MINUTES: Arts Advisory Commission
Tuesday, September 22, 2009 – 5:15 p.m.
Suite 305, 77 James Street North, Hamilton

CHAIR: Patti Randazzo Beckett

MINUTE TAKER: Linda Goessinger

CITY OF HAMILTON STAFF: Jennifer Kaye, Ken Coit

PRESENT: Renee Wetselaar, Anne Cibola, Gary DePodesta, Sky Gilbert, Brian Lane, Anne McLean, Josefa Radman, Nancy McKibbin Gray

Also Present: Bryce Kanbara: Hammer Arts Alliance, Gary Santucci: The Pearl Company

REGRETS: Karen Logan

ABSENT: Dr. Eli Tshibwabwa, Jahan Zeb

1. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA
   Approved: Gary DePodesta
   Seconded: Anne Cibola

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST
   None

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 08/25/2009 (attached)
   Approved: Renee Wetselaar
   Seconded: Anne McLean

4. Guest Presentation: Bryce Kanbara and Gary Santucci
   Issues discussed/identified:
   • There is insufficient feedback provided after consultations with the arts community. Can the AAC assist here?
• Concern expressed about the extent to which the civic dialogue regarding the arts is based on economic development and impact (Richard Florida)
• Concern expressed about arts-led gentrification of James St. North and other downtown areas.
• Question about the extent to which the AAC is interested in individual artists, as well as arts organizations. Need to build the relationship between the AAC and the arts community.
• New Official Plan is a good step forward in terms of recognizing existing uses of buildings and facilitating adaptive re-use of industrial buildings. Some concerns expressed about the potential for political interference in the OP process.
• There is a need for grants for individual artists in Hamilton.
• There is a project led by CityHousing Hamilton to transform 95 King St. E. (the old Maxim’s) into live/work space. There may also be a need for studio space for senior artists.

The Chair thanked Bryce and Gary for sharing their opinions and comments. Some discussion ensued, including an update on plans for the AAC’s Arts and Artists Forum. Bryce advised that the Hammer Arts Alliance may become more active in the near future.

5. **Community Partnership Program**

Written report from Beth Wakeford

AAC members who’ve agreed to participate on the CPP Grants Sub-Committee (Gary Depodesta, Patti Beckett, Anne McLean, Josefa Radman and Brian Lane) will meet on October 20 at 5 p.m. for a brief training session, declaration of conflict, as well as, distribution of the grants and evaluation tools.

6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

6.1 **Meeting Locations and Guests**

**Action:** No guests proposed until January 2010

6.2 **Graffiti Art/Public Art**

**Action:** Report from Ken Coit

MacNab Underpass project is going ahead as a pilot project funded jointly by the Culture Division and Public Works Department to combat negative graffiti in the downtown core.
7. BUSINESS ITEMS

7.1 Budget

Action: Report from Ken Coit and Renee Wetselaar

The Emergency and Social Services Committee approved the request to allocate $2000 from the AAC reserve for communications relating to the Arts Forum.

A draft 2010 budget was distributed for discussion and approval at the next meeting.

7.2 Arts Awards

Action: Report on RFP from Ken Coit

Ken will work to get the RFP out before the Forum. Will be aiming to report back to Council in the spring on recommendations.

7.3 Communications Sub-Committee Report

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

Action: Report from Anne Cibola Re: meeting and Arts and Artists Forum planning
Report from Renee Wetselaar and Patti Randazzo-Beckett on meeting with the Mayor

Arts and Artists Forum

- **Set up/clean up:** All to arrive at 8:30
- **Registration:** Sky Gilbert, Anne McLean, Gary DePodesta, Brian Lane and staff from City.
- **Recorder/ notetakers:** Patti Randazzo Beckett, Renee Wetselaar, Karen Logan, Anne Cibola, Nancy McKibbon, Josefa Radman
- Post signs making public aware of the media photography at the event
- Agreed not to send targeted invitations in advance
• Opportunity to promote the Forum at the October 8 Super Crawl. Patti, Nancy, and Anne volunteered to assist with staffing the info table.
• Renee will organize a pre-meeting for facilitators. Staff to secure 3 more facilitators.
• Draft promotional material reviewed.

