



CITY OF
ST. CATHARINES

Public Art Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday March 31, 2011: 3pm

Ante Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall

Present: Councillor Mark Elliott, Sandra Merk, Stephen Remus (Co-Chair), Peter Vietgen, Michael Zuberec
Regret: Lesley Bell (Co-Chair)
Absent: Shirley Madill
Staff: Rebecca Cann, Scott Ritchie, Jennifer Tupling

1. Welcome and Introductions

S. Remus welcomed everyone as chair of the March meeting. He reminded members of the exhibit selection jury for the 2011 show following the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion: To approve the agenda for Thursday March 31, 2011.

Moved: M. Zuberec

Seconded: M. Elliott

Approved.

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes from Thursday February 17, 2011.

Moved: M. Elliott

Seconded: S. Merk

Approved.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

S. Remus confirmed that he submitted the committee nomination of Peter Vietgen for the Volunteer Recognition Night.

Action: Staff will follow-up with the nomination.

5. Correspondence

Nothing at this time.

6. Review Workplan for Term

J. Tupling reviewed the workplan staff developed for the 2010-2014 term. She highlighted major projects and recurring programs, explaining that work was distributed as evenly as possible keeping other cultural milestones in mind (i.e. the Arts Centre). R. Cann reminded the committee that this was a suggested timeline only - they may edit it as needed.

7. Percent for Art Policy

S. Remus presented the group with the current draft of the Percent for Art Policy and provided a brief history for new members. He highlighted points for discussion and portions of the document that had been inspired by other communities' policies. M. Zuberec suggested that these references be footnoted in the final document to provide context for the reader and demonstrate the current policies of other communities. The group discussed the information that would be presented in the policy vs. that which would be included in the staff report. R. Cann suggested that the committee plan to develop a PowerPoint presentation for Council to optimize their discussion points with visuals. S. Remus discussed the desire to include a private sector builder/developer in the policy discussions prior to the report going to Council to show buy-in from the sector.

The group went on to discuss the capital projects that would fall under this new policy and the

development of a maintenance fund for future and existing works (5 outdoor artworks are identified in the current collection). The group also considered ways to determine possible locations for public art prior to the development of a Public Art Master Plan. The remainder of the discussion focused on how the policy would integrate with existing policies and provincial development legislation, in particular, Section 37.

Action: S. Ritchie will coordinate discussions between S. Remus and R. Cann and other members of Planning Services on the Percent for Art Policy and likely response from the development community.

Also, R. Cann will coordinate a meeting with the City's Capital Projects manager.

8. **Public Art Exhibits**

Tending Our Garden City: The jury will meet after the meeting.

Sculpture at City Hall – Call for Submissions: The Call for Submissions is complete and should be released shortly.

Action: Staff will forward the Call to the Committee once it is released.

Fall/Winter 2011: The committee approved the concept presented at the last meeting to develop an exhibit celebrating the architectural growth in St. Catharines, highlighting the new buildings, and the stories of their locations' metamorphosis – the history of these sites.

Action: Staff will move forward with the idea.

9. **City Art Collection**

Totem Pole: No update at this time.

St. Catharines Cenotaph: R. Cann announced that on March 3, 2011 the St. Catharines Branch 24 of the Royal Canadian Legion presented a cheque for \$10,000 to the City of St. Catharines for the restoration of the Cenotaph. She also explained that funds were approved in the budget to develop a restoration plan for the Cenotaph.

Lakeside Park Carousel: R. Cann explained that due to recent changes in the chemical make-up of the varnish and oils used by the Friends of the Carousel new paints had to be sourced. The Friends had experienced issues with the paint peeling and discolouring in the final stages of the restoration process. New enamel paint was selected. It is not as easy to blend as the artist oils were, so the painters will have some learning to do during the switch over. However, the enamel has many positive attributes including: more durability, no more need to strip the whole horse to repair a section, no need for varnish and faster drying (quicker painting process). The sheen of the new paint is greater than the oil process, meaning that there will be a visible difference between the newly treated horses compared to the old. The first horse to undergo this new practice will be included on the Carousel for the upcoming season, as a test of the new paint.

10. **Reports:**

Culture Committee – P. Vietgen

P. Vietgen reported that the past meeting of the Culture Committee was the first of the new Committee. He was selected as liaison to the Public Art Advisory Committee. The meeting was an orientation for members and subcommittees were formed. He noted that many of this year's committee members are new to the Culture Committee and that the committee is larger

then the previous one.

Cultural Services – R. Cann

Arts Centre Project: The User Group Committee has been working with the architects to develop a building program. They will also be visiting existing facilities later in April.

Cultural Services Office: The Cultural Services offices are moving to the St. Catharines Museum on the 2nd floor. The move will occur mid-April. Updated contact information will be forwarded to committees once it is available.

CultureInNiagara.com: \$102,212 in funding was announced from the Department of Canadian Heritage's Canada Cultural Investment Fund for the Marketing the Arts of St. Catharines-Niagara projects. Also, \$16,800 was approved in the 2011 City of St. Catharines budget to assist with the project, thanks to a motion by Councillor Elliott. The City of St. Catharines is the lead partner on the CultureInNiagara.com website, one of the 3 initiatives of the project.

Culture Plan: \$50,000 was also approved in the City of St. Catharines' budget for the development of a Culture Plan for the City, again, thanks to a motion by Councillor Elliott. An announcement from the Ministry of Culture is expected shortly.

11. Other Business

The committee discussed the departure of Shirley Madill as Director of Rodman Hall and the effect that it will have not only on the committee but also on the community. R. Cann explained that if they felt that a representative from Rodman Hall should be included on the committee a report could go to Council regarding the addition of a new member.

Action: M. Elliott will ask Marcie Bronson, Curator of Art / Registrar of Rodman Hall if she is interested in joining the Public Art Advisory Committee.

Motion: To adjourn the March 31, 2011 meeting of the Public Art Advisory Committee

Moved: M. Elliott **Approved.**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:08 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday April 21, 2011 at 4:00pm – Ante Room, 3rd Floor City Hall