AGENDA:  Arts Advisory Commission
Tuesday, August 25, 2009 – 5:15 p.m.
ARTs Hamilton, 279 King Street East Hamilton

CHAIR: Renee Wetselaar   MINUTE TAKER: Jennifer Kaye


Also Present:   Beth Wakeford – City of Hamilton Staff
               Paul de Courcy, Eric Nanayakkara – Arts Hamilton

REGRETS: Nancy McKibbin Gray

ABSENT: None

1.   ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

   Moved: Karen Logan   Seconded: Anne Cibola
   APPROVED

2.   DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

   None declared.

3.   APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 07/28/2009 (attached)

   Moved: Anne McLean Seconded: Gary DePodesta
   APPROVED
4. **Guest Presentation:** Eric Nanayakkara and Paul deCourcy of ARTS Hamilton

Eric introduced himself as the new President of Arts Hamilton.

Paul provided an historical overview of the organization. Arts Hamilton serves all artists – amateur and professional, in all disciplines. It provides arts information, advice, advocacy and networking to artists, arts organizations, the City and the broader community.

Eric distributed the organization’s mission, vision and values, which were recently developed. The diversity of the stakeholders is addressed through program groups that are discipline-specific; these groups are being reviewed for viability and potential by Board members who are participating in the groups. Communication and integration will be a priority for the Board. Arts Hamilton is looking to launch a major event that will showcase the arts to the broader community. The organization sees its work as a contributor to the overall health of Hamilton.

Eric and Paul fielded questions from the AAC members. Paul has been actively involved in advocacy regarding the zoning issues that have affected the Pearl Company. Arts Hamilton would lose its charitable status if it became a granting agency for individuals; the Hamilton Community Foundation may be interested in playing a role in granting to individual artists. The Ontario Arts Council piloted a project to support and showcase the arts, called Spotlight, in Kitchener-Waterloo; Arts Hamilton is working with others to bring a similar, 3-day celebration to Hamilton in September 2010, called the Rust Belt Festival, located along James St. North and King William St – will require road closures. OAC funding is received from the Multidisciplinary Arts Program, not the Arts Service Organizations Program.

Renee thanked Eric and Paul for their time and hospitality.

5. **Staff Presentation:** Beth Wakeford

5.1 **Community Partnership Program**

2009 Update - Three groups have had their application re-evaluated and are now being recommended for full funding at the City’s Emergency and Community Services Committee on September 3.

2010 Update – Deadlines were shared with the AAC. This year, there is no guarantee that funding will be provided to organizations that submit late applications.

Adjudication will be done by an Adjudication Sub-Committee of the AAC. There will be a strong need to be aware of and manage conflicts of interest.
between adjudicators and applicants. Conflicts will be declared and the individuals who are in conflict will not participate in the pertinent discussions and/or decisions.

**MOTION**: That Gary DePodesta, Josefa Radman, Patti Randazzo-Beckett, Anne McLean, and Brian Lane be nominated to adjudicate the 2010 Community Partnership Program applications (a minimum of approximately thirty applications) as members of the Adjudication Sub-Committee and that this Sub-Committee will report back on their recommendations to the AAC at the November meeting.

**MOVED**: Anne Cibola  
**SECONDED**: Jahan Zeb  
**APPROVED**

### 5.2 Our Community Culture Project

Beth provided an update on the Project and answered questions. A minor technical difficulty importing data into the City’s GIS system has delayed the process slightly. The draft report has been submitted by the consultant to the core project team.

### 6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

#### 6.1 Review “How can the Arts Advisory Commission be more relevant?”

No discussion. Tabled to next meeting.

#### 6.2 Meeting Locations and Guests

Next meeting location: 77 James Street North. Guests: Bryce Kanbara, Gary Santucci, and Barbara Milne. No guests in October and November to allow AAC to complete its work.

