

ART WORK SUB-COMMITTEE
McHenry County Administration Building
667 Ware Road
Woodstock IL 60098

MINUTES OF JANUARY 18, 2008

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairman Hill at 8:32 a.m. The following members were present: Tina Hill, Chairman; Randy Donley, Peter Merkel; Sue Draffkorn and Virginia Peschke. Sandra Salgado was absent. Also in attendance: County Board Chairman, Ken Koehler; Sue Stelford, Art Coordinator; and Robin Pendergrast.

Tina Hill, Chairman
Randy Donley Sue Draffkorn
Pete Merkel Virginia Peschke
Sandra Salgado

MINUTES

The minutes of the November 16, 2007 meeting was reviewed. Ms. Peschke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Merkel to recommend approval of the committee minutes as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

NEW BUSINESS

Update on fund balance: Mr. Sarbaugh joined the committee to present an update on the remaining budget of the Artwork Sub Committee. Mr. Sarbaugh reminded committee members that the funds for the Artwork Sub Committee are not a part of the County money. Money for Artwork Sub Committee is obtained from the proceeds of the vending machines in the County Buildings. A portion of these funds are spent on the employee Christmas luncheon as well. Committee members reviewed the revenue and expenditures for FY2007. The current balance in the account is \$5,923.46. This amount increases by approximately \$300 per month. Since the elimination of the cafeterias the amount collected per month has decreased. Committee members thanked Mr. Sarbaugh for his update.

Art donations/selections: Mr. Robin Pendergrast joined committee members for a review of proposed purchases of aerial images of the County. The project started with a selection of the Woodstock Square by Chairman Koehler. The pictures previously viewed were too far out to differentiate between the different municipalities in the County. Mr. Pendergrast explained that the committee needed to "crop" an area from the Municipality they were interested in. He noted that the prints are placed on fiberboard in order to keep the cost of the prints down. Committee members noted they wanted each print to be a representation of the various communities, like the cow in Harvard and the Woodstock Square or Opera House in Woodstock. Mr. Pendergrast stated he would forward a link with some very identifiable prints for view by the committee. The Committee members thanked Mr. Pendergrast for his presentation.

Establishment of by-laws by the Artwork Sub-Committee: Committee members were informed that the by-laws were created by pulling information from the Northwest Area Arts Council and Human Relations Council by-laws. Ms. Stelford questioned if the Arts Council was going to be independent of the County and how could additional artwork be obtained for the County buildings if the Council was independent. Committee members were reminded that they agreed to create a council in order to have the ability to apply for grants. Chairman Hill noted that the Sub-Committee has fulfilled the purpose of the committee, which was to place artwork on the county buildings walls. It was hopeful that the formation of the council it would bring additional interests to arts in the County. Ms. Peschke noted that it takes 3 directors to form a 501c3 and part of the mission could be to place additional artwork on County Building walls. Committee members questioned who would want to serve on a council that is controlled by the County. The all agreed for an artworks council to exist, additional funding would be needed. Chairman Hill noted that the Algonquin Arts Council exists with the use of very little funding as all their artwork is donated on a yearly basis. Committee members stated they feel the any request for funding from the county would fail on the board floor as the County Board members did not seem favorable to expend any additional funds for artwork. Committee members noted they felt there were three missions of the council, one to get artwork placed on the walls of the County buildings, the second was to have a yearly large project like the barn quilt project and the third was to obtain artwork on loan for a year. It was stated that an additional mission should be to form a 501c3 in order to accept donations and apply for grants. This would allow anyone who gives a donation to receive a tax write-off. Committee members questioned if an opinion should be obtained from the State's Attorney asking if a not for profit foundation could be created for the county. Committee members noted that if a foundation is formed they could obtain staff support if needed as well. One of the committee members noted that they were under the impression that a foundation would be created to use as a catalyst to collect funds and obtain additional membership with the long term goal of building an art museum in the County. Committee members noted that the group does not have to be a "foundation" as most foundations give out grants to others. It was noted that it could take 6 months to create a 501c3. It was suggested that discussions be held with either the State's Attorney or an outside Attorney who would be willing to donate time to help with the creation of a 501c3. Committee members noted that there is a famous artist in the area who has passed on that a local attorney is settling their estate. There may be a way for the County to obtain some of these acquisitions. This would create some tax relief for the estate. It was noted that the estate is in possession of some "plates" where prints could be run off to sell to raise funds for the Council. It was noted that this artist was also a veterinarian and the estate may be interested in placing some of the artwork in the new Animal Control Facility. Committee members noted that they would have to find out if the

creation of a 501c3 is feasible, create some bylaws for the council and speak to the attorney handling this estate before the committee moves forward.

Committee members reviewed 6 pieces of art from artist, Lynn Krause. She is offering some of her pieces for a decreased price. Ms. Stelford noted that some of these pieces are quite large and would be placed in the Courthouse. Chairman Koehler noted he would like to see the first print placed in the Administration Building. Committee members agreed to obtain Ms. Krause's first print shown and to retain remaining funds as seed funds for the creation of the 501c3. After discussion, Ms. Peschke made a motion, seconded by Ms. Draffkorn to retain \$5,000 as seed money for the creation of a 501c3. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m. on a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Ms. Draffkorn, with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

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