

# Arts and Culture Advisory Committee

## Minutes

**Wednesday, April 06, 2022**

**Electronic Meeting at 5:00 p.m.**

### **Attendance:**

Debra Antoncic, Danny Custodio, Justus Düntsch, Don Evans, Jennifer Hay, Kate Leathers, Suzie Melville, Pam Seabrook, Colleen Smith

### **Absent:**

Mo Al Jumaily, David DeRocco, Janice Slade

### **Guests:**

Coun. Carlos Garcia, Coun. Karrie Porter

### **Staff Liaison:**

Ashley Judd-Rifkin, Noora Rizvi

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

5:04 p.m.

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

J. Düntsch 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**

Move Item 9.6.i. "Election of a New Chair" to just Item 9. "Business."

#### **4. Motion to approve the agenda as amended**

Moved: D. Evans

**Carried**

#### **5. Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting**

Moved: D. Evans

**Carried**

**6. Declarations of Interest**

None

**7. Presentations (invited guests)**

None

**8. Business arising from the minutes**

None

**9. Business**

**Election of a new Chair**

Sandy Middleton resigned from the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee after the March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, so ACAC needs to elect a new Chair. J. Düntsch has put his name forward to become Chair. Discussion ensued as to who could take on the role of Vice-Chair. It was decided that election of a Vice-Chair would be deferred until the May meeting.

**Motion:** That Justus Düntsch be appointed to serve as Chair for the ACAC.

**Made By: S. Melville**

**Carried**

**a. 9.1 Arts Awards Report**

Update:

A. Judd-Rifkin provided some updates about the 2022 Arts Awards, including:

- The date has been solidified – Tuesday November 29, 2022. Event will take place in Partridge Hall at the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre.
- Based on feedback from last year, more time has been allocated beforehand for technical set-up and run-through.
- Event will be a live show on the Partridge Hall stage with performances and awards presentations, plus a livestream to YouTube (like last year).
- There will be a post-show reception in the Algoma Lobby.
- Staff are currently working on streamlining the nomination process.

Some discussion ensued regarding the event format.

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

**Carried**

**b. 9.2 SCCIP Subcommittee Report – No Report**

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

The Culture Plan Subcommittee (CPS) met last month and began working on the previous Culture Plan priorities, looking at what has been accomplished and which items are complete. The CPS also had an update from the Schulich 601 MBA Team, who noted that they should have their final reports to staff soon.

K. Leathers said that it was a small group at the last meeting, noting members are encouraged to attend regularly. N. Rizvi notes there are a lot of action items that came out of the last meeting. The idea is to create a short-term implementation plan using the previous set of Culture Plan priorities as a “jumping off” point. As well, the RFP for the Culture Plan will be released soon with the CPS helping to develop the list of deliverables.

**ACTION:** N. Rizvi to email ACAC the executive summary of all the Schulich 601 Team’s reports.

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

**Carried**

**d. 9.4 Cultural Sustainability Committee Report – No Report**

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

- N. Rizvi introduced Mandy Salter, the office’s new Culture Coordinator, noting that she is an experienced arts manager, curator and collections manager. Staff are very happy to have her on board!
- The Office is in the process of hiring a Curatorial Assistant for the summer. An offer has been made and staff are waiting to hear if the person accepts.
- SCCIP applications are now being accepted for the Sustaining Core and Midsized Programs, as well as the Arts Development and Culture Builds Community Programs. Anyone interested in applying can email [culture@stcatharines.ca](mailto:culture@stcatharines.ca) or visit [www.stcatharines.ca/sccip](http://www.stcatharines.ca/sccip) for more information.
- Deadline for Sustaining Program applications is Thursday April 14 at 4:30 p.m. Deadline for Development Program applications Thursday May 19 at 4:30 p.m.
- A. Judd-Rifkin will also be hosting a SCCIP information session on Tuesday April 26 at 5:30 p.m. via zoom.

- Last ACAC meeting, a request was made to post SCCIP final report forms online, and staff are now working on this initiative.
- Lots of Public Art projects in the works right now, as follows:
  - Private Watson Monument – N. Rizvi will be submitting a Council Report soon for information purposes. Once removed, a conservator will get a better sense of whether it can be re-installed in a new location.
  - Totem Pole – Staff have had regular meetings with artists Bruce Alford and Cole Speck regarding Totem Pole restoration. The hope is that restoration work can be done in May/June and re-installation can take place in late June. There are also early plans to engage with the Indigenous community to organize a gathering to celebrate the reinstallation.
  - Rodman Hall Sculpture Relocation Strategy – “The Rodman 6” are very close to removal. The tentative timeline includes an “exploration” of the sites planned for early May, removal of the sculptures in late May and re-installation at the new locations by the end of the summer.
  - William Hamilton Merritt – Funds have been budgeted to do required restoration work. Idea is to remove, investigate and either repair or install a new base and re-install. WHM will also go into storage. There is a possibility that a developer will cover these costs as part of the new development proposed for that parcel of land.
  - Outdoor Exhibit – Public Art Advisory Committee is organizing an outdoor exhibit at Richard Pierpoint Park which will centre Black voices and stories. A curator will be engaged and the intention is to have the exhibit up in time for the re-opening of the park in June.
  - Tow Horse Statue – “The Pull” by Floyd Elzinga – commissioned by the Port Dalhousie Beautification and Works Committee, will be installed at Lock 1 in Port Dalhousie this spring and potentially accessioned into the City’s art collection by the Public Art Advisory Committee.
  - Fallen Firefighters Memorial Task Force – Donor campaign is well underway, and an application has been submitted to the Niagara Community Foundation. Currently working with the contractor, CFC Supply, on site design.

- Neal Peart Memorial Task Force – Now have all applications from the shortlisted candidates from the NRFP. Evaluation will begin soon. Donor campaign is underway.
- WCFWM – After unveiling, it was discovered there was another worker who died but who was not included on the memorial. His name, Joseph Thomas Bergeron, was subsequently added to the book, but now needs to be added to the memorial itself. Will likely happen in the fall.

Some discussion followed, including a question about engaging the community in some way as part of the Totem Pole restoration process. N. Rizvi noted that staff has been discussing this internally already and hopes to come up with some ideas about documenting the process and involving the community.

There was a question as to whether the William Hamilton Merritt memorial could be moved from where it is to the lawn of City Hall. N. Rizvi notes this question has come up before and could be investigated further.

Regarding The Rodman 6, there was some discussion around whether artists were being consulted as part of the move. N. Rizvi confirmed that artists were consulted, but that those conversations were led by Rodman Art Institute of Niagara.

**Motion to accept report: C. Smith**

**Carried**

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

Referring to the Culture Plan Subcommittee report, Coun. Garcia asked if budget had been approved to undertake the RFP process for the new Culture Plan. N. Rizvi confirmed there are funds in the 2022 budget to start the work.

Coun. Porter noted that she liked the idea of the William Hamilton Merritt statue moving to City Hall grounds and that the timeline might be right with the removal of the Private Watson statue. She also noted that it might be appropriate to have some sort of recognition for former ACAC Chair Sandy Middleton after her resignation last month. Discussion followed and the committee agreed they should create a letter of gratitude.

**ACTION:** Chair to compose a letter and circulate offline among ACAC members.

**10. Date of next meeting**

Wednesday, May 04, 2022

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: S. Melville**

**Carried**