

September 12, 2017

Members, Present: Becki Christopherson, Jennifer Bangser, Janet Evelyn, Lynn Stephens Massey, Nori Grudin

Absent: Susan Wallerstein, TC Burt, Danielle Vinci, Helen Roman

Friends: Karen Spencer, Melissa Matuska, Melissa Slattery, Judith Bacal, Laurel Peterson

Meeting called to order 8:38. Delayed start due to room change.

Introductions

Review of August minutes; motion/second - Nori/Janet; passed unanimously

Logo

Becki presented the background on the development of the city logo and there was discussion about the issues related to new vs. current logo. Lynn made a motion to keep our separate, existing logo and not spend the money or time to change it. Janet seconded; passed unanimously.

Poet Laureate - Laurel Peterson

Upcoming activities/events:

October 5, 7pm, NPL - Marianela Medrano & Laurel Peterson

November 2, 7pm, NPL - Ann Cefola and Robert Masterson

December 7, 7pm, NPL - Ralph Nazareth and Duane Esposito

September 7 - St. Paul's, Visions of the Spiritual in Poetry

September 30 - Oak Hills, Art Free for Fall, Haiku writing and posting!

October 12 - Guilford with other Poet Laureates

November 15 - Day of the Imprisoned Writer

Dance/Poetry Steph Kunkel

Art/Poetry collaboration with Lynn Massey

April 11, RAC, Ekphrastic poetry workshop

May 3 - Tracy K. Smith (Poet Laureate of the US) at NCC?

Note: The NAC budget includes \$1500 allocated by the city for use by the Poet Laureate. These funds have been used for bus poetry, poet gifts, and supplies, with some funding anticipated for U.S. Poet Laureate event.

There is now a Poetry Corner at NPL with a monthly poet and writing prompts, spaces to post "best of" from the previous month.

Possible Meeting Locations – The group discussed possible meeting locations, with individual members and friends agreeing to follow up about availability.

Library? - Jennifer

JAM? - Becki

NCC? - Melissa

MTC? - Becki/Jennifer

Lockwood Mathews Mansion - Lynn

Mill Hill - Lynn

Common Council Ordinance Committee - Bylaws

The revised draft has been submitted.

Common Council Parks & Recreation Committee – Veterans Memorial

Parks & Rec meet tomorrow and we will hopefully have more information after that meeting.

Historical Commission/Arts Commission Collaboration

NAC can't be in Google as a government entity.

Combine the collection

Lynn believes that they do have the expertise to evaluate art procurement. We just need to be included in the conversation.

21st Century Norwalk

Written charge includes creating a call for arts/culture in the Counterpoint Corridor. We have some nice direction, but we need more specifics and we need to work out the logistics, capacity and resources.

- Vision - to develop a dynamic public art installation that reflects and represents 21st Century Norwalk - how people who live in Norwalk today see/define themselves and want to be perceived by others who visit.
- Mission - To create a series of multi-disciplinary artistic events/conversations/workshops to inform a final call to art, to realize the vision statement.
- Workshops include improv, poetry, dance, storytelling (multigenerational), music event with Public quartet, satellite events like a skin color mosaic.

Mayor's Gallery - Melissa Slattery

Annual Student Art show installation in progress; third installation of 2017.

Suggestion and discussion about aligning Mayor's Gallery with 21st Century Norwalk. The next opening will be in January/February. Possibility of something similar to #iconicNorwalk but with a different hashtag/group of people. Discussion about possible workshop about hashtags, technology, recent artwork by Duvian Montoya about being in same room but not connected, Chamber of Commerce emerging leaders group.

Mobile App Consulting Proposal

Judith Bacal presented proposal for updates on an as needed/approved basis with hourly billing. Clarification that there is no conflict as Judith is a consultant, not a voting member and regarding funding sources for the app. Judith described an unrelated proposal regarding public art tour development. Given confusion around the two proposals Judith was asked to develop separate proposals for consideration.

Slow Art Day, April 2018

New committee - Nori, Melissa, Lynn, Janet

CT Open House Performing Arts Venues, June 2018

Becki will make a list of performing arts venues that could be utilized.

Miscellaneous

- Judith – suggested need to update the year in review. Becki can update it after each meeting.
- Jennifer - we need a two-week check-in on tasks and committees. Becki will send out a halfway email.

Public Art Tours

November 18 - Mark Twain at City Hall, Lynn Coll is organizing a tour of the Mark Twain paintings.
Lynn - there could be a Mark Twain event, maybe at the Mayor's Gallery. It could also be a tour.

Calendar

Sept. 16 at the library, 3-5:30pm, Karen Spencer's show

Sept. 17 - St. Paul's, Visions of the Spiritual in Poetry

Sept. 26 Mayor's Gallery

Sept. 30 Poetry at Oak Hills 3-5pm; rain date Sept. 31

October 3, 7-9pm, Storytelling at Ichoda Boat Club, "Secrets"

October 5, 7pm, NPL - Poets in Conversation

Lynn - she is part of a group show at Wilton library during the month of September

October 13/14, 8pm - Melissa - Quick Center - first event is Upside Down/Inside Out

November 2, 7pm, NPL - Poets in Conversation

November 15, NCC, Day of the Imprisoned Writer

December 7, 7pm, NPL - Poets in Conversation

Motion to adjourn: BC/LM

Adjourned 10:11am

Goals & Priorities 2017-2018 - Four big categories

Community Engagement Efforts - SLOW Art Day, Oystering Then & Now, Mayor's Gallery; need to expand beyond visual arts

Maintain and Expand Arts and Culture Partnerships - art studios, Norwalk library, Historical Society, NPS, Norwalk Housing Authority, Maritime Garage Gallery, etc.

Stewards of Public Art - maintain the public art inventory, adoption and implementation of public art policy; this year we will attend to Charles Perry Legacy and a possible sculpture park, and to be involved in creating a Plan of Conservation and Development with zoning.

Sponsor a Public Art Installation at City Hall - 21st Century Norwalk!