

# Arts & Culture Advisory Committee

## Minutes

**Wednesday, February 03, 2021**

**Via Zoom at 5:00 p.m.**

### **Attendance:**

Mo Al Jumaily, Danny Custodio, David DeRocco, Justus Düntsch, Don Evans, Kate Leathers, Suzie Melville, Sandy Middleton, Coun. Carlos Garcia, Coun. Karrie Porter

### **Absent:**

Karissa Fast, Jennifer Hay, Emily Kovacs, Connor Wilkes

### **Staff:**

Phil Cristi, Ashley Judd-Rifkin, Lori Mambella, Michelle Nicholls, Kathleen Powell

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#### **1. Call meeting to order (Chair)**

5:00 p.m.

#### **2. Recognition of Traditional Territories**

S. Middleton acknowledged that the land on which the Arts & Culture Advisory Committee meets today is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum agreement. Today this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Peoples. Acknowledging this is a reminder that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous people.

#### **3. Amendments to the Agenda**

Approval of CDAP Evaluation Tool. Item ii, under 9.2, SCCIP Subcommittee Report.

#### **4. Motion to approve the agenda as amended for February 3, 2021**

**Moved: M. AlJumaily**

**Carried**

#### **5. Motion to adopt the minutes of January 6, 2020**

**Moved: D. Evans**

**Carried**

S. Middleton introduced new member D. Custodio to the committee.

## **6. Declarations of Interest**

None

## **7. Presentations (invited guests)**

*Jean Bridge – Presenting an update from Rodman Hall Art Centre Inc.*

Chair, Board of Directors, Rodman Hall Art Centre Inc.

J. Bridge updated the committee on what is currently happening with the Rodman Hall Art Centre Inc. (RHAC Inc.) organization and building. RHAC Inc. is a community-based not for profit, working to take on the Rodman Hall art gallery. Their priority is the nearly 1,000-piece collection. Their audit will include photo documentation of the entire collection.

RHAC Inc. is also pursuing all options for an art gallery and is open to partnerships with existing institutions or, if they can secure operating funds, they will consider the short-term opening of gallery. The RHAC Inc. long-term plan is to develop and build a min. 20,000 sq. ft. art gallery and they are open to all locations. RHAC Inc. believes a public art gallery (regardless of location) is an indispensable component to any city.

Committee members asked J. Bridge some questions and much discussion followed. Of note:

- J. Bridge indicated that RHAC Inc. is thinking of different options to animate a potential building, including gallery space, education space, studio space, programming space and space that can generate revenue.
- RHAC Inc. is having lots of conversations with new owners but have only been offered tenancy. New owners are looking for revenue generation options. There is potential, but RHAC Inc. doesn't want to rush entering into an agreement.
- RHAC Inc. has had a preliminary discussion with Riverbrink and there is potential for collaboration across the region. RHAC Inc. will likely need to hire a director sometime soon to have consistent leadership. A collections assistant was recently hired and an intern from Guelph is working on the collection database.
- RHAC Inc. will be looking to SCCIP for project funding and they believe a public art gallery will not occur without civic funding. They want to think of a gallery that is indispensable, compelling, captivating for residents and visitors. They plan to learn lessons from sister galleries in Hamilton, Kitchener-Waterloo, Ottawa and Guelph. They would like to perhaps set the stage for a funding agreement with the City.

## **8. Business arising from the minutes**

None

## 9. Business

### a. 9.1 Arts Awards Subcommittee Report – No report

### b. 9.2 SCCIP Subcommittee Report – S. Middleton

#### i. Review and Approval of Proposed SCCIP Timelines

The SCCIP Subcommittee met January 28 and reviewed proposed timelines for the 2021 SCCIP Program release. A. Judd-Rifkin shared the document with the committee, for review.

A thorough discussion followed, with the Committee agreeing that the proposed timeline should be changed, and the following application deadlines adopted instead:

March 25 – Culture Days Activity Program

April 15 – Sustaining-Core and Sustaining-Midsized Programs

May 20 – Arts Development and Culture Builds Community Programs

September 23 – Sustaining-Festival Program, Arts Development and Culture Builds Community Programs

#### **Motion:**

**That the 2021 SCCIP Timelines be approved as presented, with the following amendments:**

- **Revert to spring and fall application deadlines for Arts Development and Culture Builds Community Programs; and,**
- **Switch the Festival deadline to September.**

**Made By: M. AlJumaily**

**Carried**

#### ii. Approval of CDAP Evaluation Tool

At last week's meeting the SCCIP Subcommittee also had a discussion around the 2021 Culture Days Activity Program (CDAP) Evaluation Tool. The document was largely unchanged from 2020, but the Subcommittee did make some revisions in relation to COVID protocol for proposed activities. A. Judd-Rifkin shared the document with the committee, for review.

