

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved w/corrections on 9/23/15

**City of West Chicago
Cultural Arts Commission
Thursday, August 13, 2015 (Rescheduled Meeting)
Meeting Minutes**

1. Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm. Commission members in attendance: Anni Holm, Mandy Rakow, Uwe Gsedl, Buddy Plumlee, Lew Achenbach. City liaison Rosemary Mackey was also in attendance. Quorum established.
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes of May 7, 2015: Anni made a motion to approve with corrections, Mandy seconded, all approved, motion carried.
3. Update on Art Banners: Rosemary will update last year's Call for Art for the Community Banner Art Project. After discussion, she was instructed to use the template from last year, just change details. Discussed going back to Ragar Banners immediately to begin the process of setting up the new banner layout. Rosemary would connect Myrna Ragar to Uwe Gsedl, who will create the new banner design. Would like to see if it would be possible to establish a shared DropBox with Ragar for more efficient transfer of files. Vote taken to make February 1, 2016 as the deadline for art with a discussion of a tagline or title for the theme: Patterns – Patterns – Patterns. Anni made the motion, Buddy seconded and the deadline and theme passed unanimously. Anni brought up the fact that Sara wanted to discontinue doing the artist communication. Lew offered to take over with assistance from Buddy. Uwe offered to work with accepted artists to bring their work up to the required resolution, when necessary. New JotsForm application will automatically send confirmation to artists submitting work. The question was raised whether to put ballots for current People's Choice Award on website. Consensus said no, there was no shortage of people voting. Ballots would be brought to next meeting for counting and determining winner.
4. Artéculture: Marge Hall was winner of People's Choice Award. 58 votes were cast and Marge had 8 votes. This was the most that any one artist received. Discussion followed about the prize. Heide made a motion to award \$25, Anni seconded the motion and the vote carried unanimously. Artéculture was successful in raising \$120 through entry fees for the High School Art Scholarship. The Commission would like to decide on the 2016 People's Choice Award for next year before the Call for Art goes out. Rosemary will look into having check cut for Marge Hall and Heide will contact her about it.
5. Jazz Occurrence: Lew reported that his concept was picking up steam and was featured in Chicago Artists Month. Great pr for his two upcoming events in Chicago on October 10 & 24, 2015. Lew also indicated he has successfully started working with kids and the Jazz Occurrence. Discussion about bringing the Jazz Occurrence back to West Chicago began and several possible venues were discussed. Anni suggested using the 103 West Washington building during Frosty Fest, as the public

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art dedication did last year. Rosemary asked the Commission if they would like to get behind a Jazz Occurrence for the event. She acknowledged that she would not be in town for Frosty Fest this year and couldn't assist. She suggested that Lew, or a representative of the Commission attend the first Frosty Fest committee meeting to see a) if the building would be available; and b) if the Frosty Fest committee thought it was a good fit; and c) discuss necessary logistics and staffing.

6. Public Participation: Sara Phalen arrived late at this point, due to another meeting she needed to attend.(Did not impact quorum)
 - a. Members talked about the bike racks and the fact that it was getting late in the year to complete the project. Rosemary related the discussion that took place at the Public Affairs Committee (PAC) meeting on August 11, 2015, in which council members indicated a desire for Infrastructure Committee members to readdress the bike racks in September. Rosemary did mention to the PAC that the Cultural Arts Commission was interested in working with bike racks to add an element of art to them. Discussion continued about how many designs, how many artists and any other ideas for a back up project given the short time left once the decision goes through all the channels. Heide shared the work of David Reimer, a metal sculptor. His work was well-received by everyone and she was asked to get pricing. Sara also suggested a St. Charles artist and Anni said she too knew of an artist, a former teacher, from Waubensee. Everyone would get more details and pricing to have in case the bike racks weren't looking good from a time perspective.
 - b. *Rosemary mentioned a suggestion made by Mayor Pineda to consider benches as a possible public art project. Artists could paint benches for a downtown display which could be then auctioned at a future event to support the purchase of permanent benches. Commission members voiced strong opinion that this wouldn't be in keeping with their concept of a permanent public art project.*

Mandy Rakow needed to leave at about this time due to childcare commitment.(Did not impact quorum)

There was a brief discussion about the current vacancies on the Commission; one member and one ex-officio member.

Group addressed an issue the public art mural, *In this together*. Sara had a rendering of the approved landscape bed that is going underneath the mural. There was great concern about the fact that people would not be able to get up close enough to it to see their "hands". Rosemary was asked to contact Rob Flatter to see if something could be done to remedy the situation.

Commission members wanted to be notified of the results of the September Infrastructure Committee meeting in relation to the bike racks. A decision was made to cancel the CAC September 3, 2015 meeting in lieu of the decision on the bike racks. Sara suggested scheduling the next meeting for September 23, 2015.

Uwe spoke about his Sister Cities trip to Taufkirchen-Vils and the exhibit he would have there next year. He talked about the emphasis on art at the German municipal center and the way in which large signage kiosks on sidewalks helped people find all the attractions of the city. Uwe shared his desire to show a slideshow to the Commission at the next meeting.

7. Sara made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m. Heide seconded the motion, and everyone approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosemary Mackey