

**VILLAGE OF ALGONQUIN
PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
Algonquin Village Hall Board Room
January 27, 2011
7:00 p.m.**

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

Present: Chairperson Steve Kaniewski; Commissioners, Karen Werle, Kenneth Webster, Diane Magerko, Richard Rehwaldt, and Liz Miller.

Absent: Reggie Andrews.

Staff Members Present: Ben Mason, Senior Planner.

***AGENDA ITEM 2:* Approval of November 18, 2010 Meeting Minutes**

Chairperson Kaniewski entertained a motion to approve the November 18, 2010 minutes. Commissioner Miller asked for clarification on the village's booth at the 2011 Algonquin Commons Art Fair, to which Mr. Mason explained the booth will be staffed by the arts commission and be used to help publicize the village's art-related programs. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was seconded and a voice vote noted all ayes. The motion carried.

***AGENDA ITEM 3:* 2011 Algonquin's Art on the Fox**

Mr. Ben Mason, Senior Planner summarized the commission's general plans for the 2011 Art on the Fox fine art show. He mentioned that village staff is in the process of publicizing the 'Call for Artists' and copies of the application are being sent to the artists that have taken part in the annual public art display program and previous fine art shows. Mr. Mason explained that the show information has also been listed in the Illinois Art Fair Directory and Crafter's Blue Book event listings and the artist application has been posted on the village website where artists can print a copy of the form.

Mr. Mason also stated that the village is in the process of executing an agreement with Ms. Ann Leslie to once again serve as a consultant to the commission. In recognition of Ms. Leslie's expanded role as the event has grown in size, her base financial stipend of \$500 will be enhanced this year to also include receipt of the event's non-refundable jury fees that are assessed to all artists that apply.

The commission considered whether to incorporate food into the event and there was general consensus to hold the artist reception at Port Edward restaurant again this year. Several commissioners expressed support for encouraging Port Edward restaurant to possibly setup a food or wine tasting booth in their parking lot. Providing lunch meals to artists or having a local restaurant setup a booth at the event were also mentioned as ideas. The commission also discussed the Best in Show program and the possibility of local businesses sponsoring awards and prizes. Commissioner Webster suggested approaching newspapers or banks about their potential interest in sponsorship. Chairperson Kaniewski recommended further consideration of different options for award sponsorship and food at the event be discussed at the February meeting.

Commissioner Magerko mentioned that she spoke with the organizer of Barrington's art fair which will be held the same weekend, however the Barrington show did not have an interest in potentially partnering with Art on the Fox to cross-promote and publicize the different shows.

Several other topics were discussed briefly, including the possibility of posting photographs and general show information on the village website and plans for musical entertainment. In general, there was consensus from the commission to limit music and any amplification to the central gazebo area and its immediate surroundings.

AGENDA ITEM 4: New Student Art Exhibit Program

Mr. Mason reminded the commission that at its last meeting, Commissioner Rehwaldt proposed organizing a new public art exhibit program to showcase local students' artwork. He mentioned that Commissioner Rehwaldt has submitted a series of questions for commissioners to consider in determining a scope for a student art exhibit, including: call for artwork method; eligibility criteria; application guidelines; selection process; display locations; and exhibit timeframe.

Commissioner Rehwaldt explained that a general item to discuss would be which grade levels would be eligible to participate. He suggested that teachers at the various schools could help select artwork for display. Commissioners Miller and Magerko noted that there is limited art curriculum offered in the local school districts, via volunteer 'art moms' in elementary schools and as an elective course tract at the middle school level.

Commissioner Rehwaldt also recommended holding a kick-off reception at Village Hall when the new program is unveiled, similar to the annual public art program. Commissioner Webster suggested January/February might be a convenient time of year to hold a student art exhibit, after students have been in school for a semester but prior to the annual spring art shows.

Overall, there was consensus from the commission to pursue the formation of a student art exhibit that would be open to Algonquin residents. There was also agreement to make the program open to students in grades 6-12. The commission will continue to further

discuss plans for the student art program at the February meeting. Commissioner Magerko mentioned she would try contacting School District 300 about their potential interest in participating and Chairperson Kaniewski indicated he would attempt to approach School District 158.

AGENDA ITEM 5: **Other Business**

Commissioner Rehwaldt stated that a local resident has expressed an interest in offering art classes for kids from her home. Mr. Mason asked Commissioner Rehwaldt to advise the resident to contact Village Staff to discuss the regulations for opening a home-based business.

Commissioner Webster inquired as to what year the public arts commission awarded financial stipends in recognition of the most exceptional public artwork displays in terms of design and execution. Mr. Mason indicated he would look into what year stipends were offered and the possibility for offering stipend awards to artists again in the future.

The next public arts commission meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 24.

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 8:15p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Benjamin A. Mason". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name of the signatory.

Benjamin A. Mason, Senior Planner