

City of St. Catharines
Culture Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday February 22, 2011, 5:00 p.m.
City Hall, 3rd Floor, Committee Room 1

Present: Councillor Mark Elliott, Angela Harris, Sue Morrison, Brian Narhi, Wynne Nicholson, Rick Rochon, Laurie Sadowski, Michelle Sigouin, Debbie Slade, Kathy Summers, Peter Vietgen, Jennifer Wallace, Andrea Wilson
Regrets: Jeff Burch, Tracy Cotton, Elizabeth Fritshaw, Kathleen Powell, Lilita Stripnieks
Staff: Rebecca Cann, Kim Payne, Jennifer Tupling

1. Welcome

R. Cann welcomed the group to the first meeting of the 2010-2014 term's Culture Committee. She took a moment to explain that she would only be chairing this first meeting to give the Committee some time to select a Chair. R. Cann led the group in roundtable introductions.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion: To approve the agenda dated February 22, 2011.

Moved: P. Vietgen

Seconded: M. Elliott

Carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes of the meeting held December 1, 2010: with clarification of comments regarding Arts Awards.

Moved: R. Rochon

Seconded: A. Harris

Carried.

4. Business Arising

None.

5. Correspondence/Articles of Interest

A letter from Jan Bechard dated February 7, 2011 was delivered to Cultural Services regarding nominations for the 23rd Annual Volunteer Recognition Night. The letter asks for nominations from each Committee: staff inquired about a nomination from the Culture Committee.

Motion: To nominate David Vivian for recognition of his dedication as Chair of last term's Culture Committee.

Moved: R. Rochon

Seconded: P. Vietgen

Approved.

Action: R. Rochon will complete the official nomination on behalf of the Culture Committee, prior to the March 25th deadline. Staff will provide information to assist.

6. Selection of Chair and Committee Liaisons

Chair of the Culture Committee: R. Cann reviewed with the group the tasks and responsibilities of Committee Chair, and the support available from staff. She suggested that selection of a Chair occur at the next meeting, providing consideration time for members. R. Cann suggested the Committee will require a Vice-Chair.

Committee Action: Members are to email nominations or expressions of interest for the

positions of Committee Chair and Vice-Chair to Jennifer Tupling prior to the next meeting.

Public Art Advisory Committee Liaison: R. Cann explained that each term a member of the Culture Committee is selected to liaise with the Public Art Advisory Committee. This person attends both committees' meetings and provides verbal reports on the activities of each committee. R. Cann opened the floor to nominations and expressions of interest.

Motion: That Peter Vietgen be nominated as Liaison between the Public Art Advisory Committee and the Culture Committee.

Moved: M. Elliott

Seconded: D. Slade

Approved.

7. General Orientation

R. Cann discussed the following documents with the Committee and outlined how they are utilized throughout the term. She reminded the Committee that if the Committee wishes to make any changes to Council approved policies they must be presented to Council for its consideration. Returning members provided more information based on their experience, as noted below.

- *City Committee General Information*
- *Culture Committee Terms of Reference and Backgrounder*
- *Code of Conduct*
- *Municipal Cultural Policy* – Will be reviewed in greater detail at April's committee meeting
- *St. Catharines Cultural Investment Policy and Program Materials* – R. Cann reviewed background information and process. She also explained to the committee how SCCIP is funded in the City's annual budget. R. Rochon, A. Harris and P. Vietgen discussed their experiences with the SCCIP process.
- *Arts Awards Information and Past Recipients* – W. Nicholson discussed the tasks of this sub-committee and some challenges faced; naming confusion, low nominations etc. She also reviewed the recent work completed to address these challenges. In the past it has been suggested that this become a stand alone event. M. Elliott encouraged that more outside nominations (artists 'from' St. Catharines as opposed to residents) could expand the awards, thanks to changes in criteria.
- *Building the Arts of St. Catharines Plan*

8. Work for the Current Term and Subcommittees

R. Cann discussed what the Culture Committee will be undertaking within the next four years. This includes regular work such as SCCIP and the Arts Awards but also renewal of the Municipal Cultural Plan, the City's Sustainability Plan and the Building the Arts of St. Catharines Plan. She outlined the past 4 years of work of the Committee and provided a handout that describes each of the last set of Subcommittees and their mandates and achievements. The Committee will receive more details as they move forward, and a 4-year suggested workplan for the term will be developed and presented to the Committee for their review and discussion.

