

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

REGULAR MEETING
TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE
PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
5:30 PM, MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT: MIKE GILLESPIE, PHILAN MEDFORD, MARILYN SULLIVAN, KAAREN STONER, CHRIS SYLVESTER, NORETTA TAYLOR, DAVID BLEVINS, KAREN KAUFMAN

MEMBERS ABSENT; SARAH KUCHARSKI

ALSO PRESENT: ALISON MELNIKOVA, FRED BAKER

Chairman Mike Gillespie called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. and began by welcoming new commission member, David Blevins.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MAY 8 REGULAR MEETING AND MAY 22 SPECIAL MEETING. Mike calls for a motion to approve the minutes as read. Philan Medford said two items should be changed. The first is the wording about metals that the artist will use in his sculpture. The minutes used the adjective "soft" but the proper term is "mild". Philan thinks this is important and all commission members should be familiar with this terminology. Also, she felt that the minutes should have indicated that Fred Baker will participate in the inspection of the artist's work in July. Kaaren Stoner moves that the minutes be accepted with the above changes. Noretta Taylor seconds. The minutes are approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Kaaren Stoner submitted the treasurer's report indicating a total source of funds at \$29,981.00 but indicated that a \$1000 check had just been received so the total should be \$30,981. She also submitted a report detailing budget and expenses for the recent fundraiser which show that we spent \$2623.54. The original budget was \$2300.00. Total receipts from the fundraiser for donations, bar and silent auction was \$6045. A final report will be sent to all members.

Kaaren also covered the funds available from TDA, what is used this year and the amount for next year. Mike has submitted the artist's invoice to TDA so funds should be forthcoming. She also discussed outstanding expenses. Fred Baker pointed out that if money was spent in June, even if paid in July, it would back up to June as far as the budget is concerned.

Kaaren then talked about thank you letters that are being prepared for the four categories identified in supporting the fundraiser. There was some discussion about use of town stationery and the language concerning tax deductible status.

Noretta Taylor moved that we accept the treasurer's report. Chris Sylvester seconds. The motion was unanimously approved.

PROJECTS TASK FORCE

Marilyn Sullivan referred to the two reports sent to members with the agenda that Philan Medford had developed from the input of the Advisory Panel participants. One report concerned people interested in being part of a task force or a commission member. Marilyn said she was preparing a cover letter and would send that and a copy of the application to everyone on the list. The second report concerned ideas on topics and sites for future projects. This will be used by the Projects Task Force in future meetings.

ARTIST RELATIONS TASK FORCE

Noretta Taylor asked about the status of the artist's contract. Mike said he has the signed copy and the check has been given to the artist.

Noretta then talked about the need for an inspection team to review the artist's work on or about July 20. It was agreed the team would consist of Noretta Taylor, Kaaren Stoner and Fred Baker. Discussion of dates followed and it was agreed that the team would convene on either July 16 or 30, whichever worked with Fred Baker's schedule. Kaaren will include this information for the artist in the packet she will be sending him and also via email.

Noretta also pointed out that Stefan Bonitz's work is currently on display at Grovewood Gallery and encouraged members to see this if possible.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Chris Sylvester covered the items from a recent de-briefing held to cover details of the fundraiser. Regarding invitations, there were many who claimed not to have received an invitation; however, we concluded this was because it was sent in a town, business envelope along with a brochure and probably looked like a solicitation for money, not an invitation. It was estimated that there were between 120 and 130 attendees. Thank you letters are currently being worked on with Chris and Kaaren comparing lists to insure no one is missed. Karen Kaufman will assist in looking up needed addresses. We will be sending a complete package of incentives to Stefan and will still have CD's and video's left. Mike thought that we could use the CD's as gifts to the town board and others who helped out with the event.

It was felt that the silent auction needed to have more people involved, especially in the preliminary process of acquiring items for the auction. In future, it would be good to have a commitment form that is signed at the initial contact and then follow up could be handled by others. Regarding incentives, it was felt that this did very little to inspire donations and would not be done in future. Programs were available but very few were

distributed. We need to think about a better way to handle this in future if they are even needed. This would depend on the type of event. There was some confusion about the reception and donation tables and in future there should be a clear distinction between these as well as some instruction given to the people manning these stations. In future, we should not schedule such an event immediately before or after a long holiday weekend. It was noted that the artist was pretty much on his own for the evening and that at future events, there should be a host assigned to the artist to insure he is introduced around and not just left alone.

A significant change for future events would be to sell tickets. This would eliminate the need for RSVP's and phone follow ups, provide a more accurate count of attendees and eliminate freeloaders.

Chris next discussed the sign for the Miller Street site which will be 4' x 4' and cost approximately \$400. She provided a copy of the text that will be used. Noretta questioned whether or not we wanted to tie ourselves to "late summer" for the next call to artists as stated in the copy. It was agreed that the wording should be changed to "later this year".

Philan Medford read some comments she heard at the fundraiser – people liked the informality, she was asked about future project topics, people thought the event was child friendly, Scotty Ellis said that we would get more funds annually from TDA, someone said we might regret our artist choice and Lynwood McElroy wants to give money for a Donald Davis project.

Additional fundraiser details concerned clean up. In future we should ask public works to clean up trash. Fred Baker indicated this would have to be done within normal working hours but that it could be done.

David Blevins suggested that more donors would be contributing if we could establish a 501c3 status. Would it be possible to do something through the North Carolina Community Foundation or what's the possibility of an endowment? Would that be 501c3 status? Mike indicated that these possibilities have been considered but that since we are just in the beginning stages of this process and need to better understand how the money flows for activities, we want to hold off on this for the near future.

Mike then thanked Chris Sylvester for all her hard work on the graphics for this project. He had received many positive comments about how professional everything was and felt that Chris had done a truly awesome job.

NEW BUSINESS

June is the month in which we nominate officers for the coming year so Mike opened the floor for nominations. Kaaren Stoner nominated Mike for Chairman, Marilyn Sullivan seconded. Karen Kaufman then asked if we couldn't just nominate the current slate of officers to continue. It was agreed that this would work. Karen Kaufman moved that we nominate the current officers to continue for the coming year. Noretta Taylor seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. The official election will be held at the July regular meeting.

There was discussion about task forces, the possibility of splitting fundraising off as a separate function and rotating members to different groups. We also talked about the possibility of adding new members to the commission. Alison said that we could put together a proposal for the town board requesting additional commission members. Both are items for further discussion and consideration at a later date.

ADJOURNMENT

Kaaren Stoner moves that we adjourn. Noretta Taylor seconds. The motion is unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourns at 6:45 PM

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting will be held at 5:30 PM, Thursday, July 10, 2008.

Chairman, Mike Gillespie

Secretary, Marilyn Sullivan