

**VILLAGE OF ALGONQUIN
PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
Algonquin Village Hall Board Room
February 19, 2009
7:00 p.m.**

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

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

Absent: Ellen Rodman.

Staff Members Present: Russ Farnum, Community Development Director and Ben Mason, Senior Planner.

***AGENDA ITEM 2:* Approval of August 27, 2008 Meeting Minutes**

Chairperson Kaniewski entertained a motion to approve the August 27, 2008 minutes. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was seconded and a voice vote noted all ayes. The motion carried.

***AGENDA ITEM 3:* 2009 Outdoor Fine Art Show**

Mr. Ben Mason, Senior Planner discussed the February 16, 2009 memorandum titled '2009 Outdoor Fine Art Show'. He summarized last year's outdoor show the commission sponsored in Riverfront Park and stated that around a dozen artists participated in the inaugural year. Mr. Mason explained that at Commissioner Webster's recommendation, staff contacted Ms. Ann Leslie who is a local artist with experience organizing art shows. He mentioned staff recently met with Ms. Leslie to explain the commission's public art program and its interest holding a second annual outdoor show later in the spring. Mr. Mason proposed having the show on May 30, which similar to last year is the fifth Saturday in May. He indicated that Ms. Leslie is interested in serving as a consultant to help the commission coordinate the fine art show this year and he noted that Ms. Leslie is available this evening to talk about her experience as an art show consultant and answer any questions.

Ms. Leslie provided a brief overview of her professional background and involvement organizing the RiverFest Fine Art Show in St. Charles. She mentioned she is interested in assisting the commission stage this year's show in Algonquin and recently met with village staff to discuss general topics for consideration, such as event date, show layout, and booth fees.

Commissioner Webster inquired as to which weekend the show should be held on. He noted that there are two major suburban shows the last weekend in May, and the Commission considered alternative weekends. Upon review of a schedule of other area art shows, the Commission selected Saturday, June 6 with a rain date of Sunday, June 7 to hold the village's show.

Chairperson Kaniewski asked how many spaces are available for artists in Riverfront Park. He noted that there were 13 artists in last year's show. Ms. Leslie estimated that there might be space for an additional 10 artists and she indicated she would go out to Riverfront Park and survey the area to determine options for physically laying out the show.

The Commission then discussed general topics such as the amount of the show's entry fee, eligible artwork media, interactive activities, and whether to give out awards or ribbons to artists. Staff stated that last year the show was open to participation by artists who exhibited work of original design and execution in the types of media typically considered for the village's public art program, which included paintings, sculpture, and photography. Ms. Leslie mentioned that it was important artwork be original execution and the Commission agreed that only artists that create their own work will be accepted into the show and crafts will not be allowed.

Chairperson Kaniewski attempted to summarize the Commission's comments and stated that it appeared there was general consensus to hold the show on Saturday, June 6 and publicize the event as a local hometown show with a \$15 entry fee, with approximately 22 participants, and Ms. Leslie will help the Commission organize the show and review the artists' applications.

The Commission then entertained a motion to formally support the Village entering into a contract with Ms. Leslie to serve as a consultant to the Commission. Commissioner Webster moved and Commissioner Soldner seconded a motion to accept Ms. Leslie as the Commission's consultant for the fine art show. The voice vote noted all ayes and the motion carried.

The Commission agreed to meet again on March 12, 2009 to further discuss plans for the fine art show and Ms. Leslie stated that she would prepare a scope of services and forward to staff.

AGENDA ITEM 4: 2008/09 Public Art Program - Artist Stipend

Mr. Mason discussed the February 16, 2009 memorandum titled '2008/09 Public Art Program—Artist Stipend'. He reported that all of the Year 2008/09 public art pieces have been installed throughout the community and all of last year's artworks have been returned. He explained that in an effort to attract more high quality and professional artwork submittals, this year's public art program application announced that stipends might be awarded for artwork of high quality as determined by the Village. Mr. Mason indicated that a maximum \$2,000 is available to be awarded this year to the most

exceptional artwork in design and execution. He encouraged the Commission to go out and visit the public art display sites to evaluate this year's pieces and recommended each member nominate one piece for stipend consideration at a Commission meeting in the near future. Mr. Mason mentioned that the Commission will need to determine whether the money should be given in a lump sum to one artist or divided-up and distributed to several artists, depending on whether the Commission is in agreement on one particular piece or if each Commission member separately favors a different artwork.

Commission members agreed to review this year's artworks over the next few weeks and discuss the matter further at their next meeting in March. Mr. Mason noted that similar to the annual selection of artwork for the public art program, the Commission's recommendation will ultimately be forwarded to the Village Board for their consent and final approval.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Other Business

Commissioner Carlson mentioned that she visited several of this year's public art display sites and recommended that the Commission require in the future that all artwork be delivered to the village ready to hang in a manner suitable for immediate public display. Staff stated that this requirement would be added for next year's public art program.

AGENDA ITEM 6: 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 8:30p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Benjamin A. Mason, Senior Planner