



CITY OF
ST. CATHARINES

**Public Art Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Thursday April 21, 2011: 4pm
Atrium, 3rd Floor, City Hall

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

1. Welcome and Introductions

L. Bell welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion: To approve the agenda for Thursday April 21, 2011.

Moved: M. Elliott **Seconded:** P. Vietgen **Approved.**

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes from Thursday March 31, 2011.

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

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

P. Vietgen reported on the Volunteer Recognition Night that he attended and thanked the group for their nomination.

The group reviewed the possibility of asking Marcie Bronson, Curator of Art / Registrar of Rodman Hall if she is interested in joining the committee.

Action: P. Vietgen will discuss joining the Public Art Advisory Committee with Marcie Bronson, Curator of Art / Registrar of Rodman Hall.

5. Correspondence

Nothing at this time.

6. Percent for Art Policy

Deferred

7. Public Art

Kiwanis Aquatic Centre Public Art: The committee reviewed the recent report to Council regarding the public art selection for the Kiwanis Aquatic Centre. They focused on the comments and recommendations presented by the selection committee, Aquatic & Library Public Art Selection Team (ALPAST). R. Cann reviewed the process that ALPAST underwent to make their final selection and the challenges faced. The timeline of the process, evaluation criteria and the make-up of the selection team were matters for consideration. At this time there is not formal process for the commission of Public Art for the City of St. Catharines: many of the guidelines followed were based on the City's procurement policy use for all tendered projects. Discussion took place on the importance of clarifying process before the Percent for Art Policy and Public Art Plan are approved. The group discussed how to move forward with the recommendations from ALPAST. Research of Public Art selection processes from other communities including average budgets available would be useful – tbd on how this is going to take place.

Action: Staff will share the ALPAST selection package with PAAC.

Action: Public Art Procurement Process will be included on the next agenda.

Mural Proposals to Graffiti Committee: L. Bell reported to the group on her recent attendance at the Graffiti Committee's meeting regarding two proposed murals projects. She expressed concern that the structure set forth by City policies was not being followed, especially with regard to the Public Art Policy and the work of the Public Art Advisory Committee. The group discussed the need to have an open call for artists, as is current procedure with any public art project at the City. They also discussed the use of City funding on private property and the procurement policy mandated through the City. They agreed that any such projects involving City resources should involve a tender process and open competition. The Public Art Advisory Committee should be involved in any decision if City funding is being spent and/or if the public art is being installed on City property. They agreed that if the initiative moves forward as proposed it would be beneficial to make a presentation to Council regarding the matter.

Motion: The Public Art Advisory Committee recommends that public art projects involving City of St. Catharines' money or property require the development of a Call to Artists, in the manner set forth by the procurement process.

Moved: P. Vietgen

Seconded: M. Zuberec

Approved.

Exhibits

Tending Our Garden City: The exhibit will be going up the next week and an opening will be held on Thursday April 28, 2011 at 4pm in the exhibit space, 2nd floor of City Hall. L. Bell has volunteered to say some words on behalf of the Public Art Advisory Committee.

Action: Staff will assist L. Bell with an opening speech.

Sculpture at City Hall – Call for Submissions: The Call for Submissions is complete and should be released shortly. The dates originally outlined in the call may require revision to account for the delay in release.

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

8. City Art Collection

Totem Pole: No update at this time.

St. Catharines Cenotaph: R. Cann announced that she's had another phone call with the offer of a \$3000 donation for the St. Catharines Cenotaph. The group discussed the need for updated and more permanent elements of accessibility to the site. R. Cann explained that a conservator is currently working on a restoration plan for the site, and will consider options for accessibility, to be completed in 2011.

9. Reports:

Culture Committee

J. Tupling reported that at the recent meeting of the Culture Committee, elections were held for chair and vice chair positions. A planning sub-committee was also formed to assist with renewal of the Municipal Culture Policy. The Culture Committee reviewed their term workplan of projects and recurring programs. The Culture Committee passed motions to update verbiage in the Arts Awards criteria and the St. Catharines Cultural Investment Policy.

Cultural Services – R. Cann

Arts Centre Project: The User Group Committee, along with the architects, did two days of tours to other performing arts centres to examine what has and has not worked in their design. The building program has been approved by the committee and an open house will be held on May 26, 2011 when the schematic designs will be presented.

Action: Staff will share more information regarding the public meeting as it is available.

Cultural Services Office: The Cultural Services offices are in the process of moving to the St. Catharines Museum on the 2nd floor. Updated contact information will be forwarded to committees once it is available.

Other Business

Nothing at this time

Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:18 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday May 19, 2011 at 4:00pm – Ante Room, 3rd Floor City Hall