

**VILLAGE OF ALGONQUIN
PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
Algonquin Village Hall Board Room
February 16, 2012
7:00 p.m.**

***AGENDA ITEM 1:* Roll Call to Establish a Quorum**

Present: Commissioners Kenneth Webster, Carol Sapeta, Reggie Andrews, and Liz Miller.

Absent: Chairperson Steve Kaniewski; Commissioners Richard Rehwaldt and Diane Magerko.

Staff Members Present: Ben Mason, Senior Planner.

***AGENDA ITEM 2:* Approval of January 19, 2012 Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Webster made a motion to approve the January 19, 2012 minutes as presented and was seconded by Commissioner Miller. A voice vote noted all ayes. The motion carried.

***AGENDA ITEM 3:* Annual Algonquin's Art on the Fox Show**

The commission continued to discuss plans for this summer's Art on the Fox show, which will be held Saturday, June 30 and Sunday, July 1. Mr. Ben Mason, Senior Planner provided an overview of the call for artists and mentioned that village staff is publicizing event information through many different outlets, including: the Illinois Art Fair Directory; Spring Algonquin Citizen Newsletter; village water bill; and Comcast public access TV. The commission also recommended advertising the call for artists with the Chicago Artists Coalition and McHenry County if possible. Mr. Mason mentioned the artist application has also been sent out to artists that have taken part in previous years of the village's public art program and fine art fair. He also noted the artist application has been posted on the village website and encouraged commission members to forward a copy of the application to any artists they know of who might be interested in registering for a booth.

Mr. Mason stated that the Algonquin Historic Commission has expressed interest in setting up an informational booth to exhibit historic artwork pieces from their collection, to which there was consensus amongst commission members to offer a complimentary booth space to the Historic Commission. The commission also agreed to provide local artist Jeff Kennedy with a complimentary booth space should he be willing to once again generously update the event poster he designed for the art fair event. The commission also recommended larger directional signs for the downtown area.

Mr. Mason introduced Ms. Ann Leslie, the village's fine art show consultant. Ms. Leslie provided an update on the collaborative art mural project she had suggested the commission consider incorporating into this year's show. She reviewed an initial sketch of an artwork image she had drafted, which featured a scene representative of the Fox River waterfront in downtown Algonquin.

Ms. Leslie explained the mural image would be drawn onto four, 4 x 8' wood panels each with gridlines that would create small sections the general public could fill-in with the appropriate color paint to complete the image. She stated the total cost of the mural project would be \$3,000, which would include the purchase of all the necessary materials and supplies as well as her time designing the artwork and transferring the image onto the wooden panels. Ms. Leslie recommended the arts commission seek business sponsors to fund the project and Commissioners Webster and Miller volunteered to help generate ideas for recruiting business sponsors and develop an overview of benefits and publicity the event could offer potential sponsors.

Commissioner Webster suggested the arts commission consider waiving the \$15 jury fee requirement for the previous year's Best in Show award winners, as an incentive for those artists to participate in the show again this summer. The commission was in agreement to waive the \$15 fee and jury requirement for last year's Best in Show award winners and Ms. Leslie stated she would contact those artists to inform them of the arts commission's offer.

AGENDA ITEM 4: **Local Student Art Exhibit Program**

Commissioner Sapeta explained that she had sent out a letter and artist application to the local middle schools and is corresponding with various art teachers to arrange for student participation in the commission's inaugural student art exhibit, scheduled for April 26-28.

Mr. Mason indicated the use of Village Hall has been reserved for the exhibit dates and a commission meeting will likely be scheduled in late March to review the student artwork submittals.

AGENDA ITEM 5: **Purchase of Outdoor Public Art Sculpture**

Mr. Mason stated that the artist Bryan Massey of Conway, Arkansas has offered to sell to the village his sculpture "Adam & Eve Mourning Over the Soul of Abel" for \$2,500, which is significantly less cost than the artist's original asking price of \$12,500. He explained that the village's Committee of the Whole reviewed the proposal and supports the proposed purchase of the sculpture. Mr. Mason noted that the sculpture has been on display as part of the public art program since 2008, when the artist first transported and installed the artwork in the village. He stated that the village's Public Art Reserve Fund that is comprised of developer impact fees and revenue from the Art on the Fox summer art fair has a cash balance of approximately \$3,200. The Fund was intended to be used for the purchase of permanent pieces of public art on an ongoing basis and Staff is

recommending the village purchase of the sculpture for \$2,500 and that it be incorporated into the public art program's permanent collection.

The commission expressed its general support for village purchase of the sculpture and did not raise any objections or concerns. Commissioner Webster indicated the opportunity to purchase the sculpture at the amount offered by the artist was quite favorable and he suggested staff invite the artist to participate in the public art program again in the future. Commissioner Miller recommended considering arranging for formal recognition of the artist at a future village event.

Staff stated the village will proceed to finalize the sculpture purchase with the artist.

AGENDA ITEM 6: Other Business

Staff distributed photographs of the permanent artwork sculpture "Samara Series", which the developer of the Oakridge Court shopping center recently installed on their site.

Staff reminded the commission of the need for members to complete the required Open Meetings Act online training.

The next arts commission meeting will be Thursday, April 19 and staff will contact commission members to schedule an interim meeting to review the submittal of student artwork should plans move forward for the student art exhibit tentatively scheduled for late April.

AGENDA ITEM 7: Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded and a voice vote noted all ayes. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:35p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Benjamin A. Mason".

Benjamin A. Mason, Senior Planner