

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, MAY 13, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT: KAAREN STONER, MARILYN SULLIVAN, MIKE GILLESPIE, DAVID BLEVINS, CHRIS SYLVESTER, STARR HOGAN, PHILAN MEDFORD

MEMBERS ABSENT: MIEKO THOMSON

ALSO PRESENT: JAN GRIFFIN

Chairman Kaaren Stoner called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 8 REGULAR MEETING.

David Blevins asked if an item on page 3 concerning possible changes to Ben Kastner's design required any action. The consensus was that the artist would not be requested to make changes. Philan Medford moved that the minutes be approved, Mike Gillespie seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The status of the budget request for 2010/2011 will not be known until June. Regarding the current financial report, Kaaren noted that travel expenses for the artists were included with the Honoraria. She thought this should be included in the travel line item. There was talk of whether artist's travel should be separate from other travel. Kaaren will speak to Alison Melnikova for advice on this.

A question was raised concerning the \$11,000 balance shown on the financial statement and the \$15,000 needed to be raised for the actual sculpture. Kaaren pointed out that the \$11,000 was funds received from the town for operational expenses and that the \$15,000 remaining to be paid the artist must come from funds raised. She told the commission that she had met with Alison recently and that Alison is concerned that there is a disconnect between actual expenses and what we need for the overall project. She wanted to emphasize the need to be aware of all extra expenses involved in a project. Because of the budget problems of the town, any expenses are a concern. Kaaren said that in light of this we would not be ordering signs any time soon to save that expense.

Mike Gillespie pointed out that not so long ago the Mayor talked to us about money and said we were "not to worry about dollars." The commission shouldn't have to be so concerned about this. The town needs the railing, it is required by code, so we shouldn't have to double our efforts to save and/or raise funds.

Kaaren asked about the grant request from the North Carolina Arts Council. The request was for \$10,000 but we won't know until August if the request was approved. She asked if this is an all or nothing type of situation or would they possibly honor a portion of the request. This is not known.

Starr Hogan asked if Alison had sent an update to the grant regarding the selection of artist. Kaaren or Starr will ask Alison.

GSMNP PROJECT

Marilyn Sullivan provided a report regarding the status of plans for the June 24 fundraiser. Most of the big items are in place ~ site, caterer, band, auctioneer, etc. with details for the actual day yet to be worked out. The next big item will be letters to lead sponsors and letters to the membership of The Friends of the Smokies. She said that in order to do these mailings and include our brochure, we would need additional inserts at a cost of \$361 for 1000. Everyone agreed that providing the brochure along with the letters would enhance our chances of receiving a donation so it was a good plan. Chris Sylvester will order these from Cornerstone.

Chris has designed a ticket and posters for the Salamander Splash. The cost of posters is \$1.29 each; tickets will be \$1.09 for an 8.5 x 11 sheet that would produce 6 to 8 each and we need 200 tickets. Chris will take information to Cornerstone tomorrow. Discussion followed concerning the numbering of the tickets for control purposes. We concluded this would be a good idea. Also, we will need to reserve a number for the artists who will receive 1 ticket and for donors who will get 2 tickets for a contribution of \$250 or more.

Marilyn noted that the list of artists and their responses given to members indicated that we have 47 artists confirmed, 5 who are "maybes" and 5 not contacted. She asked Starr if she was going to make the calls on her list. Starr responded that her name was not included on the artists list but she intended to provide something. Philan Medford also mentioned that she had an item by artist Judith Duff that she was donating. Both of these will be added to the list.

Discussion returned to the tickets and how to handle the sales. It was stressed that any checks taken to Town Hall to be processed must be entered separately in order to be recorded properly in the town records.

Chris will let us know when the tickets are ready and where they can be picked up.

Marilyn had asked members previously to agree on something to call this project that would be short, catchy and easy to relate to. Several responses favored "Art Connects the Parks". It was agreed that this was workable, speaks to the "connection" and the parks.

Kaaren is preparing to do a press release about the event. There was talk about whether or not to place ads. Marilyn will contact Vicki Hyatt about the possibility of having the cover story on the Guide for June 16.

OLD BUSINESS

TDA application. Kaaren said that they had tightened up the rules for this application making it more difficult. The only suggestions given amounted to a great deal of work for commission members. Also, TDA wanted "outreach" and their logo on anything of an advertising nature as a condition of their grant. Although Mike had written up a potential application, Kaaren did not want to commit us to a project as yet unknown for 2011. She said there was a possibility of a second call later in the year if money remained.

Increasing commission size. This subject had been brought up at a previous meeting. Kaaren told us that Phyllis McClure said this required a written request as to why. She also pointed out that if you have more members, you have a larger quorum. Apparently the recreation board has gone back and forth from growing their number to reducing it. Even if you make the request it may or may not be approved.

As of May there will be three vacancies on the commission. We need to fill these before considering extending the size of the group. Kaaren has spoken to several people asking them to consider being on the commission. She asked former county commissioner Mary Ann Enloe to make suggestions. She asked all commission members to try and find people who might be interested. We need people who are willing to work hard and share the load. Anyone can complete an application. The town makes the appointments; we have no say in the matter.

Kaaren pointed out that we are not committing to a 2011 project and that her plans are for the commission to slow down the project process and devote time to bringing on new members and getting them up to speed as quickly as possible. She thought that Jan Griffin as the newest member of the commission could help put together the questions and answers that would assist new members in future. Jan mentioned a board she was on in Florida and that they held a retreat regularly to encourage working together. We did have a planning session once that was helpful but it becomes complicated due to the open meeting laws but worth considering.

ADJOURNMENT

Marilyn Sullivan moves that we adjourn. Mike Gillespie seconds. The motion is unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourns at 7:05 PM.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting will be held at 5:30 PM, Thursday, June 10, 2010.



Chairman, Kaaren Stoner



Secretary, Marilyn Sullivan