

Public Art Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday September 16, 2012

4:00pm – 5:30pm

Anteroom – 3rd Floor – City Hall

Present: Councillor Mark Elliott, Lesley Bell (Co-Chair), Peter Vietgen, Michael Zuberec

Regrets: Marcie Bronson, Sandra Merk

Absent: Stephen Remus (Co-Chair)

Staff: Rebecca Cann, Scott Ritchie, Eugene Todd, Jennifer Tupling

1. Welcome and Introductions

L. Bell welcomed Eugene Todd, Interim Manager of Programs and Cultural Services, leading everyone in a roundtable introduction.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion: To approve the agenda for Wednesday September 16, 2012.

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

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve the meeting minutes from Thursday August 16, 2012.

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

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

Nothing at this time.

5. Correspondence

R. Cann shared a letter from The Works International Visual Arts Society offering a commemorative sculpture of Lester B. Person. The group discussed whether the work responds to the scope of the Civic Art Collection, and the national relevance rather than specifically local relevance to St. Catharines. They also considered possible St. Catharines locations of relevance to the subject matter. Finally they considered the feasibility of such an acquisition (\$14,915 - \$125,000) within the Public Art budget.

Motion: That a response is sent to The Works International Visual Arts Society thanking them for the opportunity, however, there are no funds available for such an acquisition and the work does not meet the scope of the St. Catharines Civic Art Collection within the Public Art Policy.

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

6. Community Public Art Initiatives

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

R. Cann reported that the Pre-Qualification submissions have been received with 15 out of 40+ plan-takers responding. The selection committee is currently scoring the submissions and will be finalizing their marks at the next meeting. R. Cann and E. Todd met with representatives from Club LaSalle to discuss a final agreement for the project. Club LaSalle should receive a funding decision from the Department of Canadian Heritage before the end of the month. R. Cann reported that the selection committee has not made a final decision regarding the site of the work and have been considering alternate locations to those that were originally selected. R. Cann expressed that there will be more to share with the Public Art Advisory Committee at their next meeting.

7. Public Art Initiatives

a. City Hall Exhibits

i. Exhibit outside Mayor's office

The exhibit installation has been postponed until December because of the recent challenges faced by the Arts Centre project and scheduled renovations at City Hall. R. Cann explained that there will be a monitor with a PowerPoint presentation displaying multiple images. Emma will be returning to complete the exhibit and the new display schedule will be closer in date to the completion of Brock University's 50th year.

ii. 2013 Juried Exhibit – Finalize Theme

J. Tupling shared the theme suggestions provided to date. The committee discussed the relationship of the street theme with the development timeline of the Transportation Master Plan process. The group decided that this theme would work best in 2014 and the idea of Walls would be best for 2013.

Action: J. Tupling will draft the call with help from S. Remus to release in October.

b. City Hall Sculpture Program

R. Cann reported that Laura Moore will be installing **Kernel Memory** on Monday October 1, 2012. Earlier in September **Circle of Friends** and its pad were removed. She also noted that staff is working to arrange artists talk at Rodman Hall with Laura and Naoko Matsubara.

c. 1812 Public Art - Richard Pierpoint

L. Bell discussed the notes on the Pierpoint homestead that she received from Allen Hughes which indicates the site was closer to the former Knifeworks site. Confirming the location is the next step in this project in order to discuss type of art project and needed budget.

Action: L. Bell will share Richard Pierpoint homestead information with the committee.

d. Centennial Gardens (emblemata) Exhibit

R. Cann announced that the exhibit is now installed at Centennial Gardens. The exhibit will be celebrated at the Harvest Festival occurring in the park on Saturday October 13, 2012 from 11:00am to 3:00pm – all are invited.

e. Downtown Performing Arts Centre Public Art

Nothing to discuss at this time. The committee will wait on the results of the building changes before moving forward.

f. Spectator Facility Public Art

The group discussed the various ways that this project could be accomplished and how it could relate to the surrounding area. The committee will discuss the project more in the New Year and review the designs as they are made available.

8. Art Collection

a. Collection Updates

i. Cenotaphs

R. Cann reported that the cap has been removed from the St. Catharines Cenotaph, which is now surrounded by scaffolding. She shared the mason's findings regarding the brick core of the structure. There will be more details outlined in a report to Council. R. Cann also reported that the RFQ for the work on the Port Dalhousie Cenotaph is currently out and she should have the responses in the next week. The goal is to have this work completed by next spring. R. Cann also explained that she will be reviewing the information regarding the lead lettering and creating recommendations based on the findings.

ii. Other

R. Cann reported that the Civic Art exhibit is now on display at City Hall and that the acquisition process is complete for the works selected from the 2012 Juried Exhibit. The committee was asked if they wanted to present the new works to City Council as in the past. L. Bell and P. Vietgen volunteered to make the presentation in December or January.

Action: Staff will share dates and set up the presentation at Council.

b. Twinning Artwork – Photos from Visit – Deferred

9. Development of Public Art Procurement Process – Deferred

10. Review the Public Art Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

• Role of PAAC in work to date

R. Cann asked the group what they felt was their most meaningful contribution to date, what would they like the committee to accomplish in the next 10 years and if there is anything that they feel they should not be

focusing on. There was discussion around whether the committee should be as focused on heritage-specific issues. They group discussed how the division between heritage and public art is currently not clear, referring to the Lakeside Park Carousel, the cenotaphs, and plaques, primarily. The committee agreed to continue this discussion at the next meeting.

- **Review role of PAAC as described in Public Art Policy - Deferred**

11. Reports

a. Culture Committee – P. Vietgen

P. Vietgen reported that sub-committee reports were the main focus of the last Culture Committee meeting. The Arts Awards will be held on June 7, 2013 at the St. Catharines Museum – Save the Date! The SCCIP committee is currently reviewing the 25 applications that were received for the 2012 programs. They will be presenting their funding recommendations at the November meeting.

b. Joint Mural Task Force – S. Merk

The group has not met since the last meeting.

c. Cultural Services – R. Cann

R. Cann reported that a first condition review of the Lakeside Park Carousel has been completed with Bonnie Cameron of the Friends of the Carousel. Animals in the greatest need of restoration were identified and more review will occur for the winter restoration. cNiagara.ca is moving along and looking great. There will be an industry launch on October 16 at the St. Catharines Museum – all are welcome. R. Cann explained that marketing of the site will increase in the weeks following the launch with a larger celebration in the New Year. She also announced that there has been a staffing change in relation to the Culture Plan consultants and they are now completing work on the internal analysis. R. Cann noted that the Culture Plan will be drafted this Fall and there will be meetings related to it that this committee can, and ideally should, participate in.

12. Other Business

Nothing at this time.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting of Wednesday September 16, 2012.

Moved: P. Vietgen

Meeting Adjourned at approximately 5:31 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday October 18, 2012 – 4:00pm, Ante Room - City Hall