



Minutes
City of St. Catharines
Culture Committee Meeting

Tuesday November 1, 2011

5 – 6:30pm

Committee Room #1, 3rd Floor, City Hall

Present: Tracy Cotton (Chair), Kathy Summers, Andrea Wilson, Deb Slade, Rick Rochon, Wynne Nicholson, Jen Wallace, Elizabeth Fritshaw, Angela Harris, Lyn Royce, Brian Narhi, Laurie Sadowski, Debbie Slade, Kathy Summers, Peter Vietgen,

Regrets: Melenie Bural, Steve Solski, Mark Elliot

Staff: Jason Cadieux, Rebecca Cann, Kelly Dell, Kim Payne, Kathleen Powell, Lilita Stripnieks

Guests: Orit Sarfaty, Chris Lorway

1. Welcome and Introductions

T. Cotton welcomed everyone to the November meeting and introduced Orit Sarfaty from Lord Cultural Services to the committee.

2. Approval of Agenda

Made by: P. Vietgen

Seconded by: D. Slade

Carried.

3. Approval of Minutes as amended for the Meeting held October 4, 2011

Amendment to correct total 2011 SCCIP request amount to \$181,241.33.

Made by: J. Wallace

Seconded by: R. Rochon

Carried.

4. Business Arising: NA

Introduction to Cultural Planning Process with consultants Orit Sarfaty & Chris Lorway. R. Cann introduced Orit Sarfaty, consultant with Lord Cultural Services. O. Sarfaty reviewed her work with City staff to date and thanked the committee for allowing her to sit in on the meeting.

5. Correspondence - NA

6. Subcommittee Reports

Arts Awards Committee

W. Nicholson reported that the Trillium Awards night was a success. W. Nicholson read a letter drafted to Rick Lane regarding the committee's decision to take a year's hiatus from Trillium Awards.

SCCIP Committee

R. Rochon reviewed SCCIP sub-committee's adjudication process and outlined the evaluation process. A summary of SCCIP recommendations was distributed and R. Rochon led the committee through a summary of all twenty applications (10 Sustaining / 10 Cultural Development). The following conflicts were noted:

- A. Harris: Chorus Niagara & Primavera.
- J. Cadieux & Jen Wallace: Essential Collective Theatre
- D. Slade & R. Cann: Niagara Artists Centre

- J. Cadieux: St. Catharines Chamber Music Society
- P. V & J. Cadieux: Niagara Dance
- D. Slade: Niagara Symphony
- R. Cann: Suitcase in Point

R. Rochon stressed that although the entire \$150,000 of SCCIP funding was available, the committee struggled to stretch funds amongst so many growing organizations.

Motion: to support the SCCIP funding recommendations as presented for the 2011 St. Catharines Cultural Investment Program.

Made by: R. Rochon **Seconded by:** K. Summers **Carried.**

R. Cann thanked the SCCIP committee with kudos to R. Rochon for his excellent chairing skills, noting that “the program is in great hands.”

Planning Subcommittee

J. Wallace brought the committee up to speed regarding the initial planning meeting with consultants. It became clear during those discussions that the concept of expanding the Culture Committee’s Planning Subcommittee to act as the cross-sectoral committee would need to be refined. R. Cann reviewed the overall committee structure for the process and put forward staff’s suggestions for members of a Cross-Sectoral steering committee, which included representation from the business sector, Native community, social services, heritage, arts, ethnoculture, government and environmental services. The committee agreed a focused committee would be the most effective way to ensure a successful community consultation process.

Motion to approve planning subcommittee restructured as per the report from staff.

Made by: J. Wallace **Seconded by:** R. Rochon **Carried.**

At this point Tracy welcomed Chris Lorway of Lord Cultural Resources to the table.

7. Meeting with Regional Culture Committee

R. Cann advised the committee of upcoming meetings with the Region’s Culture Committee to discuss communication strategies as well as how the Region will be facilitating the distribution of funds from the Cultural Capitals Grant.

