

Cultural Affairs Committee Meeting

May 15, 2019

The regular meeting of the Cultural Affairs Committee was called to order at the New Port Richey Recreation & Aquatic Center at 6:35pm on Wednesday, May 15, 2019. Board Members Richard Melton, Kelly Smallwood, Gina DiGregorio, Ruth Ann Jackson and staff liaison Elaine Smith were in attendance. Evie Parks, Derek & Stefanie Pontlitz, Councilman Chopper Davis, and City Manager, Debbie Manns attended as guests.

VOX POP:

- Proposal for donation from CAC for Centennial Celebration of the Old Land Office – Event to be held on Friday, June 14, 2019. Description and Timeline for event was distributed. Derek spoke and explained that the event was created to promote the City as well as celebrate the historical, 100-year-old building. A Commemorative Brochure is being created that may be used as a guide. Ghost Tours will also be done. A media tour is also planned. There was some Q & A discussion among the guests and CAC. The CAC voted to make a recommendation that \$1,000 be donated from the CAC budget for the event in order to assist in covering costs for the Guide, the Ghost Tours, and Marketing.* *(This will go before City Council for approval.) (Evie will send a corrected budget to Elaine and the CAC members.)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- The Minutes from the April 17 meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Bicycle Rack Project Update – Some modifications to the design were recommended and these were sent to Liz Misemer and Bob Smallwood on April 18, 2019. The deadline for the Council meeting was missed and the next one is June 4th. The update on the project is pending.
- Five Year Plan – A print-out of the spreadsheet that Ruth Ann created was distributed. Information needs to be added and updated. There was a question about the funding for

the Smithsonian Exhibit and the Florida Humanities Speaker Series, and if there were any expenses from the CAC budget. It was a matching grant and Elaine said she would find out the answer for the CAC. Chopper commented that the League of Cities has a State of Cultural Affairs and that there is quite a bit of money at the State level.

- Sculpture Walk Update – Elaine & Chris are going to meet with the City Manager. Types of bases used in other cities were discussed. Locations formerly recommended were also discussed. The City Manager wants a walk-through to give final okay on locations; after which the call can be put out to artists. Chopper Davis made a suggestion that the Sculpture Walk be a specific distance; for a 5K or 2K walk, for example.
- Art Show Update – KC has scheduled the special event; Elaine will find out the date.
- Holiday Window Decorating Contest – 2019 – Suggestions were discussed to have a volunteer organization take this over. Ruth Ann said she would try to get a Scout Troop or Inter-act Club to do this; find out what businesses want to participate, do a different way of voting. A suggestion was made to partner with Main Street or perhaps even have Main Street take over this activity. Gina asked if the Window Decorating Contest could add Halloween. Rich said that Main Street should do that. (Further discussion was tabled for June meeting.)
- Sculpture Walk – Kelly suggested that this project be given to someone else; call to artists, decide on submissions, voting, etc. (Artist is responsible to install and remove sculpture.)

NEW BUSINESS:

- Photo Contest for Winter Arts Events – The Hacienda is probably going to open in February, 2020. The Photo Contest should be tied into that, with photos of the City, etc.
- Plan for Crosswalk Repairs/Re-painting – Rich said discussion and planning for this is to be postponed for two more weeks until the City Manager knows the timeline for road construction. (This will be discussed again in July.)
- Shirts for CAC Members – The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board members have a shirt they wear to events. Would the CAC Members like something similar? The costs will be taken from the Parks & Recreation budget. Everyone decided that Salmon would be a nice color. Donna will email everyone to get their shirt size.
- Elaine announced that Chris Bornfleth is the new staff liaison for the CAC. He is familiar with CAC projects and will begin attending next month, when Elaine is away.
- Next month, the CAC will discuss further on ticket distribution for the Florida Orchestra performance in the park in December, 2019. Cynthia is going to explore more affordable options for the Christmas tree lighting in Sims Park. Main Street may take over the project.
- The City Manager reminded everyone about the Sunshine Law and distributed the Dos and Don'ts outlined therein. She also stressed that if there is a complaint of a violation, there's an investigation, fines may be levied up to \$500, and jail time up to 60 days, so it

is not to be taken lightly. Sunshine Law violations can be in the form of emails and private conversations between CAC members outside of the Committee meeting.

- City Council wants to be included in the quarterly reports; and to follow what the CAC is doing.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gina DiGregorio, Secretary

GD: dch