

**VILLAGE OF ALGONQUIN
PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
Algonquin Village Hall Board Room
September 29, 2011
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 August 18, 2011 Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Miller made a motion to approve the August 18, 2011 minutes as presented. Commissioner Sapeta seconded the motion and a voice vote noted all ayes. The motion carried.

***AGENDA ITEM 3:* 2012 Algonquin's Art on the Fox**

Mr. Ben Mason, Senior Planner gave an overview of the preliminary plans for next summer's Art on the Fox event. He noted that the show will once again be held as a two-day event, however, specific dates need to be set. Mr. Mason stated there has been interest by commission members to explore moving the show date later in June to avoid conflict with Father's Day weekend and potentially hold the event on a weekend with less competition from area art festivals.

Commissioner Sapeta expressed general interest that the event be held prior to the Algonquin Founders Days Festival.

Commissioner Webster mentioned he has spoken with many artists about moving the show date to the end of June—June 30 and July 1, 2012—and none expressed any concerns or scheduling conflicts. He also explained that there are typically fewer competing fine art fairs the weekend before the Fourth of July and this past year there were only two art shows that weekend. The commission discussed Commissioner Webster's proposal for the 2012 show dates and there was consensus to hold next year's Art on the Fox event on Saturday, June 30 and Sunday, July 1.

The commission discussed the dollar amount of the jury and booth fees. Commissioner Webster indicated support for raising the current \$15 jury and \$75/85 booth fees slightly

in order to provide each artist with complimentary lunch tickets. Commissioner Miller noted that modestly higher fees might attract some new artists interested in participating in a professional fine art show. The 2012 show fees will be finalized at the next commission meeting.

The commission also discussed comments received by some artists this year who recommended the event provide for overnight security of the artist booths as well as free booth space to past Best in Show award winners. There was consensus to pursue offering a Best in Show cash prize to future award winners rather than a free booth space at the following year's show. The commission discussed the potential merits and challenges to providing overnight security and the topic will be further discussed at a future meeting and with the art show consultant Ann Leslie.

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

The commission continued to discuss ideas for a new art exhibit program to display local student artwork in public places. Overall, the commission has expressed an interest in holding the exhibit as a 2-3 day show at Village Hall during the late winter/early spring. There was general support to focus the program on student artwork from the middle schools (6-8 grade), in order to set the exhibit apart from the many established shows that feature high school student artwork.

Commissioner Sapeta provided an overview of her preliminary correspondence with art teachers at Westfield Community School, Algonquin Middle School, and St. John's Lutheran School. She explained each school has a minimum of one art teacher on staff and they would be interested and willing to nominate several artworks for display. She noted that she had not gotten a response from or contacted St. Margaret Mary and Heinemann Middle School. There was consensus from the commission that each individual school should select artwork for display and the arts commission would primarily serve to review and approve of the submittals. Mr. Mason stated he would contact Commissioner Magerko to look into the availability and reservation of portable display walls from School District 300.

AGENDA ITEM 5: **Oakridge Court Sculpture Installation**

Mr. Mason reported that the developer of the new JC Penny shopping center on Randall Road (Oakridge Court) is interested in providing and maintaining its own outdoor sculptures to fulfill their public art obligation to the village. He explained the developer recently submitted their artwork proposal called "Samara Series", a group of four sculptures whose design is based on the maple tree seed of the Autumn Blaze Freeman Maple. The sculptures will be displayed in the central plaza of the retail development and the developer would like input from the village regarding the layout of the pieces. Mr. Mason noted there are two possible alternatives: Concentric layout or Eccentric layout and there was unanimous support from the commission for the Eccentric layout option. In general, commissioners felt the Eccentric layout offered more of a rhythm and movement to the installation as the pieces in that arrangement circle around the perimeter

of the plaza, whereas the Concentric layout would stop the focus of most viewer's attention in the center of the plaza on the largest work. Additionally, the commission thought the site was conducive to the less formal arrangement of the Eccentric layout as the concrete plaza is offset to the right of center in the green space, which makes it more accommodating of an asymmetrical installation.

AGENDA ITEM 6: **Other Business**

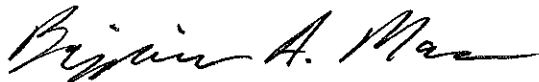
The commission expressed interest in having a banner made for identification of the arts commission booth/table at future art shows and events.

Mr. Mason confirmed the date of the public art program's annual fall open house has been scheduled for Thursday, October 27.

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". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Benjamin A. Mason, Senior Planner