



Art-Speak
CITY OF PORTSMOUTH | CULTURAL COMMISSION
March 16, 2009 Board Meeting
Meeting Notes

In Attendance:

Ellen Fineberg, *Chair*
Chris Greiner
Anna Nuttall
Steve McHenry
Sheila Shea
Leanne Spees
Deb Thompson

Absent:

Russell Grazier
Blair Hundertmark
Jane James

Also:

Sue Cobler

Ellen Fineberg began the meeting at 6:37pm.

1. Review of Minutes

The February 9, 2009 minutes were unanimously approved.

2. Treasurer's Report

Leanne Spees presented a budget as of 2/28/2009 (see attached).

3. FY10 Funding

- a. Leanne reported that she, along with Ellen Fineberg and Sue Cobler, met with Celina Adams at the NH Charitable Foundation. Celina explained that they typically fund operating expenses for organizations for their first three years and that it would be unlikely for them to continue to fund Art-Speak in the future.
- b. Leanne, Sue, Ellen and Nancy met with John Bohenko who reported that all city budgets are being level funded this year.
- c. Sue will apply for stimulus funding via the NEA.

4. Coordinator's Report

Sue presented a small prototype of a dog sculpture that will be part of an exhibit at Peirce Island this summer. The artist, a representative from the Peirce Island committee,



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and a representative from the Department of Public Works will review potential locations for the sculptures and determine appropriate placement. These sculptures will be on display for four days.

5. Committee Priorities Review/Task Force Reports

a. Public Art

- i. Deb Thompson reported that the committee is beginning the process of creating a Public Art acquisition policy.

b. Space

- i. Steve McHenry reported that the committee met on 3/9/09. He provided the board with research that has been done to date on Live/Work Space.
- ii. This committee is also working towards creating an index of performance venues in town. Dave Karlotski from the Wire is in the process of creating a website featuring a calendar that would show performance venues and scheduled events. The committee will supply Dave with suggested public performance spaces that could be added to the site.
- iii. Steve also reminded the Board that the Islington Street Study presentation will be held on March 25 at the Portsmouth Public Library.

c. Outreach

- i. Sheila Sheila reported that March is Youth Arts Month. In celebration of that, the committee arranged for student artwork to be displayed throughout the city at approximately 20 businesses.
- ii. Sheila further reported that the committee, along with Sue, is actively looking for grants for the ArtWorks project.
- iii. Leanne reported that they are developing a survey for arts and culture organizations to determine how Art-Speak might best work with those groups. As part of this outreach, the cultural organizations would be notified that the AFTA survey would again be distributed.

6. Testimony for NH State Council for the Arts

- a. Ellen and Jane will present letters of support to the NHSCA regarding state funding, which is slated to be cut as part of the proposed state budget.

7. Symposium

Sue reported that plans for the symposium celebrating the sculpture at Fire Station One are moving forward, following a meeting with Chief LeClair who agreed to the project. The event will be held at the Fire Station in May or June and will include a brief overview of outdoor sculpture in Portsmouth, the history of the project, and what's next for public art in Portsmouth. Emile Birch, the artist, will talk about the process of making the sculpture.

8. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:38pm.



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

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Russell Grazier
Christopher Greiner
Blair Hundertmark
Jane James
Steve McHenry, *Vice Chair*
Anna Nuttall
Sheila Shea
Leanne Spees, *Treasurer*
Deb Thompson, *Secretary*
Nancy Carmer, *Ex Officio*
John Bohenko, *Ex Officio*