

**VILLAGE OF ALGONQUIN  
PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION  
Meeting Minutes  
Algonquin Village Hall Board Room  
February 24, 2011  
7:00 p.m.**

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

Present:                      Chairperson Steve Kaniewski; Commissioners, Kenneth Webster, Reggie Andrews, Diane Magerko, and Liz Miller.

Absent:                      Karen Werle and Richard Rehwaldt.

Staff Members Present:      Ben Mason, Senior Planner.

***AGENDA ITEM 2:*                      Approval of January 27, 2011 Meeting Minutes**

Chairperson Kaniewski entertained a motion to approve the January 27, 2011 minutes. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was seconded and a voice vote noted all ayes. The motion carried.

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

Mr. Ben Mason, Senior Planner summarized the commission's general plans for the upcoming Art on the Fox fine art show in June. He mentioned village staff is continuing to publicize the call for artists and event information will be featured in the upcoming issues of the village's Citizen newsletter and Northwest Area Arts Council's monthly newsletter. Mr. Mason also noted the Algonquin Commons generously sent the Art on the Fox application to artists that have participated in their event and staff reciprocated by sending the Commons' art fair application to artists that have participated in the village's previous art programs and shows.

Mr. Mason then introduced Ms. Ann Leslie, the village's fine art show consultant. Ms. Leslie mentioned three artists have sent in applications thus far. She also noted she is forwarding inquiries from musicians to perform at the event to Mr. Mason.

The commission discussed the Best in Show contest, specifically recruiting judges and the possibility of local businesses sponsoring awards and prizes. Commissioner Webster volunteered to contact former arts commission member Lynn Carlson and the art department chairperson at Elgin community college to see if they would be available. The commission expressed interest in offering a stipend in the \$50-\$100 range to the judges for their services and Mr. Mason advised that if the prospective judges ask about

compensation to inform them that the availability and amount of judging stipends are still being determined.

Regarding business sponsorship of Best in Show awards, Commissioner Magerko stated that the Algonquin Commons art fair offered a total of \$1,000 in cash prizes last year. Chairperson Kaniewski noted this would be the first year having sponsorship involved in the event and he recommended having one business sponsor the entire Best in Show award prizes if possible in an effort to launch a small-scale successful sponsorship program this year that would be attractive to additional businesses in the future. Commissioners Webster and Magerko expressed reservations about having too much of a commercialized feel to the art show and recommended limiting the number of businesses connected to the event.

Several commissioners offered to approach area businesses about their general level of interest in sponsoring the Best in Show awards—without discussing specific dollar figures at this time—and what type of presence they might want at the event: Chairperson Kaniewski indicated he would inquire with the Chamber of Commerce; Commissioner Miller offered to contact Good Shepherd Hospital; and Commissioner Magerko volunteered to contact the Algonquin Commons, Rosen Hyundai, and a local newspaper. The feedback and comments received from the various businesses will be discussed at the next arts commission meeting in March.

Chairperson Kaniewski stated Port Edward's is interested and willing to hold the artist reception and there was consensus from the commission to pursue making arrangements with the restaurant again this year. Regarding the potential for Port Edward's to setup a wine booth in their parking lot during the event, Mr. Mason recommended Chairperson Kaniewski ask Port Edward's to submit a concept sketch/site plan detailing such items as where the booth would be located and how it would be accessed.

Several other topics were discussed briefly, including an update from Mr. Mason on the plans for musical entertainment and the possibility of allowing a new downtown hot dog eatery to sell food at the event. In general, there was consensus to approach 'Downtown Dogs' to further discuss their interest in setting up a hot dog stand at the show.

#### ***AGENDA ITEM 4:                      Consider Ideas for New Student Art Exhibit Program***

Mr. Mason summarized the commission's general interest in developing a new student art exhibit program to display local students' artwork in public places. He noted that thus far there was consensus amongst the commission to start by contacting school districts 158 and 300 to see what their level of interest is, specifically at the 6-12 grade levels.

Regarding student eligibility criteria, there was discussion amongst the commission as to whether all district 158 and 300 students would be eligible to participate, regardless of residency in the village. Overall, there was consensus to focus the scope of the program on students who are Algonquin residents initially as the program is first formed with the potential to include non-resident student artwork in the future.

Mr. Mason stated that Commissioner Werle had contacted a person with knowledge of the local home-school community who would be willing to help promote and involve homeschoolers in the area.

Commissioner Kaniewski explained that he contacted school district 158 and there is interest from the Huntley High School art department to help make their students' artwork available for display in the village. The school district participates in shows each spring, particularly in February and April. Commissioner Magerko reported that she contacted art teachers with school district 300 and they were also supportive of a new village-sponsored student art exhibit. Similar to school district 158, the spring semester is already booked-up with art exhibits and shows. There was some interest from the commission to see if student artwork from the spring semester might be set aside for display in the village the following fall/winter and the topic will be discussed further at the next arts commission meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 5: Other Business**

Mr. Mason stated that Commissioner Werle is resigning her position on the public arts commission and noted that commission members should forward any recommendations for the vacancy on the commission to his attention by the end of the month.

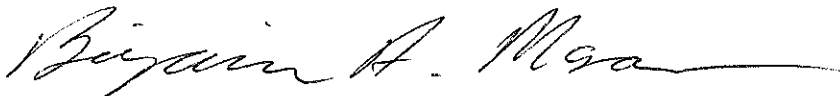
Mr. Mason responded to Commissioner Webster's inquiry from the previous meeting regarding what year stipend awards were given out to artists in the public art program, in recognition of the highest quality pieces of art on display. He explained that stipends were awarded in 2009 as a way to help attract outdoor sculpture submittals and money is not in the budget nor was a stipend program promoted to artists this year. Mr. Mason encouraged the commission to consider ways of increasing the amount of outdoor sculpture submittals in the future, such as holding a sculpture contest of some kind.

The next public arts commission meeting was scheduled for Thursday, March 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 8:45p.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