

Minutes

Wednesday, February 19, 2020

Ante Room, City Hall at 5:00 PM

Attendance:

Mo Al Jumaily, Robert De Wolfe, Sandy Middleton, Mark Roe, Peter Wing,
Councillor Carlos Garcia

Staff Liaison:

Phil Cristi, Director of Community, Recreation and Culture Services
Kathleen Powell, Supervisor Historical Services & Acting Supervisor Cultural Services

1. Call meeting to order (R. De Wolfe)

5:00 PM

2. Recognition of Traditional Territories (R. De Wolfe)

3. Additions / Deletions to the Agenda

There were none.

4. Motion to approve the agenda

Moved by: M. Roe

That the agenda for the February 19, 2020 meeting of the Rodman Hall Task Force
be adopted

Carried

5. Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting

Moved by: S. Middleton

That the members of the Rodman Hall Task Force adopt the minutes of the previous
meeting of the Rodman Hall Task Force.

Carried

6. Declarations of Interest

None were declared.

7. Business

7.1 Engage STC Survey Questions

The Task Force discussed the questions that will be asked as a part of this survey to go out to the community through the City's Engage STC web portal.

The following themes were agreed upon for the questions:

- 1 - Awareness? Are people aware of Rodman Hall's existence? If yes, what do they know about the gallery?
- 2 - Have people visited Rodman Hall – usage? If yes, how have they used the facility?
- 3 - Do you see the benefits of having a publicly funded art gallery? If yes, how do you see it benefiting the community?
- 4 - Do you believe that the gallery should receive public funding to operate?

P. Cristi will create questions based on this discussion and circulate them to the Task Force for comment with a quick turn-around and then to send them to the City of St. Catharines' Corporate Communications for comment before pulling together the final survey.

7.2 Council Report

Discussion of the nature of the council report and how it should be structured. P. Cristi noted that there is a template that most council reports follow and this should be used to guide the look of the final report.

P. Wing presented the information he compiled related to the history of the facility to be added to this part of the report would be a section detailing the EOI process that Brock has undertaken.

Some discussion related to the art collection at Rodman Hall and whether or not information about the collection should be included in the report. It was agreed that the report should contain information about public trust responsibilities of public collecting institutions.

M. Al Jumaily presented the information he pulled together related to health and wellness benefits of community cultural facilities.

It was agreed that there is a need to also emphasize the economic benefits of art galleries in communities including such things as their ability to attract visitors to the community, attract spending, etc. K. Powell will send out additional resources that have been compiled by the Cultural Services offices related to the benefits that cultural organization provide to communities.

M. Roe presented his research on art and mental wellness. There are many local mental health organizations who already provide arts programming as a part of their therapy which shows that these organizations already feel that the presence of arts programming in a community is important. This connection is important and connects directly to the compassionate city initiative that is a council priority.

S. Middleton presented the information in her report relating to how the Task Force's recommendations connect to the City's Strategic Plan and Culture Plan 2020.

Moved by M. Al Jumaily

Motion to extend curfew for this meeting of the Rodman Hall Task Force by 15 minutes.

Carried

There was some discussion as regards to the final recommendations that will be put forward by the Task Force.

Members of the Task Force were asked to bring to the next meeting any additional recommendations for this report.

Timelines of work were discussed. The final report will need to be provided to the Cultural Sustainability Pillar Committee prior to going to Council so having a draft report in the next short while was important in order to remain timely.

8. New Business

There was none.

9. Date of next meeting

March 18, 2020 at 4:30 PM, City Hall

10. Motion to Adjourn

Moved by P. Wing

That, there being no further items of business, this meeting be adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Carried