

**City of Brighton  
Arts & Culture Commission  
March 10, 2009  
4:00 p.m.**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. *Approval* of the January 20, 2009 Meeting Minutes
3. *Approval* of March 10, 2009 Agenda
4. *Approval* of January and February 2009 Financial Reports
5. Call to the Public

**New Business**

6. State of Michigan Recommended Cuts to Arts Funding; alternative sources of funding
7. Discuss BACC involvement with Brighton Fine Arts Festival (i.e., walking map)

**Old Business**

8. Discuss status of relocation of sculptures on permanent display

**Other Business**

9. Staff Updates
  - MCACA Grant
10. Call to the Public
11. Adjournment

Next BACC Meeting – TBD – Council Chambers

**City of Brighton  
Arts & Culture Commission  
Minutes  
March 10, 2009**

**1. Call to Order**

Commission Member McGeehan called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. The following roll call was taken:

Eugene Juergens - Present  
Carole McGeehan – Present  
Kate Lawrence - Present  
Tim Cusick - Present  
MJ Takagi - Present

Also present were Matt Modrack and Lauri French from City Staff and 1 audience member. Piet Lindhout came in at 5:00 p.m. and sat in the audience for the rest of the meeting.

**2. Call to the Public**

Commission Member McGeehan made the call to the public at 4:06 p.m. with no response.

**3. Approval of the January 20, 2009 Minutes**

*Moved by Kate Lawrence, seconded by Eugene Juergens, to approve the meeting minutes as written. The motion carried 4-0, with Carole McGeehan abstaining (absent at 1/20/09 meeting).*

**4. Approval of the March 10, 2009 Agenda**

*Moved by Kate Lawrence, seconded by MJ Takagi, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried 5-0.*

**5. Approval of January and February 2009 Financial Reports**

*Moved by Kate Lawrence, seconded by Tim Cusick, to approve the January and February 2009 Financial reports. The motion carried 5-0.*

It was noted in the financial report for February that we have received \$2,000 of the total \$3,000 MCACA grant; the balance will be sent upon completion of the program.

**New Business**

**6. State of Michigan recommended cuts to arts funding; alternative sources of funding**

Discussion regarding the \$6.1 million cut to arts funding proposed by Governor Granholm; this does not affect our MCACA grant for this year but funding for next year is questionable if the cuts are made. Chairperson McGeehan mentioned fundraisers and private sources as alternatives. Matt Modrack mentioned that Lauri French had done

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some research into foundations that provide funding for the arts and she has already submitted letters of inquiry to the Annenberg Foundation, Target Corporation and Kresge Foundation. Chairperson McGeehan also suggested we send letters to the Pew Charitable Trust, the Charles and Ann McArthur Foundation, and Meijer in addition to what has already been done. If she comes across any more, she will email the names to Lauri. In the handout provided there is an advertisement (“Soul-less” ad – “Rob the community of the arts, and you kill its soul.”) that the members were interested in putting up on the City and/or PSD web sites. Lauri French will check with the City and PSD to find out if this would be possible. We could also print these as posters to hang in businesses’ windows.

### **7. Discuss BACC involvement with Brighton Fine Arts Festival (i.e., walking map)**

MJ Takagi noted that the Brighton Fine Arts Festival is August 8 and 9 and asked if the BACC would like to tie in the new sculpture exhibit with the Festival. They may move the Artists’ reception to Saturday (from Friday). Matt Modrack noted that his department is working on updating the site plan map due to relocation/removal of Biennial pieces and the addition of the new exhibit pieces. He will be working with Chaely Chartier to firm up the information. MJ suggested an unveiling of one of the new pieces might be a good idea for the BACC to consider for the Festival. Carole McGeehan asked whether we might post educational material on-line on the City and PSD’s web sites.

### **Old Business**

### **8. Discuss status of relocation of sculptures on permanent display**

Kate Lawrence reminded everyone that at the January BACC meeting she had asked the group whether they wanted to consider moving “Decision Pending” to a more appropriate spot given some of the negative publicity it has received. The group discussed the pros and cons and possible new locations (on St. Paul St. where “Don Quixote” is now, at the courthouse, in front of Tom Coates’ office). Carole McGeehan would prefer to leave it where it is now since we have weathered the storm in terms of publicity and questioned whether the BACC should make the decision or leave it up to the public. Kate indicated that it is in a premium spot now and perhaps we might want to showcase one of the new pieces there instead. Matt Modrack offered the services of Jim Rowell to Photoshop the sculpture to the suggested alternate locations for the Commission’s review.

“The Children” is to be relocated to the corner of the Imagination Station off Mill Pond and the Hyne Street alley behind the existing bushes on a taller pedestal; Matt Modrack will handle this item.

Matt mentioned that we had verbally obtained the four artists’ permission to extend exhibit of their sculptures at the Cobb-Hall location. Matt asked the group if they wanted him to send the artists formal letters asking for another 2 year extension at the same spot or at a different location within the City. Gene Juergens suggested we ask the artists if they might be willing to reduce their prices so the pieces could be purchased and kept in their locations rather than having to go through the expense of returning them to the artists. Carole McGeehan suggested we could advertise the lower cost to the public for purchase. The consensus was the BACC would like to keep these pieces and also the Robert Sestock piece on North St. if possible. There was discussion about moving one or more of the pieces once the Stout patio was complete and replacing with a new piece and the possibility of having Stout sponsor the exhibit. Since there is a large, empty base

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outside City Hall (outside Matt's office), it was suggested we might want to move "Landscape Sunset" there.

Matt Modrack asked the group if they were planning to exhibit in the Hynes Street alley. There are currently four bases and one sculpture (which we plan to return to the artist).

MJ Takagi suggested at least two pieces for the alley – one at the front and one at the back of the alley with benches in between. Carole McGeehan agreed that two would be good with a minimum one at the front off Main Street. There was also a discussion about putting a piece at the entrance to the City off the Spencer expressway exit.

### **Other Business**

#### **9. Staff Updates**

- MCACA Grant – covered in item 6 and financial reports.

#### **8. Call to the Public**

The call to the public was made at 5:30 p.m. Hearing none, the call to the public was closed.

#### **9. Adjournment**

Moved by Kate Lawrence, seconded by Tim Cusick, to adjourn the meeting at 5:31 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

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Lauri French, Community Development/Planning Clerk

Next BACC Meeting – Tuesday, April 14, 2009 – 4:00 p.m. – Council Chambers