MEETING MINUTES
Public Art Committee
Tuesday, September 9, 2014
6:25 p.m.
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Avenue, Room 2402

Members Present: Jason Brown, Co-Chair; Judith Cohen, Gay Riseborough

Members Absent: Deborah Hirschfield, Jenifer McCartney

Staff Present: Jennifer Lasik,

Presiding Member: Jason Brown, Co-Chair

Declaration of Quorum
With a quorum present, Co-Chairman Jason Brown called the meeting to order at 6:25pm.

STAFF REPORTS
Roger Ebert event was added to Arts and Humanities pocket calendars and they are now being printed with distribution in next coming days. The post cards have been sent out for the Alan Leder’s exhibition that starts on September 13th at Noyes. Harvey Pranian is doing an exhibition by disabled artists that opens on October 10th. Bright Night for the Arts tickets just went on sale. Backstage Evanston has been postponed for a year in order to re-vision it.

The merger of Public Art and Arts Council has been moved to the October Rules Committee meeting and it is expected to be finalized possible by November. All active members of Public Art Committee will be full members on Arts Council; all member terms have been reverted and now have the remainder of a term and a full term to serve. Mrs. Lasik has informed board members that Mr. De Los Reyes, a professional project manager, has offered to take on the task of governance and rebuilding the bylaws but will hold off until both boards have been merged.

Ms. Lasik has requested a Capital Improvement Plan to develop a master cultural plan for the city for the next five to ten years; the CIP request was for the minimum of $50,000.

EvanStart’s Report has been completed and posted on the City website. They did a study of a road map of the arts in the city. Some suggestions were to develop a kiosk to tell visitors what is going on for the city as well as to suggest a master plan for the city. The Downtown Performing Arts Center Task Force is about two to four weeks from presenting their findings to the city.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
1. Update on Art maintenance: Fire station has been trimmed back. After a drive thru of the other parks by Mr. Brown & Ms. Lasik they saw no difference on Emerson or Ridge. Leaf Gate Park has not been inspected and Ms. Lasik has not contacted Art Center regarding the ceramic sculpture. New ropes for the Blue line installation have been ordered and Ms. Lasik is in close communication with Public Works to have the work completed. Ms. Lasik reported that she received pictures and a proposal from the woman that did the butterfly. In it she states that she would like to see the sculpture moved and installed as public art. The next step will be for Ms.
Lasik to email her back and to request a real proposal as well as suggest to her to attend the October 14th Public Art meeting.

2. Sherman garage Ribbon Cutting: City Manager signed off the last required documents and the ribbon cutting is scheduled for the Opening of Art and Humanities Month.

3. Cement Barrier on Darrow and Lake: Ms. Lasik was informed that the owner of the site is Advanced Disposal. 2nd Ward alderman expressed concern over the proposed mural Miss Reiss proposed. The Alderman would like to have something more inclusive with a broader theme that will represent the City of Evanston, not just the high school or a memorial. This will be a slow moving process but Bonnie Katz is willing to guide the process with an expected start date in the spring, not fall as initially proposed.

4. Davis and Oak St. Fence art project: Mr. Brown proposed a style he works with called Geocommunetrics. For this project they will use vinyl strips to make the plaid pattern that represent the zip codes in Evanston. The city would like to see the project completed by September 20 if possible or for October’s Arts and Humanities month. The sub-committee will direct volunteers at site to complete the project.

NEW BUSINESS

Art in the Wards: Mr. Brown and Ms. Lasik have been discussing a more comprehensive, proactive level of approaching the arts rather than on a project by project basis. They plan to meet with Aldermen to discuss their vision and what they would like to see in their ward that will connect them more to the arts.

Two private developers are now giving their variance to the communities.

Vera Johnson works with Changing Worlds and has been discussing with Mrs. Lasik the idea of public art changing communities. Mrs. Lasik would like to bring in Ms. Mendoza to the meetings. She feels that Parks and Recreation department need to be more involved.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was moved and seconded to adjourn. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved at 7:45pm, September 9, 2014.

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