

**CITY OF NORWALK
NORWALK ADVISORY COMMISSION ON ARTS & CULTURE
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 11, 2011**

ATTENDANCE: Jackie Lightfield, Chair; Becky Christopherson, Peter Bondi, T.C. Burtt, Carol Frank, Dennis Bradbury, Denise Messingale-Lamb, Chris Bradley, Susan Wallerstein, Kathryn Hebert, Wendy Bodden, Diane Jellerette, Frank Foster Post, Maribeth Becker, Joe Fucigna

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Lightfield called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**** MS. MESSINGALE-LAMB MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES
** MR. FUCIGNA SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PROJECT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sono Norwalk Train Station - No report at this time

Visual Arts - Ms. Bradbury said that at the last meeting the discussion was on the tunnel and two proposals that had come in recently. She said that she had written report on the Art in the Window, which will be sent to everyone. Two additional proposals are in the works, Arts in the Windows and the Maritime Gallery. The show in the Maritime Gallery will be on the skateboard culture.

Maritime Gallery - Three artists are involved who have set up their own businesses created from the skateboard culture. Mr. Foster Post went on to explain how his son developed his business out of his interest that originated at the Calf Pasture Beach Skate Park. The various businesses have expanded to involve film making and networking with others around the country. The show date will be in April Since the last meeting, Mr. Fucigna said that a blurb has been created about curatorial opportunities. He said that he had already submitted his proposal and it was in the budget.

**** MR. FUCIGNA MOVED TO ENCUMBER THE FEES TOTALING \$500 FOR THE MARITIME GALLERY AS THEY ARE DEPICTED IN THE BUDGET.
** MR. BURTT SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PR and marketing - No report

FINANCIAL REPORT.

Ms. Wallerstein then reviewed the figures in the informational packet. She reminded everyone that this was an 18 month window. The 2012 grant funding and 2012 local funding is not yet available.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES & ARTSPOTS

DRAFT Program/Events Proposal - Ms. Lightfield asked if there were any changes to the draft on page 10 of the information packet. Discussion followed about possible adjustments to the draft.

**** MS. CHRISTOPHERSON MOVED TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED DRAFT WITH THE DISCUSSED AMENDMENTS AND POST IT ON THE WEBSITE.**

**** MR. BURTT SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

DRAFT ArtSpots - Ms. Lightfield said that Mr. Bentkover had prepared a document regarding this in 2009. Ms. Wallerstein will email this document to the members.

OLD BUSINESS

Cabaret proposal - Ms. Christopherson said that she would like to have some cabaret neighbors and explained where the Mary McCarthy Room was located in Norwalk City Hall. She said that the application was requesting \$750 for each of the three events for a total \$2250. At this time, only seasons have been selected for the events, subject to the scheduling of the artists and room. The program will include a tag line that this event is sponsored by the Norwalk Arts Council and endorsing it as a City sponsored event. Discussion followed.

Ms. Christopherson recused herself from the vote.

**** MS. BRADBURY MOVED TO APPROVE THE \$750 FOR THE FIRST SPRING CABARET EVENT AND ENCUMBER THE REMAINING BALANCE OF \$ 1,500 FOR THE PROPOSED CABARET SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR.**

**** MR. BURTT SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH THIRTEEN (13) IN FAVOR (FUCIGNA, BURTT, BRADBURY, MESSINGALE-LAMB; BRADLEY, WALLERSTEIN, BONDI, FRANK, HEBERT, BODDEN, JELLERETTE, FOSTER-POST, AND BECKER) AND ONE ABSTENTION (CHRISTOPHERSON).**

Art in the Window proposal - Ms. Bradbury then said that she was looking for \$6,000 for Art in the Windows, which is a project focused on connecting the public with local artists through art displayed in unleased storefront windows throughout town. She then gave a brief overview of the previous three events, which involved 40 different artists. Ms. Bradbury said that she would like to have three installations per year, with a curator/coordinator. This would expose the artists to potentially thousands of people who might not visit a gallery or museum. Ms. Bradbury said that she was looking for \$2,000 for the first event, and the remaining \$4,000 for the remaining two events. Discussion followed.

