



Approved 2/7/13

**City of West Chicago
Cultural Arts Commission
Thursday, January 3, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

In attendance: Rosemary Mackey, Buddy Plumlee, Heide Morris, Mandy Rakow, Anni Holm, Sara Phalen, guest Jesse Felix from the West Chicago Park District

1. Meeting call to order at 7:05pm
2. Approval of December 6, 2012 minutes. Motion made by Heide, seconded by Buddy, motion carried, minutes approved.
3. Outstanding Mandatory Training Certificates-John and Janet have been contacted about outstanding certificates. Janet will complete once she is feeling better.
4. Presentation on West Chicago Park District's Sculpture Park. Jesse Felix from the Park District updated the Commission on the Sculpture Park and other happenings at the Park District. The July 1, 2012 storm left a huge tree loss for the parks, but the Park District has turned to looking at opportunities to use the trees. Clean up is still continuing. Park District is looking at how Reed Keppler can be improved: Jesse is hoping to utilize his knowledge about adding more plantings and benches; during the storm clean-up they found the original trail in the park from the 1930s that was made of limestone chips and are adding that back in; in the new Sculpture Park they have added a big bed, brought in a sculpture on loan that is on display in the bed; Jesse will start planting perennials and annuals and incorporating large stones and plantings throughout-especially by the kids playground area to get the kids interacting more with nature; Bill Baker came in to do "wind spirits" wood carvings; took a lot of the logs from the clean-up to Manville Oaks to be milled for benches that students at IIT will design, these benches are slated to be out at Railroad Days and auction them off for new trees. Jesse is also working to launch the America in Bloom project for West Chicago-he has enrolled into it. Discussion about how the CAC can get involved-judges hosting and beautification, banner project and Blooming Fest can be incorporated into culture of the town, possibility of adding plantings around city signs.

5. Banner Project Update- John Keeney had volunteered to head-up the project. Looking to get an update from him and see if the deadline of February 1st needs to be extended. Banner art is coming from 10 pieces chosen through jury, 6 from invited artists (Buddy, Anni, and John invite 2 artists), and 4 from local schools. Rosemary will re-release the press on the project. Heide will talk to Joe Weibler to see if he can photograph materials for the banner in March. Buddy is willing to taking on communications or at least help John with whatever is needed.
6. Gallery 200-Heide sent out the newsletter last week; there will be a member social event that will be used as re-join event on January 13th at 2pm at the Gallery-also open that event up for members to talk about ideas for the Gallery; next show coming up is student from Elgin for photography which opens Thursday, January 10th from 5-8pm; Gallery will need to purchase chairs or come up with an arrangement for continuing the use of museum chairs; issue of waivers-Rosemary will talk to Carol LeBeau with the City, Sara will work with Rosemary to get a listing of all the events happening at the Gallery.
7. Local Music Night Update-Lori Schaeffer is organizing January event –Keith Peters, Crystal Michels, Christian Bradley will be performing ; Mandy is organizing February-Dusty Michael booked so far; March-John is organizing.
8. Gallery Theater Update-Sara will email Mark Fortman to see how Janet is and if someone knows what to do with the theater stuff that is in the Gallery Studio so as not to bother Janet.
9. Other Business
 - a. Need to set up basement use agreement and maybe get cabinets for storage; group should also go over the contract for use of the space and start there and add to it where needed.
 - b. Buddy has plan to approach Park District about having a display area in the new Rec Center that will be built –Rosemary talked to Gary Major about it and he is at a point right with the architectural plans to finalize by February and wants to meet ASAP, can meet and propose something to him-Buddy, Anni, Sara and Rosemary will meet with Gary Major quickly to express the interest in having some space for art usage.
 - c. With the continuing transition of some of LuAnn’s responsibilities, Rosemary and Sara will talk about who will coordinate the display of art work in the City Hall hallway –put on agenda for next time.
 - d. Rosemary proposed to post our minutes up on the City website, the entire group agreed this is a great step in transparency.
10. Meeting adjournment at 8:41p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Phalen