



## **MEETING MINUTES**

**Evanston Arts Council**  
Tuesday, January 13, 2014  
6:37 pm

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Avenue, Room 2402

Members Present: Lisa Degliantoni, Co-Chair; Sergio de los Reyes, Co-Chair; Carole Bass; Dino Robinson; Fran Joy; Helen Axelrod; Greg Allen; Gay Riseborough

Members Absent: Anne Berkeley; Judith Cohen; Manuel Aleman; Nan Stein;

Staff Present: Jennifer Lasik, Cultural Arts Coordinator; Jason Brown, Program Assistant

Presiding Member: Lisa Degliantoni, Co-Chair

### **Declaration of Quorum**

With a quorum present, Co-Chairman Lisa Degliantoni called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

### **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES of date of previous meeting**

With no minutes present from the November meeting, this item was moved to the February agenda.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

### **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Staff Report:** Ms. Lasik reported on the exhibition at the Noyes Cultural Art Center gallery for February by Jevold Simmons and curated by Harvey Pranian, with reception on Feb 7th. Ms. Lasik inquired, looking for volunteers to direct traffic and serve refreshments. Ms. Degliantoni and Ms. Riseborough volunteered.

Ms. Lasik reported that Evanston is a strong final contestant for the Illinois One State for the Arts Conference, a three day conference on visual and performing artists for professional development, advocacy and site visits and shows. Ms. Lasik informed the Council that if Evanston is the winner, it is likely that she will have to take a step back from Back Stage Evanston to focus planning efforts on the conference in October. Mr. Robinson reported that he has attended the conference before, and expressed that it was a great experience, and focused on learning about community art. The Council expressed enthusiasm at this opportunity.

Ms. Lasik reported that the Cultural Arts Grand Fund applications were in full swing, and open to the public. Applications close on Jan 30<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Lasik is expecting 30-40 applicants, likely needing 2 panels to review with local judges from Evanston and the region.

Ms. Lasik announced the second Art After Hours is to be Sidetracked Studio on January 29<sup>th</sup>. City will provide food, a microbrewery will donate beer. There will be a 60 person maximum.

Ms. Lasik reported that Public Art Initiative of the Bloomberg Foundation, for which Evanston applied, will announce its second round applicants in February. She is working with Catherine

Hurley, the Evanston Community Foundation, Indira Johnson, and Mark Roberts from Changing Worlds to consult on the application.

**Arts and Business Committee:** Mr. de los Reyes reported that the Co-chairs of the Council met with Penny Rotheiser and Paul Giddings, from the Arts and Business Committee, along with Ms. Lasik to discuss the history and purpose of the Arts and Business Committee. Ms. Degliantoni and multiple other members reported that there seems to be a dire lack of communication between the Council and the Committee. Ms. Lasik inquired if there were some volunteers from the Council to reassess the Committee. Council agreed that it would be good to field the interest of stakeholders from the business and arts communities over the next two months during the Public Comment section of meetings. The Council is moving forward with this plan.

### **REPORTS OF Ad Hoc Special Committees**

**Organization liaison report:** No reports. Ms. Joy expressed that she feels out of touch with her organization, and other Council members agreed. Ms. Lasik agreed to gather information on what businesses would like liaisons.

**Winter HeARth Special Committee:** Mr. Brown reported that the first HeARTh event will be SplatterDance, in early February, date to be determined. The second event will be Flight for Peace at the Ecology Center on Sunday, February 22.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Back Stage Evanston:** Mrs. Lasik reported that the January meeting was postponed due to incomplete tasks.

**Public Art: Michael Montenegro:** Ms. Riseborough questioned whether the City has ever been in touch with Michael Montenegro for this incomplete project. Ms. Lasik agreed to look into it.

**Public Art: Hertz Mural:** Mr. Allen inquired about the mural outside of Hertz, and if money has been returned for the covered mural. No reports.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Arts Council Funding Request Procedure:** Ms. Lasik informed the Council that it now has \$10,000 for use as Discretionary Funding, for giving out to the community for art projects, not for programming. This fund can be applied for and addressed before the Council before the end of the calendar year. A procedure will be provided for the Council for vote in February.

**Public Art at Noyes:** Ms. Riseborough reported that she and Ms. Berkeley have discussed renting large scale sculpture for the front of Noyes. Gay thinks that the funds could be for renting these sculptures for the front of Noyes. Degliantoni mentioned Chicago's leasing program brings in big name sculptures for the City. Lasik pointed out that it is for these kinds of projects that the EAC exists, so we can offer these projects for the public.

### **Zoning and Ordinance Work:**

**Permanent vs Ad Hoc Committees:** This was discussed previously as part of the discussion around Arts and Business.

**Work Plan:** The Council decided it would be best to collaborate on the Work Plan at on a retreat. Chairs will draft a plan ahead of time, and the participants of the retreat would finalize it. Further discussion was had about re-assessing membership and attendance.

Next meeting will be the Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was moved and seconded to adjourn. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved at 8:51 PM, January 13, 2015.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jason Brown  
Program Assistant  
Cultural Arts Division