



MEETING MINUTES

Arts Council

Tuesday, July 15, 2014

6:39pm

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Avenue, Room 4802

Members Present: Anne Berkley, Co-Chair; Lisa Degliantoni, Co-Chair; Stephen Guenther; Helen Axelrood; Carol Bass; Fran Joy; Heidi Bloom; Rina Girlin; Sergio Delosreyes; Rebecca Mendoza; Nan Stein; Manuel Aleman; Greg Allen; Dino Robinson; Jaqueline Williams

Public Art Council members Present: Jason Brown, Co-Chair; Judith Cohen

Members Absent: Mariah DeForest; David Geary; Ryan Hall; Deborah Hirshfield; Jenifer McCartney; Gay Riseborough;

Staff Present: Jennifer Lasik (Cultural Arts Coordinator)

Presiding Member: Anne Berkley, Co-Chair

Declaration of Quorum

With a quorum present, Co-Chairman Berkley called the meeting to order at 6:39pm.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES of date of previous meeting

Not discussed

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Charley Rees a member of the Community Service Club at Evanston Township High School came before the board to present and request funding for their Mural project. Miss Rees informed council of their interest to paint a mural at the intersection of Church and Darrow, she passed around a sketch created by another member of the club. The club would like to have the project completed before winter. It was discussed and agreed that Miss Rees return with a more detailed budget as well as a maintenance plan for the mural. It was also agreed that Miss Rees be connected with a professional artist, Ms. Bonnie Katz and Leah from the Art Center where recommended.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Arts and Business Committee provided the following reports:

- Backstage Evanston has been postponed until next year, the committee will meet next week to come up with a next step plan and also discuss the venue location for next year. Northwestern will be under construction and the committee would like to find a venue that can sit 350-400 people with preference of a theater.
- Fran, Penny and Annie are working with Artist to participate in the "Art under Glass" Currently only vacant store fronts are being used and it is for Evanston artists only. Ms. Lasik informed committee that Interns are currently working on updating Artist and Art Cultural list website.

Community Relations Committee provided the following reports:

- Ms. Joy informed of their last meeting being cancelled due to low attendance and they are considering restructuring. The last luncheon was at Fleetwood and was very pleased with Jackie.

STAFF REPORTS

Staff provided the following updates:

- Anne Cockley, Executive Director of Downtown Evanston will come before Public Art in regards to the murals on Benson & Clark.
- More information is needed of the “Taking over Alleys” event that will be held on October 2nd would like to include them on the Arts and Humanities brochure. At the moment there are over 50 entries for the brochure.
- Downtown Evanston will be launching an art contest for the tree topper for the tree lighting ceremony.
- There will be lots of art work at Fountain Square during the sidewalk sale on July 26th and 27th. American Apparel has donated shirts for teens to tie-dye.
- Ms. Lasik passed a Budget in print to all members to make them aware of where money goes. The City Manager has asked Ms. Lasik for a comprehensive budget for next year, she expects to have the first proposal ready by the end of August.
- The Cultural fund working group is drafting a program and they expect to have it operational in the next few months.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Arts and Humanities month is underway with planning and have set dates of October 9th for the Mayors art awards ceremony and October 10th will be the gallery openings at Noyes.

Ms. Degliantoni and Ms. Stein discussed and passed around the sign-up sheet for the Gala. The venue may have to be changed depending on Rotary’s decision in regards to allowing food donations as planned or having their vendors. A discussion started in regards to “Recycled Art” silent auction with the funds collected going towards arts events and projects. The ticket price to the Gala will cover food, drink and entertainment. The committee will be voting on the official name for the event via email from the top three picks.

There are only two volunteers for the summer festivals and a sign-up has been passed around for more volunteers. The table will provide kids with coloring greeting cards.

The “Art for Peace” program did not run as expected because of timing issues. With the recent rise in violence in certain areas of the city Parks and Recreation department see the value and are asking for strategic planning for the Dodge and Church area. It was suggested that an event be held like the “Day of Peace” the City of Chicago is having on September 21st.

Mr. Brown from Public Art will take 2-3 volunteers in subcommittee and brainstorm possible projects for the Davis St. CS art project, the intent is to streamline and have it done in the next few months.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Lasik started the discussion of the possible merger of Public Art and Arts Council. This proposition came about with the Mayor making awareness of too many Art Committees and the lack of communication between them. The merger would be more beneficial according to Ms. Lasik vs the quarterly meetings and having to fill the large amount of vacancies. If both committees agree to the merger there will be a new ordinance drafted, then it will be submitted to rules committee for vote and finally to the City Council with a time frame of approximately three to four months. Ms. Stein motion the merger Mr. Delosreyes second the motion. A voice vote was taken with only one against the merger. Public Art will meet and vote in the next few days.

Ms. Stein motioned to include Open Studios as a sponsored event for October 11, 2014 from 1-4pm motion was second by Ms. Bass. Members have been asked to email Ms. Degliantoni at least ten names of artist that live and make art in Evanston.

Arts Council members thanked and wished Mrs. Gitlin Farwell and best wishes in her new endeavors.

COMMUNICATIONS

1717 Central will be the new home for the Evanston Arts Center.

Architect from Green wise will do pro-bono landscape work at Noyes front gardens.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was moved and seconded to adjourn. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved at 8:59pm, July 15, 2014.

Respectfully Submitted,
Maria C. Aguilar
Office Assistant, Parks, Recreation and Community Services