

REGULAR MEETING
TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE
PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2006
TOWN HALL

The Waynesville Public Art Commission mission 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 5:30 p.m. Those members present were Mike Gillespie, Philan Medford, Peter Sterling, Marilyn Sullivan, Norretta Taylor and Kaaren Stoner. Those absent were George Escaravage, Nicole Wilhelm and Sarah Kucharski. Non-members Ron Huelster and Fred Baker were present.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2006 MINUTES

The minutes were approved on a motion by Kaaren Stoner, seconded by Marilyn Sullivan, which were amended to reflect the correct date, August 8, 2006.

TASK FORCE REPORTS

1) Artist Relations. Members Norretta Taylor and Kaaren Stoner discussed the following issues: a) Do we have Town support for public art, i.e. a percent of the budget for art? Can we count on the Town for any financial support? b) When a project site has been chosen, do we limit the Call for Artists to Haywood County or leave it open? c) In order to get the best possible results from a Call for Artists, publicity is important and detailed information about the project is necessary, including site description, description of artist opportunity (free standing, etc.), artist commission, selection process, selection criteria, how to apply, eligibility and deadline.

Kaaren Stoner had contacted Bill Eleazer and Catherine Ellis to participate on the task force. Bill declined and no word yet from Catherine. She pointed out the need for an artist to assist, who had been through the process and possibly an attorney. Retired attorney David Haynes was suggested. The Town attorney will provide review for contracts involving the Town.

2) Community Relations. Members Mike Gillespie, Sarah Kucharski and Ron Huelster discussed the following: a) George Escaravage has declined to serve as chairman of the task force, but will help in fund raising. A new chairman will be selected after additional members recruited. b) A news release providing history, purpose, and call for people to serve on task forces will be presented at the next meeting for release after the holidays. c) Sarah Kucharski suggested the commission might want to develop an application to serve, similar to what the Town requires for new members.

3) Projects Task Force. Members Philan Medford, Peter Sterling and Marilyn Sullivan discussed the following at two sessions: a) Peter presented a matrix to assist in

identifying potential projects/ideas and suggested more be added and encouraged members to think outside of the box. b) They emphasized the importance of community involvement through individual discussions, media, meetings and presentations at schools. c) They agreed to enlarge the task force by asking Jackie Stephens and Sandra Owen to serve. d) They discussed the perceived problem of the word "unique" in the mission statement, which was discussed further in the commission meeting. They suggested the mission statement be put in the minutes and posted on the Town web site.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) George Escaravage indicated it is difficult for him to make meetings and serve as chairman of the commission, and would gladly relinquish his position on the commission and as chairman. He said he would still be willing to help with fundraising, once a project is selected, but he would rather not serve as chair of the Community Relations Task Force.
- 2) It was the consensus of the commission to select a new chairman and recommend a new member for the commission at the December meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

- 1) Regarding the selection of artists and projects, Peter Sterling pointed out the need to look beyond the geographic boundaries of Waynesville, but provide a rational argument for the commission and task force in the selection of artists. Norretta Taylor suggested the type of project may limit or help define geographic boundaries for selection of artists. Marilyn Sullivan and Peter Sterling suggested the commission address the issue at the December meeting.
- 2) Philan Medford suggested the commission communicate with other organizations regarding how they addressed several issues and what they would have done differently. Mike Gillespie said he would email the internet address for the Seattle Public Art Road map, a valuable resource on public art.
- 3) The next meeting of the Waynesville Public Art Commission is Thursday, December 14, 2006, at 5:30 p.m., Town Board Room.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m. on a motion by Noretta Taylor, seconded by Kaaren Stoner.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Huelster
Acting Recording Secretary

Vice-Chairman Mike Gillespie

Secretary Sarah Kucharski