

## **“Art-Speak”**

Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes  
February 18, 2013  
(Seybolt Building, Portsmouth City Hall)

President Nancy Pearson called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were:

**Present:** Sandra Acox, Robin Albert, Sarah Haskell, Robin Lurie-Meyerkopf, Nancy Pearson, Cathy Sununu, Liz Wright

**Guest:** Trevor Bartlett

**Absent:** Anna Matheson

Sarah Haskell moved to approve the minutes of the January 14<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.  
Seconded and carried without dissent.

President Nancy Pearson welcomed attendee Trevor Bartlett. Each Board member introduced themselves and gave a brief background and their association with Art-Speak. Mr. Bartlett introduced himself as a lifelong Portsmouth resident. In the past, Mr. Bartlett worked at the Portsmouth Music Hall in different roles and he is now the Coordinator of the Annual Portsmouth Halloween Parade. Mr. Bartlett also works for “The Wire” magazine. He mentioned that he did some research on Art-Speak and was aware that Art-Speak currently re-visited its mission. He asked the Board what they thought would qualify as a success a year from now?” Cathy Sununu spoke of the undertaking of the RFP for the Portsmouth Middle School Art project and our changing role and increased involvement. Robin Albert said that creating public policy around donated public art with clear criteria is a goal that needs to be completed. Robin also mentioned that a successful Annual Symposium is another goal. Sarah mentioned the addition of more Board members and creating sub-committees is a goal that we are in the process of working on.

After Mr. Bartlett left, the Board held a discussion regarding him being a good fit as an Art-Speak Board Member. It was agreed that Robin Albert will follow-up with Trevor letting him know that Art-Speak is in the process of interviewing several candidates and will be in touch. Robin also mentioned that she is in the process setting up a meeting with Tom Pieffer to discuss the possibility of becoming a Board Member.

### **% for Art RFP Update**

Cathy Sununu updated the Board on the status of the Portsmouth Middle School Art Project. There have been several questions via email from Artists that have been added the addendum on the city web-site. On Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, Terry Poulin (from the city Finance Dept.) along with Sandra and Cathy will open the artist’s submissions and make a list ensuring everything is accounted for. After submissions are put on a disk, the Search Committee will begin the review process.

### **Wayfinding Meeting Debrief**

Nancy Pearson, Cathy Sununu and Robin Lurie-Meyerkopf attended the Wayfinding meeting at the Portsmouth Public Library. They both agreed that the company doing the presentation was experienced and impressive. The company compared Portsmouth with Annapolis, a town they had done Wayfinding in the past. They also mentioned that the signage in Portsmouth was confusing and lacking. There will be future meetings regarding the Wayfinding process.

## **Request for FY14 City Funding**

Nancy Pearson mentioned that it's time to put in a Letter of Request for the FY14 funding from the city. There was discussion regarding the FY13 letter and where we could locate it. Robin Albert recalls Nancy Carmer writing the letter and having a Board Member sign it. Sandra is going to look through the files to see if she can find it.

## **Web-site Update**

A discussion was held regarding the future relationship with Art-Speak web-designer "Design-ativity." Recently, the Board has received information regarding Design-ativity that could potentially effect Art-Speaks reputation. The Board unanimously agreed that it's in the best interest of Art-Speak that the agreed upon Launch party was off the table. Nancy Pearson agreed to contact Design-ativity to further discuss the situation. Sandra added that she knows someone who develops web-sites and will contact her to see if she might be interested in working on Art-Speaks site.

## **Fabulous Find Grant**

Sandra mentioned that a local non-profit organization "Fabulous Find" located in Kittery, ME donates monthly proceeds to a local non-profit. In the past, recipients were granted an average of \$4,000. Sandra will look into what is required to become a recipient of these funds.

## **Miscellaneous**

Constant Contact - Cathy Sununu mentioned that she signed Art-Speak up for Constant Contact, a social media communication tool. Cathy paid for the 2012 fees and agreed to do so again this year as her donation to Art-Speak. Cathy will work with Sandra on donation fees and making her the administrator on the account.

Robin asked that Sandra send out a monthly activity report along with the Board agenda.

Sandra will prepare Board Packets for potential new Board members and leave a stack in the Art-Speak mailbox in the city reception area.

Add Art-Speak Annual Symposium to the March agenda.

*Next meeting will be held on March 18<sup>th</sup>.*