



CITY OF  
ST. CATHARINES

## Public Art Advisory Committee

### Meeting Minutes

Thursday April 15, 2010: 4pm

Atrium, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, City Hall

**Present:** Lesley Bell, Councillor Mark Elliott, Shirley Madill, Michael Zuberec  
**Regrets:** Peter Vietgen  
**Absent:** Stephen Remus, Brent Smith  
**Staff:** Rebecca Cann, Jennifer Tupling

#### 1. Approval of Agenda

**Motion:** To approve the agenda for Thursday April 15, 2010; with change to Exhibits topic (Home from the War).

**Moved:** M. Elliott      **Seconded:** S. Madill      **Approved.**

#### 2. Approval of Minutes

**Motion:** To approve the minutes from Thursday February 18, 2010.

**Moved:** S. Madill      **Seconded:** M. Zuberec      **Approved.**

#### 3. Business Arising from the Minutes

Nothing at this time.

#### 4. Correspondence

Volunteer Recognition Night: Committee member Michael Zuberec was nominated by fellow committee member Peter Vietgen. The rest of the committee congratulated Michael on a well deserved nomination.

Participation on the Artist's Garden Jury; from Paula Berketo, Parks: R. Cann reviewed the program and the City's participation. She also explained that the St. Catharines & Area Arts Council has requested more resources from the City. The group discussed committee involvement and the formation of partnerships in regards to the project. M. Zuberec volunteered to join the jury.

R. Cann will speak with the Arts Council more about the project. M. Elliott proposed that as a Public Art feature the recommended project should be presented to the whole committee during the process.

#### 5. Draft Official Plan and Presentation to Council

R. Cann reported that the updated version of the Official Plan will be released in the coming days. Staff will email out the sections pertaining to public art to the committee. The Public Art Advisory Committee is scheduled to make their presentation to Council regarding the plan on May 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### 6. Public Art

Aquatics Facility Public Art Project: The selection committee has met and selected three artists to move forward in the selection process. S. Madill commented on the jury process and what the next steps are in the project. R. Cann explained the plans to collect input from the community on the finalists' submissions.

Mural Projects and Development: R. Cann is currently working on a report regarding this topic.

Exhibits: Home from the War: R. Cann announced that the exhibit was featured, with photograph, in the first edition of the City's Newsletter (which was included in the Standard and online). She also noted that the website has garnered various responses and comments from the community; this has led to the addition of a War Brides section on the website.

Exhibits: Sculpture at City Hall: The committee reviewed the draft call that was emailed out. Most importantly they looked at the tight timeline and discussed its feasibility for artists. R. Cann expressed her concerns with releasing the call to artists; the committee discussed these and other issues they identified. They developed a more ideal timeline for a successful early-summer installation, leading to the decision to withhold the call for this year and release a revised one in September. The committee also reviewed the budget outlined in the call. They felt that it was not realistic or competitive and discussed more appropriate funds.

Budget recommendations are \$3,000 (flat) for 2 years of exhibit fees; 2 day installation allowance, \$1,000 travel payment. Provision for advertising should also be included. R. Cann will move forward with this new information and will extend the contract with Rod Dowling for the additional year.

Exhibits: Shoot High: Go Low: L. Bell discussed the jury process and the response to the call. She noted that the response was less than previous years, however the topic was more specific than it had been in the past. R. Cann presented the possibility of participating in Art City throughout the summer. This would require added security to have City Hall open after-hours. In addition there is an opportunity for members of the committee to present the exhibit to the public. An invitation could also be extended to the artists to come and share personal insight into their submission on these evenings.

Exhibits: Fall 2010: Cultural Services has submitted a grant application for a summer Curatorial Student and the development of a Fall exhibit has been included in the student work plan. R. Cann presented some ideas for exhibits that have been discussed in the past; use pieces from the City's art collection, Janis Barlow's photographic exhibit and another collaboration with the Heritage Committee. She encouraged the group to forward any other suggestions they might have.

