

Public Art Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday August 16, 2012

4:00pm – 5:30pm

Committee Room 1 – 3rd Floor – City Hall

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

1. Welcome and Introductions

L. Bell welcomed everyone to the meeting. She introduced and welcomed Rick Lane, Director of Recreation and Community Services.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion: To approve the agenda for Thursday August 16, 2012.

Moved: L. Bell

Seconded: S. Merk

Approved.

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve the meeting minutes from Thursday June 21, 2012.

Moved: S. Merk

Seconded: M. Bronson

Approved.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

Nothing at this time.

5. Correspondence

Nothing at this time.

6. Rick Lane, Director of Recreation and Community Services

a. Re: future public art projects at the Arts Centre and Spectator Facility

R. Lane discussed the process that is currently underway for the design and construction of the new Spectator Facility. He also shared a brief history of the project and outlined upcoming stages. R. Lane wanted to collect more information from the Public Art Advisory Committee on their expectations for including public art in the facility. Most importantly he wanted to get an idea of the project budget that the Committee would like for the project. They asked for an idea of the range of funds available to them. R. Lane expressed that a minimum of \$50,000 could be expected, and that if he can arrange more within the budget he will.

R. Lane also stressed to the Committee the importance of the site's synergy with its heritage and adjacent activity. This ideal has been highlighted to shortlisted design and construction teams. The group asked about possible sites within the project for Public Art. R. Lane outlined some basic ones, but

explained that until the footprint and a specific design is accepted there is no further information at this time. He noted that designs are to be presented in the next couple months. He did express that a bonus of 25 points has been allocated for creativity in regards to the building's design.

The group discussed the project more and thanked R. Lane for meeting with them and beginning the discussion regarding public art at the Spectator Facility.

7. Community Public Art Initiatives

a. Les Alliés – 1812 - The Allies (formerly First Canadians)

R. Cann discussed the recent reports that were taken to Council regarding the project. She outlined the approval and development of the Art Selection Team and noted that Council had approved a partnership with Club LaSalle for the initiative. She explained that the team decided on releasing a Request for Pre-Qualifications which has been distributed via various outlets. R. Cann expressed that the final location of the work has yet to be confirmed but that the team will be making a final decision in time for the Request for Design to be released.

8. Public Art Initiatives

a. City Hall Exhibits

i. Civic Art: Discovering the City of St. Catharines' Art Collection

J. Tupling reported that the exhibit is ready and will be installed the following week. The exhibit was featured in The Current, the City's quarterly publication in The Standard.

ii. Capturing Culture – Joint exhibit with the Niagara Region

J. Tupling announced that she has begun working with the Niagara Region on the development of this photo exhibit featuring images from the Cultural Capitals of Canada 2012 program. The exhibit will open in November and a reception/book party may occur after the book launch in December.

iii. Exhibit outside Mayor's office – Emma German

E. German presented the exhibit concept and material to the group. She outlined how the exhibit will present the connection between the City of St. Catharines, Brock University and the community through years of growth. E. German also discussed the process she employed to produce and collect the exhibit material. The exhibit will be hung in the next couple weeks, the group considered the idea of having a small reception.

iv. 2013 Juried Exhibit – Ideas for Theme

J. Tupling requested that the committee start to consider themes for the next juried show, as the call will need to be released in September/October. She also discussed some possible modifications to the Call to Artists based on observations from the 2012 process.

Action: J. Tupling will send out ideas discussed earlier via email and begin updating Call to Artists. Members of the Committee are asked to email any ideas to J. Tupling prior to the September meeting.

b. City Hall Sculpture Program

R. Cann reported that Council approved the recommendation from the selection committee and the contract with selected artist Laura Moore is moving forward. She also reported that she has been in discussion with the other departments at the City involved in installing the work and the artist is coming for a site visit next week.

c. 1812 Public Art - Richard Pierpoint

Nothing to report at this time.

d. Centennial Gardens (emblemata) Exhibit

J. Tupling noted there have been some delays in the hanging of the exhibit but the Niagara Artists Centre plans to complete installation this week. The Committee will be informed once the exhibit is complete, a reception may also occur.

e. Downtown Performing Arts Centre Public Art - Deferred.

9. Art Collection

a. Finalize acquisition selection from 2012 Juried Exhibit

The group discussed the shortlist of works that had been selected through an earlier email process.

Motion: To approve the acquisition of **Seeing Red** by Melanie MacDonald and **Resting Shells** by George Enns, for inclusion in the City of St. Catharines Civic Art Collection.

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

b. Collection Updates

R. Cann reported that a report regarding the St. Catharines Cenotaph will be going to Council in the near future. She also reported that the Request for Quote for the Port Dalhousie Cenotaph restoration will be released shortly.

c. Twinning Artwork – Photos from Visit – Deferred

R. Cann did report that she received a publication on Sybil Atteck from Helen Atteck. She will share it at the next meeting.

10. Development of Public Art Procurement Process

M. Bronson shared the latest draft of the City of St. Catharines Art Collection document with the group. She inquired about some matters that were highlighted in the draft including: ineligibility, selection committees and language regarding diversity. M. Bronson will discuss some of the other items with R. Cann and update the document for the next Public Art Advisory Committee meeting.

11. Review the Public Art Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

- Role of PAAC in work to date – Deferred
- Review role of PAAC as described in Public Art Policy – Deferred

12. Reports

a. Culture Committee – R. Cann

R. Cann reported that the Culture Committee did not have quorum at their last meeting. The main topic that the Committee discussed was the draft Arts Awards program.

Action: Staff will share the Arts Awards program with the Public Art Advisory Committee.

b. Joint Mural Task Force – S. Merk

S. Merk reported that the group has not met since the last meeting.

c. Cultural Services – R. Cann

R. Cann reported that the St. Catharines Cultural Investment Program deadline is approaching, August 31. Work is also moving forward on cNiagara.ca, announcements regarding the site should be released in the next week. However, the Committee was told that the site would be released at the Marketing Summit on October 16, 2012.

Finally R. Cann discussed the new changes in Recreation and Community Services. Kelly Reichheld, Manager of Programs & Cultural Services has left the City for a position elsewhere. No replacement has been hired at this point. An Interim Manager has been brought in until a fulltime replacement can be found.

13. Other Business

Nothing at this time.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting of August 16, 2012.

Moved: P. Vietgen

Carried.

Meeting Adjourned at approximately 5:43 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday September 20, 2012 – 4:00pm, Ante Room - City Hall