8. Reports

Public Art Advisory Committee

P. Vietgen read a description of the City’s next annual juried exhibit: *RED*. The call for artists will be released shortly. In anticipation of funding opportunities through the War of 1812 funds now available, PAAC brainstormed ideas for public art projects relating to the War of 1812. The group decided on Richard Pierpoint as a subject and research is under way. P. Vietgen noted that PAAC would also be making a presentation to City Council outlining the city’s public art collection on Dec 5th.

User Group Committee

In M. Elliott’s absence R. Cann provided an update on the User Group Committee (UGC). The UGC reviewed and approved the next-to-final design drawings for the arts centre. The design is now in the

hands of the Design and Construction Group. A presentation to Council (including a virtual tour of the final design) is in the works.

Arts Plan Oversight Committee – *deferred*

Heritage Committee

B. Narhi reported via email that a recently completed *Significant Individuals* list, to be used in naming of streets, parks etc. is being sent to Council for approval? A recent survey of Yates Street residents revealed much excitement about proximity to the new arts centre. The Committee's next meeting is to be held at St. Barnabus Church. They're preparing for their first presentation to City Council scheduled tentatively for January

Report from Cultural Services Office

R. Cann elaborated on engagement strategies related to the Culture Planning process including; a new webpage on the City's website, a Facebook page for Culture 2020 and the St. Catharines Post Card Project. Rebecca circulated a draft of various Stamp designs and encouraged all Committee members to send in a postcard.

The 2012 City Guide is in the works. Negotiations with Region of North Vancouver regarding the purchase of their MAX Website architecture are underway. A Report on Murals will be coming to Council during the next month. A meeting of Public Art Advisory Committee and the Graffiti committee is in the works and R. Cann encouraged CC members to attend the unveiling of the new mural at the VIA Rail Train Station Sat Nov 5th. The Polish Legion has made a donation of \$3,000 to the City's War Memorials Restoration Fund and will be making a presentation to City Council Nov 7th.

9. Other Business

K. Payne reported that he's been tasked with developing a Festival and Events policy for the City. Committee can expect further details as he works to coordinate all aspects of the City's resources into this new policy. Advertising in 2012 City Guide is on sale now – this year staff hopes to profile Trillium Award winners in the Culture & Heritage section. There are exciting opportunities on the horizon with regards to Pan Am Games 2015. K. Payne would like to incorporate cultural activities into the dialogue with regards to planning of this event. A brief discussion followed regarding possible collaboration between SCCIP committee and Tourism Department to enhance Sports Tourism opportunities. R. Cann noted she's been invited to sit on a Cultural Committee for the Pan Am Games.

It was noted that two committee members have ongoing conflicts with Tuesday meetings. It was suggested that staff use Doodle to coordinate a new meeting time - perhaps at the Museum?

R. Rochon reminded the group that the SCCIP recommendations will be at Council shortly and asked for a show of support.

A. Harris commended W. Nicholson on her letter to the editor in the St Catharines Standard.

13. Roundtable

- *Fresh Ink* winners announced at the St. Catharines Public Library – publication of winning entries available at your local branch.
- *Niagara Reads Niagara* on now at St. Catharines Public Library

- [Centre for the Arts](#) has officially kicked off their Season. An intimate lecture with Christopher House of Toronto Dance Theatre takes place at NAC, focusing on process and creation of “visual dance”.
- *12 days of Christmas* kicks off Dec 2nd in Downtown St. Catharines. Includes prize draws. For more on other seasonal events visit <http://www.stcathdowntown.com/events/detail/30>
- The St. Catharines Museum is working on a new exhibit *Cabin Fever: Winter in St. Catharines*. Mitten Tree is starting soon – and offer donations to Start me up Niagara and Community Cares. Look for children’s programming over the holidays.
- War of 1812 Calendars are out and on sale. Pathways to Peace – 1812 exhibit coming soon.
- [Chorus Niagara's](#) first concert coming up and [Primavera Concerts](#) is hosting a fundraiser at Inniskillin

T. Cotton thanked everyone for their contributions and hard work.

14. Next Meeting: Tuesday December 6, 2011 – 5:00pm to 6:30pm
Committee Room 1 – 3rd Floor – City Hall

Motion to terminate the meeting.

Made by: E. Fritshaw **Seconded by:** P. Vietgen **Carried.**