Ghost Signs of Downtown: The committee discussed whether more input was needed from them re: the Ghost Signs. They agreed that this matter was more appropriate for the Heritage Committee. They determined that if a mural project related to the signs was developed they should be involved, but not with the signs in their current state.

City Art Collection: Olympic Celebration: The committee discussed the assessment process for the painting and they all agreed it did not warrant formal assessment due to the other almost identical 199 paintings that were developed at the same time, for the same purpose. The committee recommended not accepting it into the City's Art Collection. Instead they suggested that the painting accompany the torch as a tribute to the 2010 Olympic Celebration hosted by the City, and should be offered to the St. Catharines Museum.

City Art Collection: Spirit of St. Catharines: R. Cann reviewed the topic and past actions on the matter. An agreement of use and compensation is required for this piece. She presented research collected on the matter and the artist's suggestion for fee. She also explained the current copyright fee structure used for pieces on loan. S. Madill shared the practices of Rodman Hall and the signing of loan agreements (which includes copyright related to advertising and education) but excluding resale of an image. Review of this matter will continue including checking the practices of other communities, reviewing issues with the City's legal department and keeping in mind the upcoming Aquatic Centre project.

City Art Collection: War Memorials: There is no update at this time. A concert by the Stadacona Band of Canada Forces Atlantic; Sailors & Songs, will be held on May 12<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds of the concert will go to restoring St. Catharines' War Memorials. More information is on [www.stcatharines.ca](http://www.stcatharines.ca).

City Art Collection: Totem Pole: The evaluation on the Totem Pole is expected May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**7. Report from the Culture Committee**

R. Cann reported on behalf of P. Vietgen that the Culture Committee will be making a report to Council on May 10<sup>th</sup> in regards to culture in the Official Plan. She also outlined the committee's self-evaluation process which they are currently undertaking. Their terms of reference as outlined in the Municipal Cultural Policy are outdated and they wish to have them updated before the upcoming election. This will provide the incoming committee new terms to begin with. R. Cann also noted that the nomination forms for the 2010 Arts Awards will be released soon. Staff will forward them to all committees.

**8. Report from Cultural Planning Supervisor – R. Cann**

NCAT Presentation to Council: NCAT made their presentation of the Capacity Building Plan to City Council on April 12<sup>th</sup>. The plan was approved in principal and is now available on the City's website. Culture Services is currently in discussion with the St. Catharines and Area Arts Council to develop the plan and how to move it forward. A report will be presented in a couple of months on the progress of the plan.

Cultural Services Staffing: J. Tupling is now working on a full-time contract with Cultural Services. Restructuring is moving along and may result in additional staff changes.

stcatharines.ca: The City is currently working on a new website. The new site will be more community focused and utilize social media. It will be launched on May 25<sup>th</sup>. Cultural Services is currently working on the content needed for their focus areas.

Friends of the Carousel: The last horse for this season was installed this week on the Carousel. A photographer from the Hamilton Spectator attended and documented the installation. The Friends will be taking the summer off.

Integrated Planning Committee: Deb Slade has been selected as the community culture representative for this committee. Public consultations are currently taking place, staff will send out the remaining dates; committee members are encouraged to attend.

Shakespeare in the Park: A report will be going to Council on April 19<sup>th</sup> regarding this event. Driftwood Theatre Group from Toronto will present Twelfth Night in Montebello Park on June 24<sup>th</sup>, Recreation and Community Services are partnering with them to present and promote this event.

Friends of Morningstar Mill: The Friends recently lost a member who was a driving force in their group: John Bott has passed away.

ArtsBuild: R. Cann will be attending a Niagara forum with local arts organizations on April 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss the challenges and opportunities related to owning and/or managing arts facilities. This is part of a Province wide initiative to develop a database that can raise awareness and support for such facilities.

**9. Other Business**

Nothing at this time.

**Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:35 p.m.**

**Next Meeting: Thursday June 17, 2010 at 4:00pm in the Ante Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor – City Hall**