



**Minutes**  
City of St. Catharines  
**Culture Committee Meeting**  
June 3, 2014 ~ 5 pm to 6:30pm  
Committee Room #1, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, City Hall

**Present:** Tracy Cotton (Chair), Councillor Mark Elliott, Jennifer Hay, Sandy Middleton, Wynne Nicholson, Rick Rochon, Peter Vietgen, Jennifer Wallace, Andrea Wilson (5:20pm)

**Staff:** Rebecca Cann, Jason Cadieux

**Regrets:** Angela Harris, Monica Dufault, Brian Narhi, Kathleen Powell, Steve Solski, Lilita Stripnieks

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

T. Cotton called the meeting to order.

**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 April 1, 2014**

**Motion** to approve the minutes as presented.

Moved by: M. Elliott                      Seconded by S. Middleton                      **Carried.**

**4. Business Arising**

None.

**5. Correspondence**

R. Cann reported that St. Catharines Arts Awards nominee Alison Galvan has extended an invitation to host an upcoming culture committee meeting. Modeled after a fitness gym, the Art Gym is a public art studio offering drop in classes and an inclusive atmosphere for residents to explore their creativity. The committee expressed interest in holding their September meeting at the Art Gym provided the space could accommodate the group.

**Action:** J. Cadieux to drop by space to double check capacity.

**6. Subcommittee Reports**

**SCCIP Subcommittee** – R. Rochon reported that a total of 16 SCCIP applications were submitted for the May 30 deadline. The subcommittee will be meeting July 8 and 9 to review applications. R. Rochon presented the committee with an initial outline for presentation to City Council regarding future funding requests for cultural events. It was agreed that any presentation should be presented to the Culture Committee before going to City Council.

**Action:** J. Cadieux to work with R. Rochon to further develop presentation.

**Arts Awards Subcommittee** – W. Nicholson reported that the Arts Awards were a run-away success! All 32 nominees were celebrated in style with the 6 award winners announced at the gala event at Rodman Hall. The subcommittee is scheduled to meet June 6 for an event post mortem. R. Cann noted that in addition to three ads in the Standard provided by official Media Sponsor Sun Media, the awards were featured in the Out & About section of The Standard.

**Action:** J. Cadieux to distribute page to Culture Committee.

**Report from Arts Award Design Task Force** – R. Cann reported that a final version of the Call for Design is being reviewed by committee members. The call will be released next week! R. Cann noted that the Culture Committee transition presents a challenge to the evaluation and selection process however its been determined that current committee members will shortlist award designers and new committee members will finalize selection of arts award designer.

## **7. Reports**

**Report from Cultural Services Office** – R. Cann reported that due to restructuring, Kim Payne is no longer with the City. Cultural Services staff will be taking over the Festivals & Events program. City Council has approved the site for the Welland Canal Fallen Workers (park area just north of the Musuem/Lock 3) however the project is on hold for one month while issues with the site related to Seaway construction and the Request for Proposal are ironed out. Staff has been busy organizing SCCIP submissions, following up with applicants who have submitted incomplete applications and preparing evaluation materials for the subcommittee. Staff will be attending the Creative City Summit in Hamilton June 11 to 13. Emma German has rejoined Cultural Services as Curatorial Assistant and will be assisting J. Tupling with upcoming exhibit and other art installations at City Hall. Staff organized a successful ArtsVest wrap up at Mahtay Café in early May. St. Catharines is one of the highest achieving municipalities with 10 organizations receiving \$39,000 in matching funds by securing \$94,000 from local businesses. R. Cann helped to organize a DataWise workshop for Niagara's municipal leaders and data management staff. The session was well attended and there's interest in continuing the dialogue on accessing locally collected data.

**Public Art Advisory Committee** – P. Vietgen reported that Fabric/ation, the City's 10<sup>th</sup> Juried Art Exhibit will open June 18 at City Hall, mark your calendars! The committee is considering the acquisition of a stunning piece of panoramic photography by Sandy Fairbairn featuring the rear of St. Paul Street (pre-construction of PAC, MIWSFPA and Meridian Centre). There is a potential donation of a piece of public art for the Performing Arts Centre that would honour Chuck Smith of the Wise Guys Charity Fund. Meetings are underway with the committee and prospective donors to discuss this potential donation.

- **Performing Arts Centre** – M. Elliott reported that construction is moving forward with steel girders being erected. Above ground construction is being realized from east to west as can be seen on the PAC 24-hour construction camera. Despite the winter weather set-backs the project is still set to be completed on schedule. Construction efficiencies have allowed architects to restore certain design elements back to the project – the rear window wall of the Theatre/Dance

venue has been added back into the design enhancing the potential uses of this space for other types of events. A User Group meeting is scheduled in July.

## **8. Other business**

T. Cotton encouraged committee members to consider whether or not they'll be reapplying to the Culture Committee in 2015. Procedural information will be forthcoming in the fall.

## **9. Roundtable**

- R. Rochon's band Empty Lenze will be gigging this weekend – R. Rochon to follow up with dates and location.
- Rodman Hall exhibit Rethinking Water through Contemporary Art is currently on display in the main gallery. Local artist Elizabeth Chitty is featured in this exhibit. Visit <http://www.brocku.ca/rodman-hall/exhibitions> for details.
- S. Middleton's Legacy Portrait Project kicked off at the In the Soil Festival. There was great response and S. Middleton will be scheduling further sessions in July. Also watch out for the [No] Vacancy exhibit, exploring the motel culture of Niagara Falls. The exhibit is on now at the [Niagara Falls History Museum](#) and will open at [Niagara Artists Centre](#) beginning June 21.
- [Essential Collective Theatre](#) is partnering with [Niagara Literary Arts Festival](#) for their first Playwright's Weekend. 4 Events at ECT's flexspace and the Courthouse June 6 and 7.

## **10. Next Meeting: July 22, 2014**

**Motion** to adjourn the meeting made by J. Wallace.

Meeting ended at 6:12 pm