

**VILLAGE OF ALGONQUIN  
PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION  
Meeting Minutes  
Algonquin Village Hall Board Room  
July 21, 2005  
7:30 p.m.**

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

Present:                                Chairperson Steve Kaniewski; Commissioners, Regina Andrews, Ellen Rodman, Jeanine Soldner, Kenneth Webster, and Karen Werle.

Absent:                                 Lynn Carlson.

Staff Members Present:            Jeff Mihelich, Assistant Village Manager; Katherine Thornton, Senior Planner; and Ben Mason, Planner.

**AGENDA ITEM 2:                    Public Arts Commission Administrative Items**

Mr. Jeff Mihelich, Assistant Village Manager, gave a summary of the July 14, 2005 Arts Commission – Administrative Items memorandum. He referenced the ordinance approving the Village of Algonquin Public Art Master Plan. Mr. Mihelich also explained that the Public Art Commission meetings are to follow Robert's Rules of Order and are subject to the conditions of the Open Meetings Act.

**AGENDA ITEM 3:                    Overview of Public Art Master Plan**

Ms. Katie Thornton, Senior Planner, provided an overview of the Public Art Master Plan. She reviewed the process the Village's Committee of the Whole and Village staff engaged in to formulate the Village of Algonquin's Public Art Master Plan. Ms. Thornton encouraged Commission members to base their decisions off the guidelines and criterion provided within the plan. Ms. Thornton briefly outlined each component of the Public Art Master Plan, highlighting the most important features of each section.

*Commissioner Webster* commended staff for their work in compiling the necessary information to assist the Commission in making decisions regarding the implementation of the Village's Public Art Master Plan.

**AGENDA ITEM 4:                    Implementation Schedule**

Mr. Mihelich discussed the July 14, 2005 memorandum titled Algonquin Public Art Master Plan – Implementation Schedule. He described the timetable staff envisions the Commission following for the remainder of 2005. Mr. Mihelich expressed that ideally there will be a kick-off event in October to coincide with the installation of the first

public art pieces. He indicated that if the Commission adheres to the timetable as provided in the memorandum from staff, the Commission would meet monthly through November 2005 and could then take December and January off.

*Commissioner Soldner* asked about rules to guide the selection of and display of public art. Mr. Mihelich stated that the Commission and staff will work during the next month to establish the terms for selecting and displaying public art.

**AGENDA ITEM 5: Year 2005 Artwork Display Sites**

Mr. Mihelich gave a PowerPoint presentation of the 6 outdoor and 6 indoor sites staff recommended for approval in Year 2005. He explained that the criteria staff adopted when selecting the 12 sites were the geographical distribution, visibility, accessibility, and ease of artwork installation associated with the site locations. Mr. Mihelich summarized the locations and characteristics of each of the 12 sites staff recommended. He concluded his presentation by emphasizing the geographic distribution across the Village of Algonquin achieved in staff's site recommendations, as well as, the significant visibility of recommended sites located along Randall Road, Algonquin Road, and within the Old Town District.

*Commissioner Webster* asked about the definition of an earthwork. *Commissioner Soldner* stated that an earthwork is typically a large environmental work that could be a garden-like piece.

*Commissioner Soldner* inquired about the definition of a multiple. Mr. Mihelich described a multiple as being a piece that incorporates characteristics from more than one artistic medium, for example, from both a painting and a drawing. *Commissioner Soldner* stated that such a description of an artwork can be termed 'mixed media'.

*Commissioner Webster* asked what measures would be taken to address the possibility of an artwork being vandalized. He also asked about the potential of siting a piece near the center of the Village's downtown, for example, at the corner of Algonquin Road and IL Rt. 31. Mr. Mihelich stated that the draft art exhibition agreement between the Village of Algonquin and interested artists will inform the artist of the risk associated with lending a work of art for public display. Mr. Mihelich noted that by selecting display sites in open and highly-visible areas, as staff had done in its Year 2005 site recommendations, the chance that a piece might be vandalized is significantly reduced. Mr. Mihelich also explained that placing a piece of art at the corner of Algonquin Road and IL Rt. 31 is not viable due to limited public ownership of property near the intersection.

Mr. Mihelich recommended approval of the 6 outdoor and 6 indoor sites as selected by staff. He indicated it is possible that a property owner or two may choose not to allow art to be displayed on their site, but stated that the schools are interested in participating in the public art program.

## **COMMISSION MOTION ON STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Commissioner Soldner moved and Commissioner Webster seconded a motion to direct staff to secure display approval from the property owners of the 6 outdoor and 6 indoor sites staff selected. The Roll Call vote noted the following: Ayes: Chairperson Kaniewski, Commissioners: Andrews, Rodman, Soldner, Webster, and Werle. Motion carried.

### **AGENDA ITEM 6: Identification of Artist Outreach Methods**

*Chairperson Kaniewski* stated his interest in communicating through email with Commission members regarding a methodology for conducting the solicitation of artists.

*Commissioner Soldner* stated it is customary when soliciting artists to send out a call to artists in local newspapers and through other media outlets. She explained that interested artists are usually asked to submit information regarding the artwork, including what steps they would take to maintain and safeguard their piece.

*Commissioner Andrews* stated she has information on how art programs in other cities have solicited artists.

*Chairperson Kaniewski* asked Commissioners Andrews and Soldner to provide him with information on the artist solicitation process that he could share with all the Commissioners so that they can review existing best practices and devise a solicitation process for the Village of Algonquin's public art program.

*Commissioner Soldner* stated that the Northwest Area Arts Council has a website that lists the local non-profit institutions supporting artistic endeavors. She provided the website, which is [www.naac4art.com](http://www.naac4art.com).

Mr. Mihelich asked the Commissioners to email him over the next month with their thoughts and ideas regarding the artist solicitation process. He stated that staff will summarize the Commission's thoughts into a memorandum to be discussed at the August 18<sup>th</sup> Public Arts Commission meeting.

*Commissioner Webster* suggested that the Commission might solicit area students for artworks to be displayed in the program. *Commissioner Soldner* encouraged Commission members to consider the educational possibilities associated with the Village's display of public art. For example, she mentioned the possibility of an artist working with kids at an area school to produce an art piece for the program. *Commissioner Soldner* also stated that the Illinois Arts Council would be a resource for exploring additional educational outreach programs.

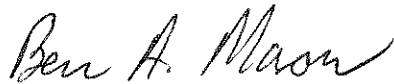
*Chairperson Kaniewski* previewed the August meeting agenda and asked Commission members and Village staff to focus on refining the public art display selection criteria over the course of the next month.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: Other Business**

There was no other business discussed.

**AGENDA ITEM 8: Adjournment**

Commissioner Soldner moved and Commissioner Webster seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The voice vote noted all ayes. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.



Respectfully Submitted,  
Ben A. Mason  
Planner