



## January 22, 2007 Board Meeting Meeting Notes

### **In Attendance:**

Ellen Fineberg  
M.L. Geffert  
Russell Grazier, Chair  
Chris Greiner  
Blair Hundertmark  
Jane James  
Leanne Spees  
Deb Thompson  
Mimi White

### **Absent:**

Jennifer Murphy Aubin  
George Friese  
Tom Holbrook  
Marge Hubbard

### **Also:**

Sue Cobler

Russ Grazier began the meeting at 7:05pm.

#### **1. Review of Minutes**

A motion was made by Mimi White, with a second by Ellen Fineberg to approve the December 28, 2006 minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **2. Treasurer's Report**

Leanne Spees presented the Art-Speak budget as of 12/31/06. The budget reflected an additional \$5K grant to the coordinator's salary

Russ Grazier requested that the budget reflect what Art-Speak actually needs for each column in addition to what has been allocated and spent. Russ requested that Leanne redo the budget to show more detail for the upcoming meeting with the NHCF/Piscataqua Region.

#### **3. President's Report**

Russ Grazier reported that he will be meeting with Celina Adams of the NHCF/Piscataqua Region on Friday to discuss funding.



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Russ also provided board members with copies of the board terms. He noted that there are two vacancies in the 2009 class and five people who are in the position to renew for a second term.

M.L. Geffert moved to nominate Sheila Shea, Katie Payne and Nicole Gregg to the board with a second by Mimi White. The motion was unanimously accepted.

The nominating committee, consisting of Russ Grazier, Blair Hundertmark and Mimi White will meet to discuss further nominations.

Russ reported that Dan Rawling contacted Russ regarding his proposal for public art for a staircase in the Sheraton project. Russ will inform him that because this building is not part of the percent for art project, no public funds are available, and therefore Art-Speak's involvement isn't appropriate.

Russ was approached by the Fire chief regarding the creation of a firefighter's monument as he would like Art-Speak to have a representative involved in the process. \$93K has already been raised for this project. Russ will communicate to the fire chief Art-Speak's willingness to participate and will find out the timeline for this project, and whether or not a committee already exists .

#### **4. Coordinator's Report**

Sue announced that the NH Business Committee for the Arts was seeking nominations. Ellen Fineberg made a motion, with a second by Jane James, to nominate the Sheraton and the Wire. The motion was unanimously approved.

Sue also reported that she registered for the Affordable Housing Competition on behalf of Art-Speak. The building used for the competition will be the same as last year.

This year, the NEA Annual Report, which is widely distributed, will highlight the grant given to Art-Speak for the Islington Street Corridor study.

Close to 600 completed surveys were sent to the Americans for the Arts in the first week in January.

The next board meeting will be held at the Portsmouth Public Library on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor in the Hilton Garden Room. Mary Ann List will give the board a tour of the library at 6:30pm.

Sue and Russ are finalizing the strategic plan. Sue will reach out to all board members to get their feedback on their goals for the board.

#### **5. Task Force Reports**

##### **a. American's for the Arts Survey**



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- i. Chris Greiner reported that he expects some survey information back from the Americans for the Arts in April. Sue will reach out to participating organizations to discuss the results. Russ suggested that this committee should meet prior to April to create a strategy for the dissemination of the results. A final report from the Americans for the Arts is expected in June. Art-Speak will plan for a roll out of this information in September.

### **b. Public Art Ordinance Implementation Plan**

- i. Jane James reported that this committee has prepared a possible agenda and outline for the public art forum. Julie Mento will meet with this committee to provide insight on the percent for art program at the state level.

### **c. Live/Work Zoning Ordinances**

- i. No report.

### **d. Overnight-Art**

- i. Chris Greiner reported that he met with Sue Cobler to look at a possible timeline for Overnight-Art. Russ offered to sponsor a \$5K grant from the William Cash Fund through Rotary. Sue has also researched grant opportunities that may be available after July 1. Meanwhile, she will withdraw the mini grant for which she had previously applied. The board agreed to table further Overnight-Art discussion until the next meeting. Chris reported that further planning for Overnight-Art is on hold until after the funding meeting on Friday.

## **6. Old Business**

No old business.

## **7. New Business**

No new business.

## **8. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:06pm.

Meeting notes taken by Deb Thompson, *Secretary*



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**Art-Speak, City Cultural Commission Board of Directors (alpha order)**

Jennifer Murphy Aubin  
Ellen Fineberg, *Vice Chair*  
George Friese  
M.L. Geffert  
Russell Grazier, *Chair*  
Christopher Greiner  
Tom Holbrook  
Marge Hubbard  
Blair Hundertmark  
Jane James  
Deb Thompson, *Secretary*  
Leanne Spees, *Treasurer*  
Mimi White  
Nancy Carmer, *Ex Officio*  
John Bohenko, *Ex Officio*