



CITY OF
ST. CATHARINES

Public Art Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday July 21, 2011: 4pm

Ante Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall

Present: Marcie Bronson, Councillor Mark Elliott, Sandra Merk, Peter Vietgen, Michael Zuberec
Regrets: Lesley Bell (Co-Chair), Stephen Remus (Co-Chair)
Staff: Rebecca Cann, Michael Dejong, Kelly Dell, Scott Ritchie, Jennifer Tupling
Guests: Rod Morris, JoAnne Thibodeau

1. Welcome and Introductions

R. Cann welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted she is filling in as chair. She welcomed the guests to the meeting and led introductions. Rod Morris and JoAnne Thibodeau, Chair of Club LaSalle's 1812 committee are here to discuss a project as representatives of Club LaSalle.

2. Approval of Agenda

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

Moved: M. Elliott

Seconded: S. Merk

Approved.

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes from Thursday June 16, 2011.

Moved: S. Merk

Seconded: M. Bronson

Approved.

4. Business Arising

None.

5. Correspondence

None.

6. 1812 Sculpture Project

R. Cann summarized the project: bronze sculpture called First Canadians that commemorates First Nations, French Canadian and Loyalist figures related to the Battle of Beaverdams Creek. She highlighted the discussion topics that the group should focus on (project site, artist engagement and timing). She then welcomed R. Morris to speak on the matter. He introduced the project's concept and the history that inspired it, and provided a brief overview of the City's possible involvement in the project and how it relates to the requirements of the Department of Canadian Heritage funding application.

Highlights of Discussion with R. Morris

Timing: The timing of the application suggest that submitting to the September 30, 2011 deadline may be premature as the event to be commemorated does not fall within the dates outlined in the application. Rod explained that the program will fund for later dates if they feel that it is more practical for the project's success. He noted that this could make sense for the project as the projected timeline for completion is lengthy.

Project Site: Would ideally be a public location, for the application it would be important to have a highly visible site rather than one of historical significance. Original site consideration was Club LaSalle's beach, however, this is not public enough. Once completed, ownership and maintenance of the sculpture would be transferred to the

City. PAAC's input on a possible site is welcomed.

Engagement: The application requires that the artist be local. The War of 1812 occurred throughout the Golden Horseshoe and even into Toronto. It would be up to PAAC to recommend the geographic reach of the artist search. R. Morris has had meetings with members of Six Nations, in particular their 1812 representative. They are aware of the project and requested that the person represented be Kerr since he still has relatives in St. Catharines and is more connected to the region. They are supportive of the project but not actively involved at this point.

Why St. Catharines? The group were interested in this since the topic of the project (The Battle of Beavertams Creek) is commonly associated with Thorold, and not downtown St. Catharines. R. Morris noted that St. Catharines can be considered as the staging area for the battle of Beavertams since it is where the three individuals probably met to begin strategizing. The project is not about the battle, it is about the First Canadians and their influence on the War of 1812. Thorold is working on a commemoration of the battle. The alliance was formed in St. Catharines. Locations that were sited are: Shipman's Corner, 12 Mile Creek and Decew House (there has been some debate about these).

What is needed of the City? A committee has been formed through Club LaSalle to work on the project and would work with the City. They are looking for some funding: \$25,000 was a considered amount to begin the process. Alternatively it was thought that the City could provide the location for the sculpture. The Club LaSalle committee is planning a celebration involving the sculpture and would work with the City's 1812 Steering Committee on this component.

R. Cann explained to R. Morris and the Committee that if they recommend support of the project, a letter would be drafted from the City for Club LaSalle's grant application. The letter would be an approval in principal until funding is confirmed.

R. Morris thanked the Committee for their time and attention and he and J. Thibodeau left the meeting.

The committee felt that this topic and project required further discussion, which was not possible in the remaining time. They agreed that a meeting dedicated to this project was more reasonable.

See Appendix A for the minutes from the Public Art Advisory Committee, 1812 First Canadians Meeting - Wednesday August 3, 2011: 4pm

Action: Staff will arrange a meeting date so that PAAC can discuss this topic in more detail.

7. Public Art

Kiwanis Aquatic Centre Public Art: R. Cann reported that the contract process is being finalized with Naoko Matsubara. The artist had concerns about the time allotted for completion, and a new delivery date of March 31, 2012 has been agreed upon.

Graffiti Committee's Mural Program: R. Cann explained that a solution has been found for the Train Station Mural Project. The project is being considered a 'change of project' through the St. Catharines Cultural Investment Program (SCCIP) as mural artist Shawn Reimer has a community arts project approved through SCCIP that has been delayed indefinitely. The Train Station Mural will be the new project completed under this application and will move forward as presented to the Graffiti Committee, under the structure of SCCIP.