R. Cann explained that in addition to the subcommittees previously discussed, in the past the Culture Committee had a Marketing and Advocacy subcommittee and its up to the Culture Committee to determine what subcommittees will best serve the work to be undertaken.

At this time the group volunteered for the Arts Awards and SCCIP subcommittees. A Planning subcommittee will be developed at the next meeting.

Action: Staff will develop a workplan for the Culture Committee's review and consideration and arrange meetings for the first two subcommittees.

9. Reports

R. Cann explained the relation of each of the following and how they relate to the Culture Committee. She outlined how reporting would continue in the future.

Public Art Advisory Committee – R. Cann

City Hall Sculpture Program: The Call to Artists has been completed and is moving forward for release.

Arts Plan Oversight Committee – R. Cann

This committee has not met recently. In the future a report will be provided by a Culture Committee member who also sits on this committee.

Heritage Committee – K. Summers

Workplan: The 2010-2014 term Heritage Committee met for the first time and reviewed future projects. Matters that they have reviewed and will report on in the future include, but are not limited to: continuation of the Wartime Houses commemoration, the 1812 Subcommittee's plans for the bi-centennial, plaquing of significant cemetery locations, funding support for heritage home improvements and the maintenance of architectural archives.

Passfield Building: The building has remained on the corner of St. Paul and Carlisle Street during demolition for the Arts Centre. The committee will be working with the architects in relation to the building's future.

Action: Staff will share via email the Passfield Building PowerPoint, assembled by the Heritage Committee.

Report from Cultural Services Office – R. Cann

Arts Centre Project: The City of St. Catharines and Brock University have both selected Diamond and Schmitt Architects to design their portions of the Downtown Academic and Cultural Arts Centre Project. A User Group Committee has been formed to represent the needs of the future users and to consult with the architects. Public meetings will also be arranged during the design phase and staff will notify committee members of these meetings.

Action: Staff will include the Culture Committee on mailing lists related to the Arts Centre Project.

Regional Culture Committee: M. Elliott has applied to the committee, yet selections have not been completed at this time. If appointed he will report to the St. Catharines Culture Committee on their activity.

Municipal Cultural Plan: An application for funds to develop the plan has been submitted

to the Ministry of Culture's Creative Community Prosperity Fund. The Culture Committee will be informed as information is received as they will participate in the development of the plan if funding is approved.

Action: Staff will distribute the Municipal Culture Plan workplan to the Culture Committee.

10. Other Business

R. Cann explained the Roundtable portion of the meeting and the opportunities to attend cultural events and performance that become available through the Cultural Services office.

11. Roundtable

Upcoming community cultural events include:

- Edward Burtynsky, *Burtynsky Factories* at Rodman Hall, December 4, 2010 - March 6, 2011; <http://www.brocku.ca/rodman-hall/exhibitions>
- HOT TALKS! At Rodman Hall, Old Masters and Pickled Sharks: The Art Market, Thursday, March 3, 2011, 7 pm; <http://www.brocku.ca/rodman-hall/events/hot-talks->
- Chorus Niagara, *Sounds of Light*, Saturday, March 5, 2011 at 7:30pm, Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria; http://www.chorusniagara.ca/page/sounds_of_light
- Primavera Concerts, International Women's Day Centenary on Saturday, March 5, 10:30am - 3:00pm; <http://primaveraconcerts.ca/index.php?page=2011-season>

Save the Date: March 3rd, 2011 and March 15th, 2011 at 10:30am – Information to follow

Next Meeting: Tuesday April 5, 2011 at 5:00pm – Committee Room 1, 3rd Floor City Hall

Meeting Adjourned at approximately 6:33 pm