



March 6, 2006 Board Meeting Meeting Notes

In Attendance:

Ellen Fineberg
Roger Goldenberg
Russell Grazier
Chris Greiner
Tom Holbrook
Marge Hubbard
Blair Hundertmark
Jeffrey Hyland
Jane James, Chair
Leanne Spees
Deb Thompson
Mimi White

Absent:

George Friese
M.L. Geffert
Jennifer Murphy

Also:

Erika Hunter
Marianne Pernold Young, guest
Emily Aronson, Portsmouth Herald

Jane James began the meeting at 7:00pm at the Tyco Visitors Center at Strawberry Banke.

1. Review of Minutes

The February 8th minutes were unanimously approved.

2. Organization administration

Erika Hunter reported that she was working on grant writing and settling in to her position as Art-Speak coordinator.

3. Programs/Projects/Exhibits

- a. Jane James reported that the Music Hall had to cancel the mural project as the Park Service did not approve the project. The grant will now need to be used for a different project. Ellen Fineberg proposed that the public art



March 6, 2006 Board Meeting Meeting Notes

committee and ESTA meet to collaborate on a potential project in place of the mural project.

- b. Jane James reported that the Art-Speak affordable housing competition project was not selected as one of the final projects.
- c. The Americans for the Arts study that will analyze both the direct and indirect economic impact of the arts is moving forward. The study will focus on Portsmouth, NH, Rye, NH, and Kittery, ME and will look at both for profit and non profit venues. The planning and advocacy committee will help coordinate the dispersal of the surveys (200 per quarter) with the entire board's participation. Erika will email the list of venues from the last survey as well as requirements for participation for the non profit and for profit venues.
- d. Jane James reported that the Islington Street/Arts District study will be postponed until after the Planning Department has looked into zoning issues and ordinances as laid out in the master plan. An extension may have to be filed for the NEA funding set aside for this study.

4. Coordinator's Report

- a. Erika Hunter reported that she had submitted a grant to the NHCF and NH State Council for the Arts and was awaiting a reply on both. These grants would fund her wages, as well as some website training.
- b. The data that resulted from the survey monkey on the Art-Speak website requires additional analysis. It was determined that the space committee will look into this further.
- c. Erika received some website training from Beth and suggested that board volunteers for work on the website would be helpful. Grant money is possibly being secured for board training on the website. Erika is also looking to other arts organizations to volunteer to help with the website on an ongoing basis.
- d. The insurance seminar had 15 enrollees to date. The seminar will be on March 22nd from 9-11am at the Solarium at City Hall. The snow date is one week later.
- e. Art-Speak was asked to attend a meeting regarding a Cable Access channel for the arts. The first meeting for organizations is scheduled for April 4 at 7pm. The second meeting for the public is on August 16.

5. Committee Reports

- a. Education, Service, and Technical Assistance: Mimi White reported that they are looking into scheduling a public art seminar in mid-September to be held at the Solarium at City Hall. Also, teaching packets are being published for schools to coincide with the *What is Home* Poet Laureate project.



March 6, 2006 Board Meeting Meeting Notes

- b. Advocacy and Planning: Tom Holbrook reported that they will be meeting on Friday, March 10 to discuss the following: ideas for new members; soliciting arts groups from the area to attend the Community Spirit Award celebration in Concord; coordinating the survey distribution for the Americans for the Arts study; and agenda items for 2006.
- c. Space: Roger reported that this committee would begin to analyze the data from the survey monkey project. No further work can be done on the live/work ordinance until after the planning board has an opportunity to review it.
- d. Public Art: Jeff Hyland reported that the performance ordinance has been passed along to the city attorney in preparation for a city council work session. The first reading of the public art ordinance was held on the evening of this board meeting. The second reading would be held on March 20th and Art-Speak board members were encouraged to attend. This committee would organize speakers for the public comment session.
- e. Nominating Committee: Jennifer Murphy is officially a new board member, but was not at the meeting. The Nominating Committee will review the board member's terms.
- f. Fundraising/Grants: no report.

6. New Initiatives

None at this time.

7. Future Meetings

The next meeting, to be held April 3 will be at the City Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Meeting notes taken by Deb Thompson, *Secretary*



**March 6, 2006 Board Meeting
Meeting Notes**

Art-Speak, City Cultural Commission Board of Directors (alpha order)

Ellen Fineberg
George Friese
M.L. Geffert
Roger Goldenberg
Russell Grazier, *Vice
President*
Christopher Greiner
Tom Holbrook
Marge Hubbard
Blair Hundertmark
Jeffrey Hyland
Jane James, *President*
Jennifer Murphy
Deb Thompson,
Secretary
Leanne Spees,
Treasurer
Mimi White
Nancy Carmer, *Ex
Officio*
John Bohenko, *Ex
Officio*