



Art-Speak
CITY OF PORTSMOUTH CULTURAL COMMISSION
May 21, 2007 Board Meeting
Meeting Notes

In Attendance:

Ellen Fineberg
George Friese
Chris Greiner
Marge Hubbard
Blair Hundertmark
Jane James
Sheila Shea
Leanne Spees
Deb Thompson
Mimi White

Absent:

Jennifer Murphy Aubin
M.L. Geffert
Russell Grazier, Chair

Also:

Sue Cobler

Ellen Fineberg began the meeting at 7:08pm.

1. Review of Minutes

The April 30, 2007 minutes were approved, as no changes were needed.

2. Treasurer's Report

Leanne Spees reported that on May 10th, the NHCF funds (\$20K) arrived. The City Council agreed to fund an additional 20K for the coordinator's salary. The budget for the Americans for the Arts survey results rollout is \$7,362 and reflects grant funds received from Provident Bank totaling \$4,650.

3. President's Report

No report.

4. Coordinator's Report

Sue Cobler reported that Art-Speak is on the City Council's June 4th agenda to present our annual report. Board members were encouraged to attend.



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Sue also reported that she provided copies of the Americans for the Arts survey results to the City Councilors, followed by non-profit cultural organizations so that they could use the data for grant applications. The press was also notified

Ellen Fineberg thanked the Wire for their article on the Percent for Public Art Forum.

5. Task Force Reports

a. Americans for the Arts Survey

- i. Randy Cohen will be in Portsmouth on Sept. 20th and 21st for the rollout of the Americans for the Arts survey results. Because The Music Hall will not be available, the task force will review other venue options. Though there is no set schedule yet, tentative events will include: a reception for City Councilors and survey participants; a results presentation to non-profit organizations, the Economic Development Commission, and businesses. Editorial board meetings will also be scheduled.

b. Live/Work Zoning Ordinances

- i. No report.

c. Overnight Art

- i. Sue reported that we were still awaiting news about the Overnight Art grant. Chris Greiner reported that he felt that this project should occur in May of 2008, which would allow for fundraising opportunities as well as sufficient time for the board to organize and the artists to create the artwork. Chris suggested that the committee should meet as soon as possible. The task force members are: Mimi White, Deb Thompson, Blair Hundertmark, Chris Greiner, and Leanne Spees.

6. Old Business

- a. Chris Greiner applauded the public art forum committee for the excellent job on the forum. Jane James requested that we write a thank you note to Jeff Hyland for his hard work on this committee.

7. New business: Planning for Upcoming Year (FY08)

- Economic impact of the arts:
 - Timeline: July 1 – December 31; event on September 20, 21 (potentially will serve as Art-Speak's annual forum)
 - Follow up with arts organizations and their boards
 - Task force will consist of Leanne (chair), Russ, Jane, Ellen, Sheila and Sue.
- Overnight Art
 - Timeline: May 2008
 - Task force will establish timeline, etc.
 - Sheila Shea will work with this task force to work on youth educational component.
 - Task force will consist of Chris (chair), Russ, Ellen, Leanne, Jane, Deb and Sheila
- Live/Work Space and Affordability



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- Consider education opportunities around this issue – combine with economic impact rollout.
- Create partnerships with Housing Partnership and community organizations to advance this issue.
- Task force will be formed to follow up with this: Jane, George, Russ and Chris.

- Internal Art-Speak upkeep
 - Website (redesign?)
 - Update directory

INTEGRATE IN ALL PROJECTS:

- Outreach
 - Business community
 - Artists
 - Youth

- Public Art Advocacy
 - Fire Station
 - Westin Garage
 - Parade Mall
 - Portsmouth Herald Site
 - Task force: Deb, Ellen, Jane

Marge Hubbard announced that she was moving to Alabama this summer. The board thanked her for her hard work and commitment to Art-Speak.

8. **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.

Meeting notes taken by Deb Thompson, *Secretary*



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

Jennifer Murphy Aubin
Ellen Fineberg, *Vice Chair*
George Friese
M.L. Geffert
Russell Grazier, *Chair*
Christopher Greiner
Marge Hubbard
Blair Hundertmark
Jane James
Sheila Shea
Deb Thompson, *Secretary*
Leanne Spees, *Treasurer*
Mimi White
Nancy Carmer, *Ex Officio*
John Bohenko, *Ex Officio*