



CITY OF
ST. CATHARINES

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

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

1. Welcome

T. Cotton welcomed the group to the meeting and led them in a short roundtable introduction.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion: To approve the agenda dated May 3, 2011.

Moved: A. Wilson **Seconded:** K. Summers **Carried.**

3. Approval of the Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes of the meeting held April 5, 2011.

Moved: A. Harris **Seconded:** K. Summers **Carried.**

4. Business Arising

Planning Subcommittee: R. Cann noted this Subcommittee held its first meeting and will discuss their work during the Subcommittee Report item of this meeting's agenda.

Training Requirements: The members who require training have been identified and are waiting to receive information regarding scheduling from staff.

5. Correspondence/Articles of Interest

Nothing at this time.

6. Subcommittee Reports

Arts Awards Subcommittee

W. Nicholson reported that the subcommittee has not met since the last Culture Committee meeting. An upcoming meeting is scheduled.

J. Tupling reported that the changes to the nomination information made at the last meeting have been included in the 2011 Awards marketing materials, and updates have been made to the Arts Awards page on the City of St. Catharines' website.

<http://www.stcatharines.ca/en/livein/TrilliumArtsAwards.asp>

St. Catharines Cultural Investment Program (SCCIP) Subcommittee

R. Rochon reported that the committee has met a couple times in the last month. They have been reviewing the Artist in the Community Program Stream. On May 14th the committee will host a focus group with past recipients of this funding to discuss their

experience with the program and any suggestions that could assist with the program's future. The committee is also reviewing other communities' funding programs and how the St. Catharines Cultural Investment Program compares.

Motion: To change the 'multi-cultural' terminology in SCCIP policy and materials to ethnocultural, to improve clarity of meaning.

Moved: R. Rochon

Seconded: P. Vietgen

Approved.

Planning Subcommittee

R. Cann reported that the committee has met for the first time. They reviewed the context for their upcoming work, discussed history of cultural planning in St. Catharines and different background information. They will be using an online wiki that was utilized by the last planning committee. They also reviewed the workplan submitted with the Culture Plan grant application – if anyone has comments on this they should provide them to R. Cann before May 26th. A student will be hired to assist with the development of the plan. An RFP will also be developed to hire a consultant to assist with the project. From there, next steps will include a look at community engagement, how this begins and who will be involved.

Action: Staff will share the planning committee's wiki access information with the Culture Committee.

Action: Staff will share the workplan for the Culture Plan process with the Culture Committee for more input.

7. Reports

Public Art Advisory Committee – P. Vietgen

Kiwanis Aquatic Centre Public Art: City Council approved the recommendation by the Kiwanis Public Art Selection Committee to commission Naoko Matsubara's work *Aquatic Movement*. Also included in the committee's report to Council were recommendations regarding the selection process and possible improvements for future competitions. The Public Art Advisory Committee will review the process used and the recommendations made by the selection committee to develop a Public Art Procurement Process.

Murals: The Graffiti Committee has been approached to fund two murals, to be located on private properties, as graffiti eradication strategies. There has been no call or request for proposal process related to this initiative and the Public Art Advisory Committee has not been consulted. The Public Art Advisory Committee will look into presenting a recommendation to Council regarding this matter.

The Culture Committee discussed this matter further and how it related to their mandate.

Action: Staff will keep the Culture Committee informed regarding this item.

Tending Our Garden City: The exhibit is now hanging in the gallery space on the 2nd floor of City Hall. The opening was postponed one week due to the wind-storm that hit St. Catharines on the scheduled day, Culture Committee members are invited to attend the opening on May 5th at 4pm.

User Group Committee – R. Cann

The committee continues to meet regularly. They recently toured seven performing arts venues over two days. The architects also attended these tours and it was an opportunity to learn what challenges and successes were faced by other centres. The work on the building program has moved forward, though there is a constant tug with the budget. On April 21, 2011 the User Group Committee approved a building program for schematic design purposes. One costing report has also been completed and is waiting approval by the Project Oversight Committee. A public open-house is scheduled for May 26, 2011; schematic designs will be available for viewing by the community at this event.

Arts Plan Oversight Committee – R. Cann

The proposals in response to the RFP for a Marketing Coordinator/Contractor have been received. Interviews with applicants have been completed and the committee has made their selection for the position. The successful applicant will be announced at a later date.

Heritage Committee – K. Summers

The committee is moving forward on the plaque to marking the Darby Cemetery for the June unveiling – an invite to attend will be extended to the Culture Committee.

Report from Cultural Services Office – R. Cann

Cultural Services Office: The Cultural Services offices have now moved to the St. Catharines Museum on the 2nd floor. There is currently an issue with the phone numbers used to contact staff. Updated contact information will be forwarded to committee.

Naoko Matsubara: R. Cann and Steven Remus are going to visit Naoko at her studio in Oakville to discuss her work for the Kiwanis Aquatics Centre.

St. Catharines Cenotaph: A conservator is currently working on a restoration plan for the site, and will consider options for accessibility, to be completed in 2011.

Creative City: R. Cann and J. Tupling will be attending the 2011 Creative City Network Summit in London from May 10 to May 12, 2011. They will not be available during this time.

8. Other Business

K. Payne discussed the Pan-Am Games which will be held in Ontario in 2015. He explained St. Catharines' role in the sporting events and the possibilities for cultural elements to be included. He suggests that the committee remains mindful of this opportunity moving forward.

9. Roundtable

Upcoming community cultural events include:

- *The Niagara Folk Arts Festival* runs from May 13 to May 29, 2011. For a full schedule visit: <http://folk-arts.ca/Festival2009/>
- The 2011 St. Catharines Visitors Guide is now available. A new feature this year is QR codes that can be scanned by smart-phones to view short videos about St. Catharines' features. They can also be viewed through St. Catharines Tourism's YouTube page: <http://www.youtube.com/user/tourismStcatharines>
- *Our Feathered Friends Traveling Exhibit* is on display at Balls Falls from April 30 to September 5, 2011. For more information visit:

<http://www.npca.ca/conservation-areas/balls-falls/centre-for-conservation/current-exhibit.htm>

- The Ministry of Tourism and Culture have released applications for their funding programs. The timeline for these programs are different then previous years. For more information visit: http://www.mtc.gov.on.ca/en/awards_funding/funding.shtml
- The St. Catharines and Area Arts Council hosted their AGM on April 19, 2011. They released their Annual Report for 2010 and announced Judith Barker as Board President.
- *In the Soil: Niagara's Homegrown Arts Festival* runs from April 27 to May 1, 2011 in downtown St. Catharines. For more information visit: <http://www.inthesoil.on.ca/>
- Essential Collective Theatre will be hosting a Season Wrap-up and Next Season Sneak Peek event on May 28, 2011 at 6:30pm. For more information visit: <http://www.ectheatre.ca/>
- Theatre Beyond Words has begun their Food For Thought series for 2011. They occur Wednesday nights at Dom's Pasta Bar and Grill. For more information visit: <http://www.theatrebeyondwords.ca/events/wednesday-salons/>

Motion: To adjourn the meeting of May 3, 2011.

Moved: J. Wallace

Carried.

Meeting Adjourned at approximately 5:54 pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday June 7, 2011 at 5:00pm – Committee Room 1, 3rd Floor City Hall