**Motion to delegate approval responsibility for all promotional and press material to the Communications Sub-Committee**

*Approved:* Renee Wetselaar  
*Seconded:* Nancy McKibbon  
*Motion Carried:* All

**Councillor McHattie – Arts Hamilton**

• Councillor Brian McHattie (board member of Arts Hamilton) requested that the AAC discuss with Arts Hamilton the possibility of Arts Hamilton co-hosting the Forum.

**Motion to have the AAC Co-Chairs meeting with Paul de Courcy to discuss the involvement of Arts Hamilton in the Forum.**

*Approved:* Brian Lane  
*Second:* Josefa Radman  
*Carried:* All

**Meeting with the Mayor**

• Renee and Patti reported on the positive discussion they had with the Mayor regarding the AAC and the arts within the City.
• Paul Shaker and Mary Devorski were also present.
• Mayor agrees that a Councillor should be appointed to the Commission.
• Mayor agrees that the Commission should have some input into the selection of its members.
• An annual meeting will be set with the Mayor.
• The Mayor is looking forward to speaking at the Forum, and will require speaking notes in advance.

**Action:** Ken will send speaking notes for the Mayor to Anne Cibola
Upcoming presentation to the Emergency and Community Services Committee

- Presentation scheduled for November 18

Motion to approve the presentation to the Emergency and Community Services Committee

**Approved:** Renee Wetselaar  **Second:** Gary DePodesta
**Motion Carried:** All

Motion to accept report from the Communications Sub-Committee

**Approved:** Brian Lane  **Second:** Gary Depodesta
**Motion Carried**

The AAC complimented the Sub-Committee, and Anne Cibola in particular, on their good work.

7.4 Education Sub-Committee Report

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

**Action:** Report from Sky Gilbert

- The Education Sub-Committee is meeting with the Communications Sub-Committee to plan the Forum.
- Forum guests will be asked to make a simple presentation, in addition to working with small groups.

**Motion:** Education Sub-Committee to be combined with the Communications Sub-Committee until the Forum is completed.

**Approved:** Nancy McKibbon  **Second:** Anne Cibola
**Motion Carried:** All
8. Policies & Plans

8.1 Our Community Culture Project

**Action:** Written Report from Beth Wakeford

- In January, a full presentation and discussion about this project will take place.
- Concerns that the project is moving too slowly.

8.2 Public Art Master Plan

**Action:** Presentation by Ken Coit outlining the Public Art Process goals, stakeholders and the Master Plan

Discussion of Police Service Public Art Project - All

- Ken presented an overview of the full Public Art Process and the revised process that was followed to develop the theme for the Police Public Art project working with the Art Walk Committee
- Based on the concerns of the AAC regarding the proposed theme for project not considering community concerns about the policing, the issued RFP for the Police Service Public Art Project was rescinded.
- Discussion revealed that the full public art process was not followed for this project as there was no public consultation.
- Established process needs to be followed to ensure community input.
- Next step should be a discussion with the Arts Walk Committee and the Police to establish a revised process, including a focus group with a broader range of stakeholders representing the community to develop a revised theme.

**Motion – Due to the full public art process not being followed a Broader Form of community consultation is necessary prior to the release of the RFP for the public art at the Police station**

**Approved:** Renee Wetselaar **Second:** Brian Lane

**Motion Carried:** All

**Motion:** Recommended that staff work with the Art Walk Committee to ensure that the procedural guidelines for the City of Hamilton Public Art Program are followed for future projects

**Approved:** Renee Wetselaar **Second:** Anne Cibola

**Motion Carried:** All
9. NEW BUSINESS

Brian Lane requests that we discuss an ‘Artists code of ethics’
• To be put on the agenda to discuss at future meeting
• Brian to come up with guidelines for discussion

_Telling Tales Literacy Event:_ Excellent event, good press and good community effort all around

10. ADJOURNMENT

_Approved:_ Renee Wetselaar  _Seconded:_ Patti Randazzo-Beckett  
_Carried:_ All

11. NEXT MEETING

_Tuesday, October 27, 2009 at 5:15 p.m._
77 James Street North Suite 305