#### 6.3 Graffiti Art/Public Art

Ken made a short presentation to the Graffiti Steering Group about public art as a means to discourage graffiti using the MacNab Street Underpass mural project as an example and possible pilot project. The presentation was well received especially around issues of outreach to youth, working with outside agencies to share funding and demonstration that these types of art work do tend to reduce graffiti in problem areas.
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The group was very concerned that this be public art and generally be painted by brush and that any art that resembles graffiti would not be supported. There were concerns about how these types of projects at a larger scale could be funded, approved and implemented.

7. BUSINESS ITEMS

7.1 Budget

September 9 E&CS will consider the report requesting additional funds for the Arts and Artists Forum be transferred from the Reserve. Renee Wetselaar and Patti Randazzo-Beckett will be attending.

7.2 Hamilton Arts Alliance

No discussion. Tabled to next meeting.

7.3 Arts Awards

RFP has not been completed due to competing public art priorities. Ken will be working to bring the RFP to the AAC in September. The evaluation committee will comprise AAC members and staff.

7.4 Communications Sub-Committee Report

Communications Sub-Committee – Volunteers
Anne Cibola, Renée Wetselaar, Nancy McKibbin Gray, Gary DePodesta, Josefa Radman, Karen Logan

Sub-Committee agreed that it would be advantageous to have a City Councillor on the AAC, especially someone who serves on the E&CS Committee – perhaps Tom Jackson, Brian McHattie, or Bob Bratina (not on E&CS). Renee and Patti will ask the Mayor.

Karen and Anne are working on the presentation to Council.

MOTION: That the Communications Sub-Committee report be received.

Moved: Patti Seconded: Karen
APPROVED

7.5 Education Sub-Committee Report
Education Sub-Committee – Volunteers
Sky Gilbert, Anne McLean, Brian Lane, Josefa Radman, Patti Randazzo-Beckett

Committee is working to secure speakers for the Forum. Will develop a recruitment flyer for the AAC that can be distributed at the Forum. AAC relevancy document will be addressed in discussion with the Mayor. Was decided that there should not be a survey at the forum.

**MOTION:** That the Communications Sub-Committee report be received.

Moved: Brian    Seconded: Eli
APPROVED

8. Policies & Plans

8.2 Public Art Master Plan

Poster for Locke St. distributed.

East Kiwanis public art piece will be installed in mid-September, with the public opening to take place on September 26.

Restructuring in the Communications Division has slowed down our progress with some projects, such as the James Street North project.

The RFP for a commission for a public art work in front of the Central Police Station elicited much discussion about the appropriateness of using public funds to celebrate the police service. This project is being developed by the ARTWalk coalition, of which the City is a partner, and is predominantly funded by the City. It was felt that the proposed wording for the RFP was excessively proscriptive from a political standpoint. The RFP will be issued at the end of this week – Ken and Jennifer will review the RFP in light of this discussion.

**MOTION:** That the AAC advises that public art RFPs should not contain political or ideological direction regarding content, but can provide contextual direction regarding subject matter.

MOVED: Sky Gilbert    SECOND: Anne Cibola
APPROVED
9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Artists Forum (Arts and Artists Forum) Event Outline

Report by Renee Wetselaar, Patti Beckett, Ken Coit and Jennifer Kaye on the meeting with Culture Staff and the resulting event outline for final AAC approval.

Ken provided an overview of the proposed program for the Forum. Discussion took place about the possibility of demand exceeding capacity, and how to ensure maximum participation of individual artists. Possible restructuring of the agenda options were discussed.

Guests were not asked to speak, but simply to be a resource. Differing views were voiced regarding the desirability of having the guests speak. It was agreed that short speeches would be appropriate.

Could the event be captured on video – communications sub-committee to consider.

**MOTION:** That the program, as presented, be approved with an amendment to add a facilitated open discussion as part of the sharing of results, and that the timing of the Big Picture be moved as needed to ensure maximum participation.

**MOVED:** Karen  
**SECONDED:** Patti

**APPROVED**

10. ADJOURNMENT

Approved: Patti  
Seconded: Karen

11. NEXT MEETING

**Tuesday, September 22, 2009 at 5:15 p.m.**
Suite 305, 77 James Street North

September 3 at 5:30 – Communications Sub-Committee meeting at the Factory  
Week before the next AAC meeting – Education Sub-Committee meeting.