

CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, April 20, 2011 (rescheduled from April 11)

Members Present: Sara Azam, Su-Lin Carbonelli, Alderman Frances Clark, Jennifer Delmonico, Douglas Hausladen, Robert Parker

Staff Present: Barbara Lamb,

Members Absent: Ife Gardin, Dean Sakamoto, Slate Ballard, Chris Jacobs, Dorreth Cole, Aleta Staton, Janna Wagner

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by J. Delmonico at 5:50pm.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

To be revisited next month as there was not a quorum present.

III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Events: DCA is working with the Jazz Haven folks again this year on the production of the New Haven Jazz Festival which will take place on August 13, 2011. There will be no fireworks this year.

Mayors Community Arts Grant Program: The 2011 Guidelines and application packet are just about finalized will be available next week after Kim returns from vacation.

Percent for Art: Three artists have been selected to develop proposals for East Rock Magnet School art work. 3 alternates have also been selected.

Public Art: Work continues on the creation of the stand inset for the Arena Tablets which will be installed on the Grand Avenue bridge near the Fire Station. These tablets once graced the front of the old Arena Building which was located at the site currently occupied by the FBI. The tablets were in storage in the Coliseum basement for more than 30 years. DCA's hope is to have them installed and lighted by fall.

Project Storefronts: We have moved out of 71 Orange Street in what is seen as a win-win-win situation. The Grove is currently in discussions with Related Properties to sign a lease and are expanding their footprint to consume much of the space. Meanwhile we have secured two new locations: 100 Crown Street (the old Water Company headquarters) around the corner from 71 Orange, and 45-55 Church Street, former site of Kinkos. We are presently preparing the new spaces and are interviewing applicants for the next stage of Project Storefronts.

DCA will be making a presentation about PS at the upcoming New England Foundation for the Arts Creative Communities conference taking place May 18-19 in Massachusetts. We are also hoping to be selected to be part of the Americans for the Arts Annual Conference in June in California.

New Haven Sister Cities: Fifteen participants have signed on for the 15 day trip to Vietnam and Cambodia which includes a special 3-day stop to visit the sister city of Hue. The trip departs next Tuesday, April 26 and returns Thursday, May 12.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Budget Hearings: It is difficult to know what will happen with this year's General Fund budget as much depends on the level of municipal funding support which will be derived from the State of Connecticut, however, no cuts to the Dept of Cultural Affairs budget are foreseen at this time.

V. NEW BUSINESS

B. Lamb reminded people that the May meeting has been rescheduled to Monday, May 23rd since she will still be in Vietnam at the regularly scheduled date.

B. Lamb reported that Nghi Thai has tendered her resignation from the Commission pending her move out of the city of New Haven.

J. Delmonico, chair of the Commission for several years also tendered her resignation pending a move from the City as well. Members of the Commission thanked her for her years of dedication and hard work on behalf of the Commission and commented on how much stronger and more stable the Commission is as a result of her hard work (and that of B. Parker and many other members). Commission members honored her with a gift certificate to Van Wilgens and a book about the history of Lawyers in New Haven.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.

THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, MAY 23, 2011 AT 5:45 PM AT CITY HALL.