

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

APPROVED 9/2/2021

West Chicago Cultural Arts Commission

Thursday, August 5, 2021

7:00pm

MINUTES

1. Call to Order at 7:03pm by Heidi Kuharich; Roll Call: Uwe Gsedl, Judith Horsley, Heidi Kuharich, Buddy Plumlee, Deborah Walsh, and City Liaison Rosemary Mackey in attendance; Quorum established
 - a. Also present: Abraham ("Baba") Abuado who is considering applying to join the Commission; Buddy Plumlee provided brief introduction
2. Nominate and Vote on Cultural Arts Commission Secretary
 - a. Tabled temporarily
 - b. Heidi Kuharich offered to take the Minutes
3. Approve Minutes of July 1, 2021
 - a. Heidi Kuharich listed out changes to draft Minutes:
 - 1. Anni Holm should be listed with other commission members in roll call.
 - 2a. Heidi Kuharich suggested interested parties should be invited to attend a meeting to get a better sense of the Commission before committing.
 - 2b. Heidi Kuharich stated the sign on the sculpture was crooked, damage to the base remains...Rosemary Mackey stated Public Works is in process of repairing and would continue to update status.
 - 2c. Juan Chawuk's piece is missing from the Public Art webpage...remove note re Sara Phalen.
 - 2e. Heidi Kuharich suggested listing all public art in West Chicago, not just that sponsored by CAC.
 - b. Approved unanimously with those corrections
4. Update Status of Public Art Master Plan [Cultural Arts Commission Master Plan]
 - a. Buddy Plumlee indicated that he continues to work on drafting this document
5. Update on Art Banner Promotion
 - a. Uwe Gsedl has designed location maps to be printed and distributed to prominent sites around town to facilitate People's Choice voting
 - b. Rosemary Mackey described continued plan to highlight one banner/banner artist weekly and some positive artist feedback received from this practice
 - c. Discussion on next year's theme with consideration for providing current and potential artist contributors advance knowledge; theme discussion ranged from consideration of the difficulties of pandemic living and hopefully coming out of it soon, to looking to the future with positivity, to an environmental campaign expected for 2022; Deborah Walsh suggested "RENEWAL" as a theme to incorporate all points mentioned and still provide artists much flexibility: Buddy Plumlee motioned to adopt RENEWAL as the 2022 Banner Art theme, Judith Horsley seconded, passed unanimously
6. Future Collaborative Opportunity: Mexican Cultural Center DuPage, People Made Visible, State of Tlaxcala, Mexico
 - a. Outstanding point from CAC Parking Lot; Rosemary Mackey reported no updates
7. Discuss West Chicago Sister Cities Signage
 - a. Outstanding point from CAC Parking Lot; Rosemary Mackey reported that of the six original signs posted, only one remains in position and it is in poor condition
 - b. Rosemary Mackey confirmed that Sister Cities paid for the signs the first time around; Uwe Gsedl confirmed that he was the designer; 2022 marks the 25th Anniversary

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MAYOR
Nancy M. Smith
CITY CLERK

Michael L. Guttman
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

- c. Uwe Gsedl will suggest Sister Cities presents a proposal for new signs to Commission, at which time CAC can discuss collaborating; Uwe Gsedl made motion, Deborah Walsh seconded, unanimous
8. Follow-Up on Commission Involvement with DuPage Symphony Orchestra (DSO): Where Do We Go From Here?
 - a. Discussion on concerts planned for Wheaton Academy and Sonny Acres, Commission members agreed that CAC should have presence and wants to be involved
 - b. Suggestion to draft a "brochure" on CAC for such events to aid in discussions with community members and concert attendees
 9. Follow-Up on Outreach Campaign with Balsa Airplanes and Discussion About Documenting Other Art Outreach Opportunities in the 2021 Commission Report
 - a. Heidi Kuharich is writing short PR piece on Balsa Planes to pass to Rosemary Mackey for promotional use; photos to be included
 - b. Discussion on CAC members vast outreach points (art shows, CAPE teachers, performances, etc) and how that impacts the community at large; Buddy Plumlee raised the idea of a blog or vlog series to highlight some of these efforts/opportunities, likely for social media
 - c. Brief discussion on CAC gaining own Facebook page or similar for promotional use
 10. Other Business
 - a. Deborah Walsh noted a video display of D33 student art at the Frida Kahlo exhibit; Heidi Kuharich will investigate the origins
 - b. Deborah Walsh reported from Library Director Ben Weseloh regarding landscaping at loveevenmore: 18" of mulch has been installed as well as two rose bushes at the sides, plus more rosebushes set further behind as a backdrop; Rosemary Mackey added that Public Works will work with Heidi Kuharich when ready to remount the artist sign
 - c. Buddy Plumlee's artist sign handed off by Rosemary Mackey so he can manage installation himself; Rosemary Mackey also noted that Anni Holm's sign has been installed (Heidi Kuharich took old sign to deliver to Anni Holm)
 - d. Deborah Walsh reported a conversation with Ben Weseloh suggesting a barrier wall installation near the library entrance (at the property border) that could then be utilized for mural space; discussion continued about the potential for a community effort, ceramic piece mural, assembly methods, etc and finished with suggestion to invite Ben Weseloh to present a proposal as a means of beginning the discussion [Heidi Kuharich made motion, Buddy Plumlee seconded, unanimous; Deborah Walsh will serve as liaison]
 - e. Buddy Plumlee announced an upcoming solo art exhibit at the McLean County Arts Center in Bloomington, Illinois in September with a reception on 9.17.21
 11. Public Participation
 - a. Brief comments made by Abraham Abuado on impressions of CAC and considerations to apply
 12. Adjournment: 8:09pm; Buddy Plumlee made motion, Deborah Walsh seconded, unanimous

Submitted by Heidi Kuahrich