

## CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES -REVISED

Monday, June 9, 2008

**Members Present:** Gabriela Campos-Matteson, Alderman Frances Clark, Lisa Cobham, Laurel Coniglio, Jennifer Delmonico, Sheila Murphy, Mimi G. Sommer, Aleta Staton. **Staff Present:** Barbara Lamb, Kim Futrell. **Members Absent:** Dorreth Cole, William Denby, Suzette Franco-Camacho, Robert Parker, Sheneane Ragin, Dean Sakamoto. **Special Guests:** Mary Ellen Kwasia, Margaret Bodell, Doug Morrill.

### I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by S. Murphy at 5:47 p.m.

### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commission agreed to revisit when a quorum is reached.

### III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

B. Lamb introduced two new staff people: Mary Ellen Kwasia who is serving as the Yale Presidential Scholar assisting with summer events/programs and Margaret Bodell who is working on Public Art. A written director's report was distributed covering the various projects for which the OCA is responsible.

Bicycling Festival: OCA is working with the Mayor's Office, Transportation, Traffic and Parking and the Parks Department to present a bicycle festival at East Rock Park on July 19. The festival will include children's activities, bicycle timed trial, bicycle jamboree, food vendors and performances. The event is scheduled for 12noon – 4pm.

Iconic Art/Public Art: Over 36 proposals have been received for the "Iconic Art" project from all over the US and Europe. Proposals will be evaluated and a limited number of artists will be selected to develop "mock-ups" of their installations for display.

Percent for Art: The commission discussed the recent article and letter to the editor about the artwork to be designed by Sam Weiner for the Bishop Woods School. B. Lamb will be meeting with Dick Abetello, the board member who raised concerns during the most recent Board of Education board meeting to discuss the project.

Jazz Festival: OCA will be working with Jazz Haven, Inc. to co-produce the New Haven Jazz Festival. The festival theme for this year is "All Great Jazz is Local" and is scheduled for 4pm – 9pm on August 9 and 4pm – 8pm on August 10, 2008 on the Green. OCA has agreed to assist Jazz Haven with marketing of the event.

Special guest Doug Morrill of Jazz Haven, Inc. and A. Staton (a board member of Jazz Haven) gave the commission an overview of Jazz Haven and their involvement in the revival of the New Haven Jazz Festival. This year's event will feature Wycliffe Gordon, Wayne Escofferey, Harold Danko, Christian Sands and Jesse Hameen, among others, all musicians that have gotten their start in New Haven and moved on to other parts of the country. Additionally, the festival will feature the New Haven Jazz Orchestra and other performances. Neighborhood Music School's Summer Jazz Program will open the weekend activities with its recital performance on Friday, August 8.

Other: OCA will be moving its office to the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of city hall.

Members discussed the possibility of hosting some of the monthly meetings at different locations (offices of CAC members or an arts facility).

#### **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

Percent for Art: The new Hooker School artwork proposal has been modified. The artist's initially proposed outdoor floor design with color tiles in the entryway raised concerns about the slipperiness of the tile coating when wet. The floor tile design has been moved to a configuration along the outer wall of the park area.

New Members: B. Lamb requested members consider individuals that should be considered for appointment to the commission. OCA would like to continue to diversify the Commission by profession and aldermanic wards.

#### **V. NEW BUSINESS**

Members agreed to cancel the July meeting and reconvene on Monday, August 11.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, August 11, 2008 AT 5:45 PM AT CITY HALL.**