

Minutes

Wednesday, September 08, 2021

Via Zoom at 5:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Don Evans, Jennifer Hay, Kate Leathers, Suzie Melville, Sandy Middleton, Pam Seabrook, Janice Slade, Coun. Carlos Garcia

Absent:

Mo Al Jumaily, Danny Custodio, David DeRocco, Justus Düntsch, Connor Wilkes

Staff:

Ashley Judd-Rifkin, Noora Rizvi

1. Call meeting to order (Chair)

5:01 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

None

4. Motion to approve the agenda for September 8, 2021

Moved: J. Slade

Carried

5. Motion to adopt the minutes of June 30, 2021

Moved: D. Evans

Carried

6. Declarations of Interest

None

7. Presentations (invited guests)

None

8. Business arising from the minutes

Introduction of the new Culture Supervisor, Noora Rizvi.

9. Business

a. 9.1 Arts Awards Subcommittee Report – No report

b. 9.2 SCCIP Subcommittee Report – No report

c. 9.3 Culture Plan Subcommittee Report – K. Leathers

The Subcommittee met on July 16 and discussed the implementation plan and continuing committee work. Some new committee members had joined so they discussed how to accomplish the remaining work on the implementation plan, as well as how to support the work of a Culture Plan. This included both how to update a venue inventory and how to undertake cultural asset mapping. It was agreed that members of the Subcommittee would work on separate items to move them forward.

ACTION: A. Judd-Rifkin will email Subcommittee members to set a September meeting.

Motion to accept report: P. Seabrook

Carried

d. 9.4 Cultural Sustainability Report – S. Middleton

S. Middleton will share minutes from the most recent Cultural Sustainability Committee meeting, which took place in July. Some updates include:

- Two vacant positions on the Heritage Advisory Committee were filled.
- The Rodman Hall Task Force was disbanded, and their final report will be forthcoming. Rodman Hall Art Centre Inc. (RHAC, Inc.) has begun to move the collection out of the building. There was some discussion among Task Force members about what position the City could take at the Advisory Committee and/or Citizen level to continue involvement with Rodman Hall.
- City Council has approved a proposal from RHAC, Inc. to obtain 6 outdoor sculptures. These sculptures will be moved from the Rodman Hall grounds to locations around downtown St. Catharines.

There was some discussion around RHAC, Inc.'s intention of developing a public art gallery, including what ACAC's role or involvement in those plans might be, on an advisory basis.

L. Mambella noted that RHAC, Inc. will send correspondence to the next Budget Standing Committee meeting and that it is likely a Councillor will flag that correspondence and send it back to City staff for additional information. This means that conversations about the future of RHAC, Inc., its business plan and sustainability as well as the likelihood of funding a new public art gallery will start to happen soon.

Motion to accept report: S. Melville

Carried

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

- The SCCIP recommendations from the June 30 ACAC meeting were approved by Council on July 12. This means that, to date, a total of \$315,109 in SCCIP funding has been allocated to artists and arts organizations by Council.
- The next SCCIP deadline is September 23, and is for the Sustaining-Festival Program, as well as the second round of applications to the Arts Development and Culture Builds Community Programs.
- All application materials and the online application portal are currently available at www.stcatharines.ca/SCCIP.
- Culture Days starts in just over 2 weeks! It will run from September 24 to October 24 this year. Through the Culture Days Activity Program of SCCIP, the City has funded a number of activities that will be taking place both in-person and online throughout the month. Visit www.stcatharines.ca/culturedays for more information.
- Arts Awards nominees have been announced – there are 18 nominees in 5 different categories. The awards ceremony will be held virtually on Sunday, November 21 at 6:00 p.m., in partnership with the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre. For details – including a list of the nominees – please visit www.stcatharines.ca/artsawards.
- PAAC Update:
 - The current City Hall exhibit: 'This Just In!' will be coming down on Friday, September 10. It features works from the City of St. Catharines Civic Art Collection that were all acquired from previous City of St. Catharines annual juried exhibits.
 - The new City Hall exhibit: 'The Art of Resilience' will have an opening reception on Friday, September 24 at 5:00 p.m. In person viewings will be made available by appointment – please visit: www.stcatharines.ca/exhibits for more information on dates, times and health and safety measures
- Neil Peart Memorial – N. Rizvi noted that the 27 RFPQ (Request for Pre-Qualification) submissions were evaluated and have been short-listed to the top 7 applicants. These applicants have all been informed that they will be moving to the next stage, which is the NRFP (Negotiated Request for Proposals) and selected applicants have 6 months to fully develop their concepts and re-apply. These proposals will then be reviewed by a selection committee and the top evaluated submission will be the supplier

that is engaged to complete the project. The NRFP will be released tomorrow (September 9).

- Fallen Firefighters Memorial – N. Rizvi noted that the Fallen Firefighters Task Force reviewed the 6 NRFP applicants and met yesterday (September 7) to approve the top proposal, selected previously by the evaluation subcommittee. The selected applicant was the frontrunner in 5 of the 6 evaluation categories, and the motion to approve the selected design was approved. The applicants will be notified tomorrow.
- The big push for both memorials will now be on the fundraising.
- The City will be drawing up a loan agreement with Rodman Hall and the sculptures will be moved into storage. The CSO is now in discussions with RHAC, Inc. and the Public Art Advisory Committee to determine where the sculptures will be, with the hope of creating a “Downtown Sculpture Walk”. The plan is for the sculptures to be moved in the spring.

S. Middleton asked where a list of the short-listed applicants for the Neil Peart memorial can be found. N. Rizvi noted she will share the successful applicants with ACAC.

There was a question about who was on the Fallen Firefighters Task Force. N. Rizvi clarified that it includes community members, Fire Services members, and City staff. One committee member noted a concern about two task forces trying to fundraise at the same time. Discussion ensued, and it was noted that the fundraising would likely be from two very separate target groups, with people having different reasons to contribute to each monument.

Motion to accept report: D. Evans

Carried

f. 9.6 Other Business

i. Work Plan 2021 discussion and updates

Staff noted that ACAC should start looking at wrapping up those items on the workplan that can be finalized by the end of 2021.

There was some discussion around the difference between a venue inventory and cultural asset mapping (two items on the 2021 workplan.) It was suggested that under Item 3, some connections with Brock University students should be explored.

K. Leathers noted that it could be the Culture Plan Subcommittee (CPS) that could work with students around Culture Plan goals. It was also noted that the CPS could help shape the process – including dates, goals and deadlines – at their next meeting.

There was discussion of what events/activities are upcoming, including:

- Celebration of Nations, running from Sep. 10-12
- First in-person Council meeting in Council Chambers since March 2020
- In the Soil Festival events this weekend
- Carousel Players has a Culture Days event coming up, theatre school activities and the online launch of their 50th season on Sep.16.
- Silver Spire United Church is hosting a Culture Days event.
- Niagara Folk Arts is doing “Food to the Folks” again – cultural curbside pick-ups.

10. Date of next meeting

Wednesday, October 06, 2021

Via Zoom

5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

11. Motion to Adjourn

That the Arts & Culture Advisory Committee be adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

Moved by: D. Evans

Carried