



Committee Name

Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2012 5pm to 6pm
Committee room 1 – City hall 3rd Floor

Present: Tracy Cotton, Melenie Bural, Elizabeth Fritshaw, Brian Narhi, Wynne Nicholson, Rick Rochon, Debbie Slade, Kathy Summers, Peter Vietgen, Jennifer Wallace, Andrea Wilson

Regrets: Councilor Mark Elliott, Angela Harris, Sue Morrison, Kathleen Powell, Laurie Sadowski, Steve Solski, Lilita Stripnieks

Staff: Jason Cadieux, Rebecca Cann

1. Welcome and Introductions

T. Cotton welcomed the committee and thanked everyone for coming.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion: To approve the agenda dated March 6, 2012

Moved: P. Vietgen **Seconded:** A. Wilson **Carried**

3. Review and approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve minutes dated February 7, 2012 with the inclusion of typo correction on page 4 under Round Table; “you” should read “youth”

Moved: K. Summers **Seconded:** J. Wallace **Carried**

4. Business Arising

None

5. Correspondence

None

6. Culture Committee Work-plan

R. Cann led a review of the Culture Committee’s work plan for 2012 to 2014. The SCCIP subcommittee will be busy over March and April of 2012 with a retooling of the Artist in the Community Program and the potential of inclusion of a new Festival program stream of funding into SCCIP. If SCCIP deadlines are to be moved to May in 2013, as proposed in the work-plan, the subcommittee should note that the application review process will take place over summer months. Will everyone be available? R. Cann drew special attention to potential conflicts between upcoming SCCIP deadlines and the future Arts Awards event. Another important consideration for the Arts Award

Committee when planning the future Awards event is City Council's review of the City budget in Feb/March 2013. How will this effect contingencies if the event budget is not approved? R. Cann reviewed the Culture Policy Renewal work plan and noted that the timeline has been revised as the Province has granted a 3-month extension to the project.

Action: Subcommittees to discuss these issues at their upcoming meetings and recommend revised timelines as appropriate.

7. Subcommittee Reports

Arts Awards Committee – W. Nicholson reported that the committee's last meeting was brief due to low attendance. The committee's next meeting is scheduled for March 20th 2012. In the meantime committee members will continue to discuss the revision of the Arts Award Mandate and other matters via a Facebook discussion group.

SCCIP Committee – R. Rochon reported that the committee met March 1st 2012 to review changes made by three SCCIP clients to their programming and discuss the inclusion of a proposed Festival & Events policy to SCCIP prepared by Tourism Development Officer Kim Payne.

Funds have been returned by *P.K. Hummingbird* (partial only) and Museum Polonia (full amount). A change of program by Lyndesfarne Theatre Projects is also being reviewed – more information has been requested by the subcommittee.

The committee reviewed a draft Festivals & Events policy prepared by K. Payne. The purpose of the proposed policy, which would run parallel to established Cultural Investment programs, is to provide clarity and transparency for City investments with regard to festivals and celebrations. K. Payne will be meeting with local stakeholders and R. Cann over the next few weeks to gather input and refine the policy. K. Summers asked how this new policy would affect SCCIP's current funding levels. R. Cann clarified that the proposal is to fund festivals from an additional \$39,000 earmarked for the purpose.

CP 2020 Cross-sectoral Committee – R. Cann read a report from J. Wallace. The Cross-Sectoral committee met with Orit Sarfaty from Lord Cultural Services to review and discuss a summary of the Community Consultation activities to date. The committee continued to review and discuss a more flexible definition of "Culture" for use in the new Culture Plan. Community engagement efforts continue with more Roving Videos upcoming, an exhibit now installed at City Hall of postcards and Town Hall artwork and the General Participation survey, which is open until March 9th. The committee is asked to help spread the word (and the link) on the survey over the next week.

Action: J. Cadieux will recirculate this link to the committee.

8. Reports from Committees

Public Art Advisory Committee – P. Vietgen reported that the PAAC are reviewing their terms of reference, continuing the discussion on public art procurement and they discussed the changes in site-ing the public art installation at the new Kiwanis Aquatics Centre. The committee also reviewed a call for artists from Niagara Artists Centre for the **Niagara Here** project. NAC will be selecting 40 artists to develop digital art experiences related to sites across Niagara that would then be viewable on PED's through QR codes. The codes will be on signage located at specific sites, and seven City sites have been identified for the project.

User Group Committee –R. Cann reported that the UGC has not met since 2011 but noted that the City and Brock University have finalized an agreement that clears the way for the Fine and Performing Arts Complex to be constructed in downtown St. Catharines.

Heritage Committee – B. Narhi reported that the Heritage Committee presented their yearly update to Council on Feb 6th, 2012. The committee also installed an exhibit of Niagara's agricultural history in the lobby of the downtown library that was on display throughout the month of February. The committee is preparing a plaque commemorating a veteran of the War of 1812 for installation at the Hofstetter Cemetery in late June or early July 2012.

Report from Museum – In K. Powell's absence R. Cann noted that the Museum conducted special activities celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Oreo cookie today. March break promises to be a busy time at the Museum as they're presenting a variety of family friendly programming.

Report from Cultural Services – R. Cann reported that the restructuring process for the Recreation and Community Services department is complete. The two culture coordinator positions will remain on three-year contracts until the arts centre opens.

The 2012 Spring Leisure Guide is out and has been distributed throughout the city. The Cultural Capitals of Canada report went to Council and was approved on February 27th. Thanks to the cooperation of the Downtown Association we can expect Cultural Capital Banners to be flying in the downtown core as early as next month. The Region has requested assistance from the City in planning and executing their "Niagara Nights of Art" series (an event similar to the James Street Night of Art event originally presented by the St. Catharines & Area Arts Council) that will be taking place in all 12 municipalities across the region as part of the Cultural Capitals of Canada celebrations. The Downtown Association has come onboard to lead the charge with this event.

Installation of the Kiwanis Aquatics Centre's Public Art project is proving to be a more complicated endeavor than originally anticipated. This has been an educational process to say the least and we look forward to the opening of the new centre this spring.

The Culture Plan 2020 engagement process is winding down. Thanks to J. Tupling and J. Cadieux for their hard work promoting and facilitating the various initiatives connected to this process. Next up – the St. Catharines in 6-words or less competition. Winners will be selected by culture plan resident poet Terrance Cox and announced on March 28th. J. Cadieux is putting the finishing touches on Culture Ink, Culture Services new e-newsletter; the committee can expect to receive the first issue in their in-boxes before the next Culture Committee Meeting.

Staff recently had training related to the Municipal Information Act as it related to handling personal information. More information will follow as it relates to Committee activity.

9. Other Business

None

10. Roundtable

- M. Bural reported the Folk Arts Multicultural centre is currently undergoing major renovations over the next four to six months. Offices and classes will temporarily be moving to other locations.
- B. Narhi informed the committee of the upcoming lecture series on the War of 1812 taking place at the St. Catharines Public Library.
- A. Wilson reported that Balls Falls Conservation area will be hosting a variety of March Break activities. She is currently developing an 8-week summer session that explores the connection between Art & Nature, a multi-generational arts experience opportunity.

11. Next Meeting

Tuesday April 3rd, 2012 5:00pm to 6:30pm Committee Room 1 – 3rd floor City Hall

12. Motion to terminate meeting

Motion: E. Fritshaw

Carried