

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
TOWN HALL
PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
5:30 PM, THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2008

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

MEMBERS ABSENT; SARAH KUCHARSKI, CHRIS SYLVESTER

Chairman Mike Gillespie called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JULY 8 REGULAR MEETING. Karen Stoner moves that the minutes be accepted as read. Kaaren Kaufman seconds. The motion passes unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Kaaren Stoner provided a report showing sources and uses of funds from June 30, 2007 through August 6, 2008. Since the last meeting we have received approximately \$700 in additional donations. Mike Gillespie has submitted Stefan Bonitz' next invoice so we will receive an additional \$4300 from TDA. Kaaren asked that the following statement from Eddie Caldwell be read into the minutes for future reference.

“Just remember that the budget of \$30,000 for the year ending June 30, 2009 can be spent in any line item that your board and Fred decide. And if needed, we can do a budget amendment to increase the amount available for spending as revenues come in. These revenues will or can include the monies not spent from the previous year.”

We discussed the way the money flows, whether from the town or from donations and how the allocated funds are spent. There is still concern about the town receiving donations and whether or not the donor information is actually captured. Kaaren has discussed this with several people involved and believes that in future, all checks coming in as donations for public art will be copied and sent to her.

We then discussed the final payment to the artist for the current project. David Blevins moved that we approve the final payment to Stefan Bonitz. Philan Medford seconded. The motion carries unanimously.

TASK FORCE REPORTS

Projects – Marilyn Sullivan provided minutes from a meeting held with Fred Baker and Alison Melnikova regarding the proposed art contest for the pavers in front of the new police station. There was also a preliminary letter of announcement about the contest

with prize amounts, topic, etc. Additionally, minutes from a meeting with representatives from each of the three task forces was presented and covered details of this project as well as the upcoming Folkmoot project. The commission has previously approved an amount of \$250 for each of three finalists in this contest as part of a budget request for 2008-2009. We discussed an amount to be paid to the winner of the contest. Philan Medford moved that we pay an additional \$500 to the winner. Noretta Taylor seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

Marilyn has also talked with the architect, Keith Carlyon, and he is in agreement with what we are planning and has agreed to participate in the final selection. Kaaren Stoner then told us that she just learned that the art teacher scheduled to be at Tuscola actually went somewhere else so at this point we have no contact at the school for overseeing this contest. Although Kaaren said the people in the school district indicated this would probably be extra curricular, we should still have a focal point for the project. She will pursue this next week.

Regarding the Folkmoot project, the combined task force recommended a budget of \$20,000 and provided a proposed timeline. Discussion followed concerning how the dollar amount was determined, how wide is the call geographically and questions about the site selected. Although it was never officially voted on, most on the commission thought there was agreement that the Folkmoot site would be the police station on the plaza area since this is a featured site for past Folkmoot activity. David Blevins expressed concern that this might conflict with the paver design and that we should possibly delay action on this until we know what that design will look like. It was agreed that future discussion about the site, scope and timeline was needed.

Artist Relations – Kaaren Stoner provided a detailed description and pictures of the recent trip to the artist’s studio to inspect the progress of the Old Time Music project. Everyone was very impressed with the piece and the progress to date. It is anticipated that the piece will be installed around September 10. Philan said she found a source of river rock that could be used in the foundation. Kaaren said Fred Baker was on the inspection trip and that it was her understanding he would be working with Steebo on this detail.

Community Relations – Philan said there was great concern expressed by some individuals about the planned movement of the rock from the site near where our project will be installed. This “rock” holds a plaque naming donors to the streetlamp project and those who contributed feel very strongly that it remain as is. Although Fred Baker had told us in the past that moving the rock would be ok, it appears that doing so might offend some folks. Steebo thought the rock would be fine where it was and would not conflict with his piece; therefore, to avoid any bad feelings, it was felt that leaving the rock alone would be best – unless the town wanted to pursue it with the individuals concerned.

Chris Sylvester submitted minutes from a task force meeting covering the details of the reception and unveiling to be held October 3. Place and time were covered; Karen and Noretta will work out details concerning food next week. Karen provided details concerning entertainment. She will pursue having two musicians who can provide their own PA system at the reception and we agreed that it was reasonable to offer \$300 for their services. The reception will be for donors, invitations will be sent out, and it will be

held at the Patio beginning at 6:00PM. We would then plan to move toward the art site at approximately 7:15 for speeches and official “unveiling”. We discussed how to handle this and concluded that covering the object would not work so everyone needs to think about a “symbolic” way to unveil the art -- whether a ribbon cutting, unmasking or christening with an appropriate beverage. Everyone is challenged to think outside the box on this one.

The monies from the Hildreth estate are still a question for the commission. Mike has talked with the executor and believes there is no need for a formal meeting. They know Mr. Hildreth was an animal lover but did not feel this was best interpreted with a bear or such but suggested we commission Calder to do something that honors Sarges animal rescue which is a group unique to Waynesville. We concluded there is no rush on this and it needs further thought and discussion.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mike submitted copies of his task force recommendations which moved several people to different positions and asked if everyone was in agreement with the arrangement. Although Kaaren is shown on the projects task force, she agreed to help out on Artist relations since there were only two assignments there. David agreed to head fundraising and Mike emphasized that all commission members should be involved in this effort. Competition for charity dollars is intense in the current economy and David felt that the commission did a commendable job in its first efforts with the amount of funds raised. Mike felt that recognizing all donors at any opportunity was a very important way to gain continued support and establish good will in the community.

NEW BUSINESS

We discussed the status of Sarah Kucharski who has missed several meetings due to illness. Mike felt it appropriate to maintain Sarah as a commission member through the October dedication of this first piece to recognize her contribution to this effort and after that it might be appropriate to suggest a move to a task force leaving an opportunity to backfill on the commission.

Kaaren suggested the name of an individual interested in helping with fund raising and said Noretta could provide additional information to David.

ADJOURNMENT

Karen Kaufman moves that we adjourn. Kaaren Stoner seconds. The motion is unanimously approved. Meeting adjourns at 7:20 PM.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting will be held at 5:30 PM, Thursday, September 11, 2008.

Chairman, Mike Gillespie

Secretary, Marilyn Sullivan