominees. Plans for décor are in progress and include having images of all 2013 nominees on a wall. R. Cann reported that Sun Media is confirmed as media sponsor.

Action: staff will send volunteer poster to whole Committee for those who wish to volunteer at the event.

Report from Arts Award Design Task Force – A. Wilson reported that staff revised the draft Call for Design which was received positively by the Arts Awards Subcommittee. A few more details are being hammered out and the goal is to have the Call out by the end of April with a submission deadline in October. Two or three designers will be selected to build a prototype and these will be unveiled at the 2015 Arts Awards event. A final design will then be selected in time for the 2016 Arts Awards.

7. Reports

- Report from Cultural Services Office – R. Cann reported that Mayor Brian McMullan has announced his intention to not run for office again; Monday saw the launch of the new Citizens First section, a one-stop strategy to address most inquiries to the City; cultural services staff are ramping up for the Arts Awards, developing the program, ads, posters and invitations; the [shortlisted designers](#) for the Welland Canal Fallen Workers memorial have been announced; staff are working with legal and purchasing to finalize the Arts Awards Call for Design.
- Public Art Advisory Committee – P. Vietgen reported that the jury met to select the artwork for Fabric / ation; the exhibit opening has been delayed to a date tbd in June due to construction at City Hall. R. Cann reported that the PAAC has selected “Old Tannery Road,” the winding stairway from St. Paul St. to the lower level as the site for the Meridian Centre public art project; they have begun exploring the idea of an Artist in Residence at Centennial Gardens.
- Performing Arts Centre – M. Elliott reported that construction is moving forward well, despite the weather, and they believe they are still on schedule to meet the opening date of fall 2015. Backfilling has been challenging due to frozen ground. Steel will be going up in about 4 weeks which will be visually impressive. The Film Theatre is now complete.
- Heritage Committee – R. Cann reported on behalf of B. Narhi that a new display at the St. Catharines Public Library is coming soon on “St. Catharines Firsts.”
- Report from Museum – R. Cann reported that the Top Hat Ceremony took place last Friday – the Canal is open.

8. Other business

13. Roundtable

- [ECT](#) is opening Scenic View tomorrow night, a play starring and written by Jason Cadieux and Stephanie Jones – until April 6th. Opening includes unveiling of an art installation called *Vested Interest* by Kim Van Stygeren.
- A new art exhibit at [Mahtay Café](#) has been developed by community members brought together by the MS Society. It opens April 12th and all are welcome.
- K. Payne noted that the former poster window of the Tourism Services office is gone as the office has moved. He noted the success story of the [S.C.E.N.E. Festival](#) which is growing in size and support.
- Lyn Royce noted there are new grant programs to engage seniors and she will send a notice to staff for distribution.
- [In the Soil](#) is coming up April 26 – 28th. There will be street closures, a beer tent, installations and visiting artists. S. Middleton is doing a portrait project tentatively called the Legacy Portrait Project and will photograph anyone from the city who wants a photo taken. She will launch the project at ITS but hopes to take literally thousands of photos over the years ahead.
- M. Elliott announced his new studio is now fully operational.

14. Next Meeting: June 3, 2014

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by J. Wallace.

Meeting ended at 5:58pm