

February 14, 2017

Members, Present: Becki Christopherson, Nori Grudin, Jennifer Bangser, Chris Bradley, Janet Evelyn, Helen Roman, Sophia Gevas

Voting Members, Absent: Shruti Chalamari, Jeff Price, Lynn Massey, Susan Wallerstein

Friends, Present: Judith Bacal, Diane Jellerette, Laurel Peterson, Elizabeth Stocker

Guests: Tim Gaylord, Becky Prosper, Darlene Young, Dave Shockley

Meeting called to order 8:40am.

Introductions

Report: Laurel Peterson, Poet Laureate

Raining Poetry at NCC in the spring with Joe Fucigna. She and Shruti are talking about planning a #WritersResist event, sponsored originally through PEN America. The president of NCC, David Levinson, has decided he loves the idea and they are looking to get students and faculty involved. General discussion. Chris pointed out it's a national movement. The library will do the bus poems again in April with Laurel. Poet coming to NCC on March 28 at 1pm Baker Library., Duane Esposito, at Nassau Community. The LitCrawl is April 5, 5pm-8:30pm. Chris will send a pdf of the flyer to the group. This will be a good opportunity to promote the #writers-resist event.

Report: Diane Jellerette, WPA Exhibit

Working to address different ideas that are important to different constituents in the Norwalk community.

Report: Jennifer Bangser, Walk Bridge

It does not qualify as a building, so it doesn't qualify of 1% public art funding. It doesn't mean that there might be funding from a different pot. Sophia convinced the city to give her a little money at the Sacred Heart University from building projects towards art. It wasn't 1% but it was some art and some publicity.

Report: Judith Bacal, Consultant, Mobile App

We are in the ad phase of the project, and we want to sell some ads but not too many. If anyone knows someone in a for-profit business who might be interested please let her know. The chamber of commerce will support it and allow an announcement. The money will go back to the arts commission to support the app.

Report: Nori Grudin, Social Media

She's been spending time researching other activity. Jennifer suggests including the live music at local restaurants like Peaches, or Valencia's has a monthly artist to drive traffic to our site.
#livelovenorwalkct

Report: Melissa Slattery, Mayor's Gallery

New installation, Destination Norwalk.

Report: Traffic Graphic Box, David Shockley

Met with Susan and Kathy about the project, as he is in charge of the anti-graffiti campaign. The Arts Commission is funding one by O'Neil's through 20 West Ave, and the artist is Julio Pardo. The rendering will be submitted to Redevelopment and they hope to paint during the April spring break. He met with the St. Philip's Art Guild, and there is a box by them that is always getting tagged. Redevelopment doesn't want to pay for the artist's time. Theme would be subject to review, but France St. is a historic district so they are thinking along those lines.

Sophia emphasized that everyone expects artists to produce for free and they think that publicity is enough. But artists have bills, and they need to be paid. Asking a business to contribute is a good way to meet the costs. Laurel mentioned that the Cleveland Center of Art, who have included poetry with a box to listen to the poem. David will provide a list of the boxes that are the priority. Rebecca suggested trying to get the supplies donated. Chris will support the box in front of the library through the library board if it belongs to the city.

Guest Speaker Rebecca Prosper

South Norwalk Celebration on Sunday, Feb. 26 from 4-7pm at the Maritime Aquarium, through a grant for community building as a means of combatting and reducing crime. The research grant was awarded to 14 cities nationwide. The research that came back is that the different races within our diversity is that they don't mix. The goal for this event is togetherness. The theme is mostly art with music, art, poetry, etc. There will be a table for the NAC that will include Five Fingaz and other local artists. They also hope that this event will tie to the NICE festival. They have submitted for the implementation grant, which would provide for events like this regularly. Sophia suggested sending a pdf of the flyer to the Golden Hill Association to art gallery director Sandy Labriola. Jennifer suggested getting in touch with Angie Durrell in Stamford of INTAKE. Sophia does outreach for Silvermine Arts Guild, so with more notice they could provide art completed by children. Laurel suggested having a PoeTree. rprosper@norwalkct.org

New Business

Judith - NextDoor Neighbor - New England Music Festival coming March 16/17, need housing for these students. Becki will send the invitation to host to the arts commission.

Sophia - benefit concert for Benefit Partners (benefits students in Norwalk/Stamford who are not native speakers), March 10 at Silvermine, \$50, 100% to the charity.

SLOW ART Day

SLOW Art Day will be at Fodor Farm. Eddie Nino could be a potential artist, Jahmaine, Helen, lyabo Mandingo, could also be invited. It would be one artist, 3-5 pieces or 3-5 artists, one piece each. RAC already has the ability to hang art, but they don't have parking. Jennifer made a motion for Fodor Farm, accepted unanimously. Committee: Nori, Jennifer, Judith and Diane.

Adjourned 9:58am