Ms. Bradbury recused herself from the vote.

**** MR. BURTT MOVED TO APPROVE \$2,000 FOR THE FIRST INSTALLATION OF ART IN THE WINDOWS DURING APRIL WITH THE UNDERSTAND THAT A WRITTEN PROPOSAL WILL BE SUBMITTED WITH MS. BRADBURY SERVING AS CURATOR/COORDINATOR AND AN ENCUMBRANCE OF \$4,000 FOR THE REMAINING TWO INSTALLATION TO BE SCHEDULED AT A FUTURE DATE.**

**** MS. BECKER SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH THIRTEEN (13) IN FAVOR (FUCIGNA, BURTT, CHRISTOPHERSON, MESSINGALE-LAMB; BRADLEY, WALLERSTEIN, BONDI, FRANK, HEBERT, BODDEN, JELLERETTE, FOSTER-POST, AND BECKER) AND ONE ABSTENTION (BRADBURY).**

Middle School Digital Arts revised proposal. - Ms. Wallerstein said that she was waiting for some final details about the program called "iMe - Self Expression through the Digital Arts" . She then said that a number of local residents had come forward to express interest in teaching in this program. Ms. Wallerstein said that she would get the details to Ms. Lightfield as soon as possible.

Ms. Wallerstein and Mr. Fucigna left the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Norwalk Beat advertising proposal - Ms. Lightfield said that the Arts Commission had been advertising in the Beat for the past few years. This costs \$900 for the year.

**** MS. CHRISTOPHERSON MOVED TO APPROVE \$900 FOR ADVERTISING IN THE NORWALK BEAT FOR THE COMING YEAR.**

**** MS. HEBERT SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Norwalk Historical Commission Quilt Project -

Ms. Jellerette said that the Norwalk Historical Society and Rowayton Historical Society are taking the lead on this project. The Norwalk Museum, Steppingstone Museum, Sheffield Island, and City Hall will also be involved as locations for the various displays. The opening date will be on May 14th at Rowayton Historical Society and followed by a second opening on the 15th at the Norwalk Historical Society. The exhibit will continue through November culminating in the presentation of a new quilt at City Hall. Mr. Bondi pointed out that the agenda should read that it was the Norwalk Historical Society, not the Norwalk Historical Commission. Ms. Jellerette said that this exhibit was expanding to reach out beyond Norwalk and that a logo and other associated materials needed to be prepared.

**** MR. BURTT MOVED TO APPROVE \$850 FOR THE NORWALK HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR THE DESIGN OF A LOGO AND ASSOCIATED MARKETING FOR THE UPCOMING NORWALK HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND ROWAYTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY QUILT PROJECT.**

**** MS. BODDEN SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

COMMENTS/SHARING – COMMISSION MEMBERS

Ms. Lightfield asked if anyone else had any additional comments. No one had anything additional to add at that time.

CHAIRWOMAN'S REPORT

Symphony - The symphony has undergone some changes. They are looking to work more closely with the Arts Commission. Anyone who is interesting in working with the Symphony should contact Ms. Hebert. Ms. Hebert said that the information that the Symphony was folding was very premature. The Commission is supporting the Symphony. Instead of having 6 events, there will be a May 14th gala dinner with a guitar theme followed by a concert at 8 p.m. Ms Lightfield said that the Google groups list serve could help with scheduling the various events so there is not an overlapping of dates.

Membership process/"application" - Ms. Lightfield said that there had not been any feedback on the new application and she would like to move this item forward for a vote at the next meeting.

Grants on the Horizon - There are some grants that are in the horizon and these are planning study grants, which will require information on the composition of the Committee and other membership issues.

Ms. Christopherson said that on March 5th, there will be a student concert.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. BECKER MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** MR. BONDI SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY,**

The meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services