#### **Motion:**

**That the revised SCCIP-CDAP Evaluation Tool be approved as presented.**

**Made By: D. Evans**

**Carried**

The subcommittee will meet again in late February to discuss the evaluation tools for the remaining SCCIP programs.

**Motion to accept report: D. DeRocco**

**Carried**

**c. 9.3 Culture Plan Subcommittee Report – K. Leathers**

The Culture Plan Subcommittee met on January 22 and discussed the ACAC Work Plan as it relates to Culture Plan implementation and Cultural Asset Mapping.

The Subcommittee had not met for nearly a year, so they reviewed a lot of what was discussed in past. They decided to divide into 2 groups within the subcommittee: one to examine the Culture Plan itself and segment it into focus items, as well as to look at the municipal research done by Brock students. The second will focus on physical infrastructure – venues for creation and performance.

A. Judd-Rifkin will provide existing research and Subcommittee members will build on it. The Subcommittee plans to focus on specific Culture Plan items that need to be updated, knowing some parts of the plan can continue as-is.

**Motion to accept report: M. AlJumaily**

**Carried**

**d. 9.4 Cultural Sustainability Report – S. Middleton**

The Cultural Sustainability Committee met on January 27 and approved a new ACAC member – welcome to Danny Custodio! There were updates from all the Advisory Committees, including PAAC, the Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial Task Force and the Neil Peart Memorial Task Force.

**Motion to accept report: K. Leathers**

**Carried**

**e. 9.5 Report from Cultural Services Office – A. Judd-Rifkin**

- Lots of SCCIP preparation to get the CDAP application forms ready for release this week.
- We plan to do an information session via Zoom for the Culture Days Activity Program during the last week of February. We also plan to release a Cultural Funding Newsletter next week with details about CDAP and the information session.
- Arts Awards Nominations are now open! As in previous years, you can make nominations in Emerging Artist, Established Artist, Making a Difference, Arts in Education and Patron of the Arts award categories. We encourage all of you to make nominations! Visit: [www.stcatharines.ca/artsawards](http://www.stcatharines.ca/artsawards) for more information.
- We plan to do an information session for anyone interested in undertaking an Arts Award nomination. This info session will also take place via Zoom – details to come.

- The CSO is participating in the CRCS-wide Virtual Family Day activities. Specifically, the CSO is initiating an engagement opportunity around Indigenous Storytelling and Creative Responses. Joseph Shawana from the Niagara Regional Native Centre will be sharing the Anishinaabe Creation Story. Following the storytelling session, the CSO will present ideas for how you can create responsive pieces at home. Throughout February we will continue to share different ideas on how you can respond to the story through literary, visual and performing arts.
- Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial RFPQ (Request for Pre-Qualifications) is now closed. Now the selection panel needs to meet to shortlist the artists.
- PAAC Update:
  - The committee is working on a Mural FAQ document;
  - Neil Peart Memorial RFPQ is out now and will close on March 29<sup>th</sup>;
  - Juried exhibit can still be viewed virtually, on the website and on our social media.

Great response to press release, lots of media attention.

Arts Awards date is not set in stone, but likely will be during Culture Days.

Virtual got a broader audience, so will likely be some component.

**Motion to accept report: D. Custodio**

**Carried**

#### **f. 9.6 Other Business**

##### **i. 2021 Committee Workplan Update**

A. Judd-Rifkin noted that there is a new Work Plan template, so all the information from the already-created workplan will be migrated to the new template, then forwarded to the Committee.

S. Middleton noted the FirstOntario PAC has been hosting a virtual conference regarding digital needs, and sessions will be available via video on their website.

#### **10. Date of next meeting**

Wednesday, March 03, 2021

Via Zoom

5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

#### **11. Motion to Adjourn**

That the Arts & Culture Advisory Committee be adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

**Moved by: D. Evans**

**Carried**

#### **Attachments/Links/Distributed:**

1. Revised SCCIP-CDAP Evaluation Tool
2. 2021 SCCIP Timelines Chart