

Arts and Culture Advisory Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, March 02, 2022

Electronic Meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Debra Antoncic, Danny Custodio, David DeRocco, Justus Düntsch, Don Evans, Jennifer Hay, Kate Leathers, Suzie Melville, Sandy Middleton, Pam Seabrook, Janice Slade, Colleen Smith

Absent:

Mo Al Jumaily

Guests:

Coun. Carlos Garcia

Staff Liaison:

Ashley Judd-Rifkin

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, Métis, 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

Moved: D. Evans

Carried

5. Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting

Moved: D. Custodio

Carried

6. Declarations of Interest

None

7. Presentations (invited guests)

None – Introductions were done at this point in the meeting for the benefit of the two new members – Debra Antoncic and Colleen Smith (representing the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre.)

8. Business arising from the minutes

None

9. Business

a. 9.1 Arts Awards Subcommittee Report – No Report

b. 9.2 SCCIP Subcommittee Report – J. Düntsch

i. Discussion and Approval of Evaluation Tools

The SCCIP Subcommittee met on February 22 and discussed the 2022 Sustaining-Core, Sustaining-Midsized, Arts Development Program and Culture Builds Community Program Evaluation Tools. (These tools were circulated before this ACAC meeting.) The documents were largely unchanged from 2021, with the Subcommittee making some small adjustments in relation to health and safety protocols for proposed activities, including making them less COVID-specific.

Motion:

That the SCCIP Evaluation Tool be approved as presented.

Made By: D. Custodio

Carried

P. Seabrook asked if the SCCIP final report form was available anywhere online for potential applicants to view. Staff noted it was not but that it could be made available.

ACTION: A. Judd-Rifkin to post SCCIP Development Funding final report form questions online for applicants to view in advance of applying.

Motion to accept report: D. Evans

Carried

c. 9.3 Culture Plan Subcommittee Report – K. Leathers

The Culture Plan Subcommittee (CPS) met on February 18 and looked at the priorities from the previous Culture Plan. They also looked at the actions under each priority, now that items have been completed, as well as the landscape of the past two years. The focus for the CPS moving forwards is on near-term actions and longer-term goals.

The CPS also discussed the integration of cultural planning within City departments as well as within the wider city economy and other sectors (such as tourism, hospitality, etc.) The idea is to create a shorter-term plan to help guide recovery from the past 2 years.

There was a question about hiring a consultant to undertake the Culture Plan work and A. Judd-Rifkin noted that Cultural Services will adhere to the City's Request for Proposals process through the Purchasing Division.

Motion to accept report: D. DeRocco

Carried

d. 9.4 Cultural Sustainability Committee Report – No Report

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

- Terms of Reference amendments for both the ACAC and Public Art Advisory Committee were approved at yesterday's Council meeting. Colleen Smith, representing the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre, was welcomed to the committee.
- There will be a new Culture Coordinator in the Cultural Services office. The successful candidate has accepted the contract position to cover Olivia's maternity leave and will start on March 16.
- Culture Office is still looking to hire a Curatorial Assistant this summer. This is a student position expected to run from May to August. For more information or for those who know someone who might be interested in applying, visit www.stcatharines.ca/jobs
- The SCCIP Culture Days Activity Program (CDAP) online application portal is now open. Anyone interested in applying can email culture@stcatharines.ca or visit www.stcatharines.ca/sccip for more information. A. Judd-Rifkin will also be hosting a CDAP information session next Wednesday March 9 at 5:30 p.m. via zoom. Deadline for applications is Thursday March 24 at 4:30 p.m.
- The online portal will be open for the SCCIP Sustaining Core and Midsized programs in the next couple of weeks, so keep your eye on the SCCIP webpage for updates.
- Lots of Public Art projects in the works right now for the Culture Office, as follows:
 - Private Watson Monument – Once N. Rizvi is back she will begin to draft a Council report or memo to recommend a strategy for removing the statue from City Hall.

- Totem Pole – N. Rizvi has spoken with the artists who will be doing the restoration. There are some details to work out regarding insurance and contracting, but the hope is that the artists can come to St. Catharines and begin restoration work in April or May.
- Rodman Hall Sculpture Relocation Strategy – N. Rizvi is working with various City departments to remove the sculptures from their current locations, as well as preparing their new locations.
- Fallen Firefighters Memorial Task Force – The Task Force met Monday to discuss what the actual bronze statue figure should be. CFC Supply has been contracted to undertake the project and Phase 1 work has begun. Fundraising is ongoing.

Coun. Garcia noted that City Council approved the developer's plans for a boutique hotel at Rodman Hall, which includes them making no significant changes to the original building. Coun. Garcia also noted that the building and grounds are designated heritage sites and that the grounds will remain open to the public.

Motion to accept report: P. Seabrook

Carried

f. 9.6 Other Business

Members shared information about upcoming events and activities including: a Call for Artists from Niagara Folk Arts; upcoming March Break camps and the 50th Anniversary Festival from Carousel Players; reopening of the FirstOntario PAC Film House on March 3 and lots of local content on stage; and D. Custodio's upcoming art exhibit at RiverBrink.

10. Date of next meeting

Wednesday, April 06, 2022
Via Zoom
5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

11. Motion to Adjourn

That the Arts & Culture Advisory Committee be adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Moved by: D. DeRocco

Carried