



Hamilton

MINUTES
ARTS ADVISORY COMMISSION

June 28, 2016

4:00 p.m.

Visitor Tourism Centre, 1st Floor
Lister Block, 28 James Street N.

Chair: Still to be determined **Minute Taker:** Christine Vernem

Present: Elena Balaska, Christine Braun, Monika Ciolek,
Sara Dickinson, Patricia LeClair, Peter Malysewich,
Ray Rivers, Kyle Skinner, Councillor Donna Skelly

**Absent with
Regrets:** Councillor Sam Merulla, Councillor Arlene VanderBeek

Also Present: Anna Bradford, Andrea Carvalho, Ken Coit, Stephanie Vegh

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved: Councillor Donna Skelly Seconded: Patricia LeClair

3.1 Arts Advisory Commission minutes, dated April 26, 2016 were
approved as amended.

CARRIED

4. CONSENT ITEMS

There were no Consent Items.

5.0 PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Overview of the Tourism and Culture Division funding structure

Anna Bradford, Director of Culture for the Tourism and Culture Department, distributed the document 'Transforming Hamilton through Culture' and provided an overview of the Tourism and Culture Department. The Tourism and Culture Department consists of the following sections: Cultural Development, the Events Office, Heritage Resource Management and Public Arts and Projects.

Anna distributed the copies of the Tourism and Culture Cultural Plan to AAC members.

There was a brief discussion on the growth of cultural initiatives in Hamilton and the transformation of Hamilton's image.

5.2 Artist Legacy Project

Stephanie Vegh spoke to the Artist Legacy Project which arose from the Visual Arts Committee.

In 2013 the Committee became aware of the number of artists who were either leaving the city or were passing away leaving no record of their contribution to the arts. A cohesive, robust record of artists' contribution and the history of the arts had been maintained in a publication up to 1950 but since that time there has been no attempt to capture artist's history.

There was a strong community push to continue to pursue this and an Arts History Standing Committee (comprised of working artists) was formed to assemble the archives and to ensure that records are kept. Colina Maxwell and Toby Bruce (AAC members at the time) were instrumental in the contribution of \$7,000.00 from the AAC reserve to retain Jennifer Kaye to pursue this work.

Further funding was sought through the Hamilton Future Fund (a 2 year funding project) and to Trillium (a 3 year funding project). The Hamilton Arts Council will work closely with the Hamilton Public Library to identify, collect and communicate the story of visual arts from the 1950 onward.

Stephanie clarified that the primary goal is to collect the content but the animation component will be used for modelling and communicating to the community. It is possible a second book will be issued.

Going forward this model will be used to assist other art streams in their archival work.

5.3 Hamilton Arts Council and Arts Advisory Committee Relationship

Stephanie advised that when the Arts Council was restructured in 2013, there was some discussion on how the Hamilton Arts Council and the Arts Advisory Committee roles differed. Jennifer Kaye and Carrie Brooks-Joiner facilitated meetings to address the mandate and key elements of each organization.

The Arts Council was identified as an advocacy organization for the Arts Sector while the AAC advises Council on Arts Sector issues and initiatives.

The two organizations will work together and provide support to each other on all arts initiatives.

Patricia noted the importance of the AAC working with Hamilton Council to make voice of the community heard and to report all significant funding needs. Patricia suggested the AAC communicate with the community and report back to Council.

Stephanie noted that one of the key challenges for the majority of fund recipients is that they don't have the capacity to record the economic impacts and outcomes of their projects. The use of AAC funds to hire a contractor to record these outcomes had been discussed.

Stephanie offered to meet with the new Chair to determine how to share and achieve goals. The Arts Council has revised their Strategic Plan to reflect clear direction and Stephanie offered to share this at the next AAC meeting.

5.4 City Enrichment Fund

Andrea reported that the City Enrichment Fund is operated out of Corporate Services with John Hertel as Director. Staff recommends grant amounts through a (May/June) report to the Grant Sub-committee for review, it then moves to AF&A and then to Council for final approval. Patricia reported that the Grant Subcommittee meeting is an open and encouraged members to attend.

When initially set up the fund was extremely underfunded in comparison to other communities and the process was not transparent. The Community Foundation committed to increase their arts funding concurrent with the City.

Andrea provided a quick overview of the City Enrichment Fund which has six program areas; Arts, Community, Culture and Heritage, Community Services, Sport & Active Lifestyles, Agriculture and Environment. The four Arts funding streams are, Operating, Festivals, Capacity Building (new in 2016 and Creation and Presentation grants for individual artists (new in 2016).

Andrea advised that although the adjudication process is long it is a very public, transparent process with peer review set against the assessment criteria. Peer adjudicators names are published at the end of the process. Each applicant is asked to provide measurable outcomes through a final report submitted back to the City.

Last year an on-line application process was initiated and a new software program will be designed this year. Workshops will be held to teach the process to applicants.

Andrea reported an increase in applicants from 40 in 2015 to 95 in 2016.

Patricia voiced concern that the 30% funding to the program remain intact, that standards be maintained and the peer review adjudication process be honoured.

5.5 History and evolution of the Arts Awards Program

Ken reported that the City of Hamilton has been hosting Arts Awards since 1976. In order to elevate the event to the level of other municipalities a consultant was hired to undertake a public review of the event. The budget for the event was raised from \$15,000 to \$60,000. Ken advised that currently Established Artists receive \$2500.00 and Emerging Artists receive \$1,000 as prizes. The venues and the consultants can change year to year.

The Arts Awards Steering Committee will be meeting every month in the fall and a Commission member will need to participate. Members will be invited to attend some Arts Awards Jury meetings as well.

The final meeting of the Steering Committee will be the 11th of July.

Moved: Ray Rivers

Seconded: Patricia LeClair

That Kyle Skinner attend the July 11th Arts Awards Steering Committee meeting and report back to the Arts Advisory Commission on the outcomes of the meeting.

CARRIED

5.6 Overview of the Role of the Chair and Vice Chair

Patricia reported that the role of the Chair is facilitative, allowing everyone an opportunity to participate and share. As past Chair Patricia's one responsibilities was to meet with the Arts Council representative and report back to the Commission on their initiatives. Annually the Chair/Vice Chair would report to Council on AAC activities and request the annual budget as well as any additional monies needed for new projects. The Vice Chair is back up and support to the Chair.

Patricia offered her assistance to the new Chair.

Ken noted that the Chair and Co-Chair positions are a three year commitment and that the budget of the AAC is \$9,000 with \$13,400 held in reserve. Ideally the incoming Chair will meet with Ken and/or Christine a week prior to the meeting to discuss the agenda and meeting logistics.

Ken suggested that Kyle and Anne alternate chairing every other meeting.

6.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

Moved: Patricia LeClair Seconded: Peter Malysewich

That Monika Ciolek (Anne Noble) and Kyle Skinner be appointed as Co-Chairs for the Arts Advisory Commission 2016 to 2018 term.

CARRIED

6.2 Submission of Acknowledgement Forms

Members submitted their signed acknowledgement forms.

7.0 OTHER BUSINESS

It was agreed that given the timing of the meetings a full meal was not required. Light refreshments will be served at upcoming meetings.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

Moved: Ray Rivers Seconded: Peter Malysewich

CARRIED

THAT, there being no further business, the meeting be adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday August 30, 2016, 4:00 PM

Lister Block, 28 James Street North, Visitor Tourist Centre, 1st Floor.