



Art-Speak
CITY OF PORTSMOUTH CULTURAL COMMISSION
June 25, 2007 Board Meeting

In Attendance:

Ellen Fineberg
Russell Grazier, *Chair*
Chris Greiner
Blair Hundertmark
Jane James
Leanne Spees
Deb Thompson
Mimi White

Absent:

Jennifer Murphy Aubin
George Friese
M.L. Geffert
Marge Hubbard
Sheila Shea

Also:

Sue Cobler

Russ Grazier began the meeting at 7:15pm.

1. Review of Minutes

The May 21, 2007 minutes were approved with no changes.

2. Treasurer's Report

Leanne Spees presented the board with the current fiscal year budget as of 5/31/07 as well as the FY07/08 budget for the board review and approval.

The May budget reflected an income of \$29,980 (which does not reflect the city's contribution to the coordinator's salary of \$20,000). The expenses totaled \$31,333, with no major expenses incurred in the month of May.

The 2007-2008 total budget is \$86,687. There is a \$2,423.44 UDAG carry forward from last year and a \$2,827.31 art-speak budget carried forward.

The board requested a detailed report from Sue with the details of the PSNH grant and NEA grant as well the status of the EDC arts district study.

Mimi White made a motion to approve the budget, with a second by Jane James. Chris Greiner suggested that it would be helpful if the board was presented with an accrual budget that showed projected income and expenses. Ellen Fineberg requested that



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Leanne create a working budget for the board that can be used in conjunction with the cash budget. Leanne was tasked to create an operating budget for the board. She will bring a draft to the next board meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. President's Report

Russ reported that he met with Sue to discuss plans for the upcoming year. He has set as a priority identifying funding sources for the upcoming year based on our agenda of implementing the master plan. Russ will ask Sue to put together a chart of available funding sources that could be matched with board initiatives.

4. Task Force Reports

a. Americans for the Arts Survey

- i. Leanne reported that a schedule for the rollout of the AFTA survey results was in place, consisting of: September 20th, Randy Cohen will meet with Rotary and the press. There will then be a reception for cultural organizations and businesses from 5:30-7:30pm at a location to be determined; September 21st, there will be a presentation to the EDC at 7:30am, then a workshop for directors and board members of cultural organizations from 10am – 12pm at a location to be determined. Ellen Fineberg mentioned that this is a good opportunity for education outreach. Invitations to the events will go out just before Labor Day weekend.

b. Overnight Art

- i. Chris Greiner reported that the grant that would have partly funded Overnight-Art did not come through. The board agreed to go ahead with the project and look at other funding sources.
- ii. Russ requested that this task force report to the next board meeting with a vision and plan for this project.

5. Planning for Upcoming Year (FY08)

- Arts District Study
 - Ellen Fineberg and Jane James will participate (along with Sue) in the EDC's Islington Street study project.
- Live/Work Space and Affordability
 - Jane James contacted Rick Taintor regarding the Live/Work space ordinance and she is waiting to hear back from him.
 - Federal Home Loan Competition
 - Jane James would like to participate in this program again in conjunction with the Housing Partnership.
- Public Art
 - Ellen Fineberg suggested that the board consider public art for various and outlying parts of the city. She also suggested that the board look at ways to work with private developers to create public art in their projects. The task force (consisting of Deb, Jane, and Ellen) will meet to discuss ideas and bring them back to the board.
- Art Exchange



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- Blair Hundertmark suggested that we work with a sister city to send a group of artists (theatre artists, poets, painters, etc.) as part of an exchange program with that city.
- Board Recruitment
 - Russ suggested that board members bring suggestions of new board members to the next meeting.

6. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:53pm.

Meeting notes taken by Deb Thompson, *Secretary*



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*