



CITY OF  
ST. CATHARINES

## Public Art Advisory Committee

### Meeting Minutes

Thursday August 19, 2010: 4pm

Ante Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, City Hall

**Present:** Lesley Bell, Shirley Madill, Brent Smith, Peter Vietgen, Michael Zuberec  
**Regrets:** Stephen Remus  
**Absent:** Councillor Mark Elliott  
**Staff:** Rebecca Cann, Jennifer Tupling  
**Guests:** Kelly Reichheld – Manager, Programs & Cultural Services, Yuli Siao - Urban Design Planner

#### 1. Welcome

Chair, L. Bell, welcomed K. Reichheld and Y. Saio to the meeting and gave them an opportunity to address the group. L. Bell then led the group in roundtable introductions.

#### 2. Approval of Agenda

**Motion:** To approve the agenda for Thursday August 19, 2010.

**Moved:** S. Madill

**Seconded:** M. Zuberec

**Approved.**

#### 3. Approval of Minutes

**Motion:** To approve the minutes from Thursday June 17, 2010 as amended.

**Moved:** S. Madill

**Seconded:** M. Zuberec

**Approved.**

#### 4. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

#### 5. Correspondence

None.

#### 6. Update on the Urban Design Guideline

Y. Siao provided a brief background on the City's Urban Design Guidelines. He reminded the group that Council approved the first phase of guidelines (four categories) in the Fall of 2009. He explained that the Planning department is currently developing the second phase of guidelines, which will include Downtown. He noted that this second phase will include more information on Public Art, as previously provided by this committee. He explained that the current timeline is to present the Guidelines to Council in the spring of 2011.

The committee inquired about other issues in Downtown such as historical facades, murals and the ghost signs. Y. Siao described the program in place for façade improvement, that includes the backside of properties on St. Paul Street, ie those facing Highway 406. He also reported that he has presented similar updates to the Heritage and Green Committees to gain their insight into the Urban Design Guidelines.

#### 7. Percent for Art Policy

R. Cann presented the capital budget report from the Council minutes of February 22, 2010. The group reviewed amounts in each capital category to highlight the funds that could be associated with the percent for art policy. She explained that each year there is a budgetary shortfall which results in an infrastructure deficit, which is a common issue amongst municipalities across Canada. A decision will be required as to which capital items the policy would apply to. R. Cann also explained that in some instances Federal and Provincial

investments were applied to different items –it would be more appropriate (and probably required) to have the policy only apply to the City’s capital contribution. In some matters more information is required from the staff in Transportation and Environmental Services. The group considered asking a staff member from the City of Hamilton to visit and share their percent for art policy experience.

## **8. Public Art**

Aquatics Facility Public Art Project: R. Cann reported that the selection team has not made a final selection yet but they are close.

Mural Projects and Development: R. Cann gave a brief history of the mural projects funded through SCCIP. She explained that a decision was made to move ahead and release the funds for these projects. The main matter was process vs. product: the SCCIP program that funded these two projects is about the creative benefit to the community, not the outcome. It is assumed these murals will not be long term installations.

Exhibits: 2011 Juried Show – Theme Selection: The committee reviewed the possible themes developed by Cultural Services. They discussed the reaction that the community may have to each theme and which was more inspiring. Those present did not want to proceed without input from those not present. The group requested further editing to the theme relating to sustainability and provided some recommendations. Once these edits have been completed an email query will be sent to the entire committee for feedback.

Exhibits: Sculpture at City Hall: Nothing to report at this time.

Exhibits: Fall/Winter 2010: Cultural Services staff is working with the appropriate community members to move forward with the two themes approved at the June meeting. Updates for *Treasured Legacy: More than 100 years of Greeks in Niagara* will be sent via email.

New Projects for Consideration: Nothing at this time.

## **9. City Art Collection**

City Art Collection: Shoot High – Go Low, acquisition: S. Remus has a positive response to his request for sponsorship for George Upper’s *The Hockey Game*. At this time, no final decision has been received from the Mayor.

City Art Collection: Spirit of St. Catharines: There is no update on the copyright agreement at this time.

City Art Collection: Totem Pole: R. Cann reported that two sources have been identified for testing the Pole.

City Art Collection: War Memorials: The memorials are receiving regular cleanings and a system has been established to ensure that this is an annual occurrence as recommended by Craig Johnson.

City Art Collection: Anchor: R. Cann reported that the wood on the anchor is currently being replaced.

## **10. Report from the Culture Committee**

R. Cann reported that the Culture Committee selected the recipients for the 2010 Trillium Arts Awards at their last meeting. They will be presented at the City of St. Catharines’ Trillium Awards ceremony on September 29, 2010: more information to follow. The group inquired

about the possible change in title for the awards and R. Cann reported that it is still a matter that the Culture Committee is pursuing.

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

Niagara Centre for the Arts: A committee formed of Brock University and City of St. Catharines representatives is currently reviewing the 34 responses to the architectural Request for Expressions of Interest. They will develop a short list from these.

St. Catharines Cultural Investment Program: The deadline for applications is approaching, Friday August 27, 2010. There appear to be approximately 7 first-time applicants, with more representation from the ethno-cultural community.

Building the Arts of St. Catharines: A Plan for Sector Growth: An application to the Department of Canadian Heritage is moving forward for \$80,000 to undertake three marketing initiatives. Potential lead and key partners have been identified and are being approached.

Gallery Space on 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of City Hall: The reception desk in this space will be moving in the next week. There is an opportunity to hang a more permanent piece behind the desk, separate from the current show. There will be some loss of space for future exhibits. The Olympic Painting will be moved in the next month or so as it no longer relates to the space or current events. There was another instance of promotional materials being placed in front of the hanging exhibit. R. Cann has sent correspondence on this matter and hopefully with the changes in the reception desk there is an opportunity to ensure that this does not happen in the future.

**11. Other Business**

L. Bell requested that the topic of committee membership and chair appointment in regards to the upcoming election be added to the next agenda.

**Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:22 p.m.**

**Next Meeting: Thursday October 21, 2010 at 4:00pm in the Ante Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor – City Hall**