S. Remus has drafted a letter to the Graffiti Committee regarding the development of mural projects: it will be shared with the Committee before the next meeting.

Exhibits

Sculpture at City Hall: R. Cann reported that an extension agreement has been reached with Rod Dowling to have *Circle of Friends* remain on the James Street lawn of City Hall for another year, with the option to renew. This will go to Council in a report on July 25, 2011.

Fall 2012 Exhibit Title: M. Dejong provided the group with a brief update on the exhibit and some of the subject matter that will be on display.

8. Percent for Art Policy – New Draft

Deferred.

9. Public Art Procurement Process

M. Bronson reported that she and R. Cann met to discuss the history of this process to date, as well as ideas for the future. She is going to review acquisition policies from other communities and will bring forward discussion topics to the Committee at future meetings. They expect that the review process will take approximately six or seven months and the goal is a 2-page document on the subject.

10. Civic Art Collection

Acquisition from Tending Our Garden City

M. Elliott declined involvement in the selection process. The group reviewed the shortlisted works, their artists' statements and biographies. Individually, committee members completed Rating System evaluation sheets for each of the short listed works. The total scores were tallied and compared. Based on the committee's assessments two works were selected.

Motion: To approve the purchase of *Port Weller at Dawn* by Pete Malaguti and *St. Paul Street Looking West* by George Upper, for inclusion in the City of St. Catharines Civic Art Collection.

Moved: S. Merk

Seconded: P. Vietgen

Approved.

Port Dalhousie Cenotaph

R. Cann explained that the Port Cenotaph's sculpture is lifting off its pins. Work is underway to assess the repair work and cost that is required.

Centennial Park Totem Pole: A conservator will be coming to examine the totem pole with a Resistograph. This will assist in determining the amount of decay and structural quality of the totem pole.

11. Review Workplan

Deferred.

12. Reports:

Culture Committee – R. Cann

The Culture Committee continued discussion about the implications of losing the Arts Council. The biggest issue faced is communications within, and on behalf of, the arts community. The Culture Committee will be drafting a letter to the Region's Culture Committee on this matter. The ramifications of the Arts Council's demise will remain a topic of discussion for the Culture Committee.

The Arts Awards nomination deadline is July 29, 2011. Committee members are encouraged to

bring nominations forward and/or share information regarding the awards with their acquaintances.

Cultural Services – R. Cann

Culture Plan: A report is going to Council on Monday July 25, 2011 regarding the Culture Plan. The RFP for a Culture Plan Coordinator will be released on Friday July 22, 2011. Cultural Services has hired Kelly Dell as Culture Plan Assistant, she will be working on the project until the end of the year.

Arts Centre: The schematic drawings are completed and will be presented at the next Council meeting, July 25, 2011. An Executive Director has been announced for the Arts Centre. Steve Solski will begin working with the project on August 2, 2011. Formerly he was the Executive Director of the Rose Theatre in Brampton.

13. Other Business

Nothing at this time

Motion to Adjourn: M. Zuberec Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:34 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday August 18, 2011 at 4:00pm – Ante Room, 3rd Floor City Hall

APPENDIX A



CITY OF
ST. CATHARINES

Public Art Advisory Committee 1812 First Canadians Meeting Minutes

Wednesday August 3, 2011: 4pm
Ante Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall

Present: Lesley Bell (Co-Chair), Marcie Bronson, Stephen Remus (Co-Chair), Peter Vietgen, Michael Zuberec
Regrets: Councillor Mark Elliott, Sandra Merk
Staff: Rebecca Cann, Michael Dejong, Kelly Dell, Scott Ritchie, Jennifer Tupling

R. Cann welcomed everyone and thanked them for taking the time to participate in this project specific meeting. She reviewed the proposed project with the group and provided an update of information since the July 21, 2011 Public Art Advisory Committee meeting.

L. Bell provided the group with information she obtained on the commemoration project occurring in Thorold. The project focuses on the Battle of Beaverdam Creek and the First Nations participation in the victory.

The group discussed the proposed project from Rod Morris and Club LaSalle.

Motion: The Public Art Advisory Committee appreciates the interest and intention of the project. However, the historical significance to St. Catharines is minor in comparison to other cities in the Region. The Committee would not want to compromise the project being developed in Thorold or Niagara Falls and suggested that they discuss this project further with existing initiatives in these communities.

Moved: S. Remus

Seconded: P. Vietgen

Approved.

Motion to Adjourn: M. Zuberec

Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:45 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday August 18, 2011 at 4:00pm – Ante Room, 3rd Floor City Hall