

REGULAR MEETING
TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE
PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
5:30 P.M. THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2007
TOWN HALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: MIKE GILLESPIE, SARAH KUCHARSKI, PHILAN MEDFORD, KAAREN STONER, MARILYN SULLIVAN, NORETTA TAYLOR

MEMBERS ABSENT: PETER STERLING, NICOLE WILHELM

ALSO PRESENT: RON HUELSTER, BOB BRANNON

The mission of the Waynesville Public Art Commission is to engage the community so as to enrich the public realm through original public art that celebrates Waynesville's unique historic, cultural, natural and human resources.

Chairman Mike Gillespie called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEB. 7, 2007

Taylor motions for approval as written, Stoner seconds. Minutes were unanimously approved.

TASK FORCES

Artist Relations — Stoner reported that she had gotten photos of the town's public art from Bob Grytten. Taylor says that she spoke with Kay Waldrop about public art and a conversation she'd had with Jeffrey York of the NC Arts Council. Taylor says that it appears as though the PAC should be thinking long term, as in from site selection to completion taking a year and a half. Other recommendations from York were: the first project should be very special to spark the public's interest; \$10,000 is too small to command artists' interest, the amount should be at least \$20,000; we should allow 5 to 6 months for artist to submit ideas; allow 2 to 3 months to review entries and perhaps ask artist to adjust their proposals; allow 5 to 6 months for completion, if not 7 to 8 months; grants are due March 1, if we get an artist/design completed we should apply for a grant in 2008; we also must keep the public aware of what's going on.

Community Relations — Gillespie said that Huelster had worked with him to submit a request for \$1,500 to help cover promotion and operating costs. A letter has been sent to the town, it will most likely be July before we hear. Kucharski said that Folkmoot and art teacher Bill Eleazer will be teaming up for an art project to come up with the cover of the Children's program for Folkmoot performances. She asked whether PAC members would have an interest in joining in, perhaps sponsoring a financial sum for the winner. Taylor said that with the number of entries that would be coming in, perhaps the PAC could

facilitate an exhibit. Members were interested in learning more about the possibilities. Taylor agreed to check with the Haywood County Arts Council to see if they were or were not planning a similar exhibit. Kucharski agreed to check with Jayme Cooper at Folkmoot about their plans and propose an exhibit.

Projects — Sullivan said that the Projects Task Force was recommending Old-Time Music as a theme for the first public art project. Medford said that she had done some research on old-time music and connected with the Smoky Mountain Folk Festival. Brannon filled in PAC members about the history of the Festival. PAC members were very enthusiastic about the concept of Old-Time Music, from the concept of a work of art to a performance to an album. Medford said that she would like for the art project to focus on the Smoky Mountain Folk Festival, rather than a more nebulous concept of Old-Time Music. The festival would have a built in group of supporters to champion the cause and help fundraise. Gillespie asked if PAC members were ready to move forward with picking a site and beginning work on a call for artists. Kucharski says that perhaps the PAC should consider adopting an overarching theme of Old Time Music, with an art project to feature the Smoky Mountain Folk Festival. The theme would carry on for as long as it takes to complete the art project, however, activities under the theme would not have to be specifically Folk Festival related. Sullivan makes a motion that the theme for our first PAC project be Old Time Music, with the intent that the first art project celebrate the Smoky Mountain Folk Festival at the Miller Street site. Taylor seconds the motion. Unanimously approved. The PAC agreed to set a goal of speaking to town board members about the project selection by the fourth Tuesday of May.

Other — Stoner asked what Task Forces should do now. The main goal, Taylor said, is writing the description of the theme and project, which will be a Projects Task Force item. The Artist Relations Task Force will work on a call to artists.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chris Sylvester has submitted an application to be a PAC member and we are now waiting on the town board to formally approve her membership. Her name will come before town board members next week.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. April 12.

ADJOURNMENT

Sullivan motions, Taylor seconded. Unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Chairman Mike Gillespie

Secretary Sarah Kucharski

