

**City of West Chicago
Cultural Arts Commission
Thursday, May 2, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

1. Meeting called to order 7:10p.m. Commission members in attendance: Sara Phalen, Buddy Plumlee, Mandy Rakow, Heide Morris, Anni Holm, Janet Gilleland. City liaison Rosemary Mackey also in attendance.
2. With a couple of changes, Anni made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected, Mandy seconded, all in favor.
3. Gallery 200 Update: a special meeting was held on May 1st about working towards a possible merger with PMV, Heide has posted minutes from previous meeting at the Gallery so members can read about the happenings and can comment to Heide; they are still looking for help staffing for Blooming Fest and also looking for more donations for Blooming raffle; the newsletter will get mailed out tomorrow; Heide helped Lew rearrange the entrance into the gallery for his opening this Friday, new members stuff can go where pieces were moved from entrance to give them some space; the Gallery has some new members: a new photographer and man that works with glass; 1 painter and 1 digital print onto canvas still in process of being juried (32 members now, so staffing should be easier); the missing component of the gallery is critical analysis of each others work; juried sheets should be blacked out as to names so that there is no pressure about giving feedback; the idea of a “crafters corner” was also discussed-this would allow a professional gallery but then also have a “gift shop” area that would allow someone to show work that maybe doesn’t fit with the standards (this would also be an opportunity for a different membership level as a possibility with limited areas of focus)
4. Banner Project Update: banners are in; there was a question as to if all “no”s were notified? John was not present to say yes or no; Banner map is done for the Blooming Fest goodie bags-map has added information about where to drop off votes; Heide has done up the ballot sheet; two boxes for suggested themes for next year will also be put out by Sara; the Banner artist Reception is from 2-3pm; Heide will get Rosemary the formal invitations for aldermen for their boxes so they get that prior meeting
5. Local Music Night-blooming fest line-up is set; new magnets were ordered as a promotional piece; there will be a regular LMN event on May 17 as well as Blooming Fest

6. Gallery Theater Update-Janet said the last show went over very well-it sold out two weeks before opening even with the addition of an extra show; the Theater has canceled its planned musical because turnout was not good for auditions; they have also had some good feedback about Over the River and Through the Woods, so they are going to run that again on the nights set aside for the Musical June 8 & 9; the theater is really trying to improve seating, are currently trying out risers (LMN can use risers if needed)
8. Progress Report on Discussion of the Options for Future Operations of Gallery 200-the Gallery is moving forward to prepare a wish list/proposal to present to PMV for merger to move this forward; Heide and Buddy (as Gallery 200 members) are going to exchange emails/correspond to complete this; the next two special meetings for further discussions on this are May 29th and June 5th meetings, both at 6pm at the Gallery.
9. Other business-
 - a. the issues of keys to the Gallery 200 space was brought up, it was agreed that the protocol for this is CAC members can have keys-Sara will get Lew a key; a fake plant was put in the basement and all agreed this would be nice to stay there to add to the atmosphere.
 - b. Janet requested to take a leave absence from the Commission so that she had some time to attend to some personal matters-she will need to formally resign and then reapply to the commission when she is ready to return, her leaving would mean the Gallery Theater would operate like the other organizations that use the basement space.
 - c. Monday night's City Council meeting: on the agenda is a Rosalinda Delgado appointed to this commission; Angelo Trapani is also listed to be appointed as a voting member.
 - d. Some commissioners have received feedback about the discontinuance of the Fine Arts Fiesta from Railroad Days; all agreed that the main issue is eliminating a public participation event and not replacing it with something else that general members of the community can contribute to is the larger issue; a plan to revamp the event and relaunch it at Blooming Fest in 2014 was agreed upon.

- e. A waiver question for the use of the 200 Main building was address; as the current waivers contain a hold harmless and publicity waiver, it is fine for a signatory to cross out any parts of the publicity waiver that they would like, but they must sign it and cannot alter the hold harmless portion in any way, otherwise they cannot participate in a event being held in the space.

10. Announcements: No announcements.

11. Meeting was adjourned at 8:06p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Phalen