

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, JULY 8, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT: KAAREN STONER, MARILYN SULLIVAN, DAVID BLEVINS, CHRIS SYLVESTER, PHILAN MEDFORD, MIEKO THOMSON, JAN GRIFFIN, BILL KING

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 10 REGULAR MEETING.

Philan Medford moved that the minutes be approved, Mieke Thomson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mieke Thomson shared with the members the regular financial statement as well as details of the Salamander Splash income and expenses and the most recent update to the Lead Sponsor List. The net of the fundraising is that we have enough money to pay the remaining \$15,000 of the artist's commission. Discussion followed concerning known contributions that are not yet reflected in the financial reports. Several members knew of contributions that will be coming in so at this point it appears that over \$4000 will remain in the fund to use for a future project. It was concluded by the commission members that further calls to people on the sponsor list were unnecessary although David Blevins indicated he wanted to pursue a few names from his list.

Kaaren Stoner announced that she had received the official letter from the Town Board stating that they were granting our request for \$7500 for our budget for 2010/2011 with the provision that it cannot all be accessed this year and specified half in July and half in January. She reviewed the details of the budget request one of which was lighting for the Folkmoot piece. According to Mike Gillespie, lights were out on the Folkmoot piece and he believed his temporary fixtures were still in place. There was some confusion since we show a payment in the financial statement for permanent lighting installed. Kaaren checked with Fred Baker but just this morning so there is no clarification on this yet.

Kaaren said she wrote a thank you to Frank McCloud (caterer) and how appreciative we were for his reduced pricing for the fundraising event. She asked if the town would also write a letter but Alison Melnikova indicated they would not and the fact that Kaaren's letter noted the difference in the original estimate and the actual invoice should suffice.

Philan Medford moved that we accept the treasurer's report as provided. Jan Griffin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

SALAMANDER SPLASH

Based on the numbers alone, the Salamander Splash fundraising event was a tremendous success. The commission proceeded to go through some of the logistics to see where items might be improved, changed, etc.

David said he felt compelled to admit that when he first heard of the salamander idea and then the commission approved it, he was rather skeptical. But it turned out to be a super idea and the fact that 45 artists agreed to participate in something so unique was just fantastic. Marilyn thanked him for this since it had been her idea and who knew exactly where it would go; however, because the Park is the “salamander capital of the world” it seemed appropriate and worth a try. David also praised the wonderful work that Chris had done with posters, name tags, etc. for the event. Everything was so professional, artistic and just perfect for the occasion. It was noted that the posters were disappearing from Main Street locations because people wanted them as souvenirs.

Bill King said he didn't know that much about the procedures for the silent auction and was surprised when all items sold. It was noted that one individual did come through the auction at the very end and bid on a couple of items that had no bids. This was just his way of supporting the effort.

We talked further about the silent auction and the need to have it shut down totally at a specific time. There were people still around after it had officially “closed” which led to one individual thinking he won the bid but it was after the close. Either sheets need to be picked up earlier or it needs to have more people controlling the area. With four doors and individuals needing access to the restrooms, the set up at HART was difficult to control. This will be noted for future events.

Marilyn also pointed out two items that were potential problems. One, we should notify the recreation center in writing at least a month ahead of time so they can schedule the tables and chairs required. Also, we need to obtain a special event license in order to sell beer and wine. We assumed that because HART had a license this wasn't necessary; however, HART's license is for wine only and on a very limited basis. We managed this time by asking for donations for the beer and wine, not selling it.

Everyone agreed that the comments heard to date have all been positive. We've even heard good comments from people who were not able to attend but were told by someone who did that it was a great event.

Kaaren mentioned problems we had with two artists. One claimed not to have received our letter telling when and where to deliver the art and the other who brought her art to the theater the day of the event was upset that her piece was not in the live auction. In future, the letter to the artists should indicate a date for the art to be delivered to be considered for the live auction. Anything after that date will automatically go to the silent auction since there is so much to prepare beforehand for the live auction.

Bill said that if only 2 out of 45 had a problem that is a rather impressive ratio and not something for concern.

OLD BUSINESS

Richard from Intracoastal called Alison asking for the second \$5000 payment. Alison indicated that the contract states this was not due until August 1. There is supposed to be verification of the progress of the project prior to that payment. Kaaren told Richard what Alison said and he indicated he could send pictures and she would review with the town. Pictures have not arrived and in the meantime, Richard emailed that he was confused as to the date payment was due.

David said his son lives in Wilmington and he could have him go take some pictures so that we could all see the physical status of the railing. He also said he would be visiting in that area sometime but not sure it would be before August 1. Kaaren said that the scheduled payment was not in the middle of the time frame so maybe they need it earlier. She also said she would be in touch with the artists to be sure they have reviewed the calendar and know the dates scheduled and what is expected.

NEW BUSINESS

Kaaren said that nominations for officers would be accepted in August with elections in September.

Philan will speak to Gavin Brown about potential new commission members.

Bill wanted to throw out an idea he had that would better utilize the space that is available around HART and the Shelton House. The idea is to involve artists in a yard-art sculpture sale. He thought this was a niche no one else is focusing on now. David said that Sumter, SC has a city park that each year has an event of this nature. He suggested going on line to find more information. He said they not only have an art show but workshops and different things that benefit artists and the community. Pieces are juried and one is bought for the park and all others are for sale. It was noted that several other venues do similar programs like the Asheville Arboretum, Lenoir, NC and Cashiers. Philan noted that Streetscapes was a temporary art display with the objects being for sale but the quality of the art wasn't great so probably something to keep in mind. It might be difficult for the art to reflect the essence of our mission statement.

ADJOURNMENT

David Blevins moved that we adjourn. Philan Medford seconds. The motion is unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourns at 6:30 PM.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting will be held at 5:30 PM, Thursday, August 12, 2010.

Chairman, Kaaren Stoner

Secretary, Marilyn Sullivan