

Westport Public Art Collections (WestPAC)

November 8, 2019

Town Hall, room 309

Minutes submitted by Barbara Wang

Attending: Randa Trivisonno, Kathie Bennewitz, Scott Springer, Jennifer Fridland, Ive Covaci, Leonor Turut, Marion Morra, Eve Potts, Reese Green, Barbara Wang

1. Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting October 11th.

2. Committee Update:

- Board of Selectmen unanimously approved us.
- Next up: Board of Education for Monday Nov 11th.
 - Agenda items are for approval of Collection Management guidelines and to reappoint our committee
 - Additional, BofE members looking for ways the Collection can support the school system initiative for “holistic” integration/ community.

3. Collection Update:

- For Collection Management Systems we look to be approved.
- There will be discussion with Friends over the cost estimate for the migration of data in this program, from old system to new.
- Data Entry:
 - We are waiting further updating until we are secure with final confirmations to move forward with new CMS.
 - Looking to form a group that will get the initial training on the new system

4. Education Update:

- Small Collection Ensembles:
 - The Chinese Grouping has moved from SES to LLS. SES was very successful, received a lot of great responses. GFS will get a few pieces for “previewing”.

- SES is looking for a Portraiture exhibit to fill the space. Ive is looking for a group of volunteers to put this together.
- LLS: there is a Still Live exhibit that can be moved around
- There is also interest in creating a landscape grouping that can circulate.
- Art Teachers: Ive will also run a professional development workshop on Nov 18 on Chinese painting, 2:30 - 5pm. 3 sessions: elementary/middle/high school.
- Interest in an education seminar or workshop on etching/printmaking
- Idea to create education packages that art teachers can access utilizing the Collection pieces.
- Rail Systems: LLS now has one.. Coordinating with the other elementary schools for space and rails for rotating and other exhibits
- Art Smart: it would be great if we could get a representative from them on our committee.

5.Special Projects Update:

- Accessions: Steffi Friedman pieces:
 - Ballet Dancers will move to SHS on Nov. 11th into the Courtyard. The site has a perennial and rose garden: Kathie will talk to the garden people to see about cleaning it up for a reception in the Spring.
 - Wall Reliefs - Rockwell has created shadow boxes to protect them. They will become property of the Collection rather than property of the Library... although they will go on long term loan to the Children's Library at WPL.
- Insurance Claims - moving forward. Resubmitting proposal for some of the Coleytown paintings to Chubb for re-evaluation.
- Website Committee: Need a group to help clean up and apply consistent visual messaging. Need to overhaul within the template of the School system website guidelines. Reese, Marion, Eve will meet at the Library on Friday Dec 6th at 9:30 to discuss a plan.

6.Representative Site Reports: Committee is working to solidify roster of reps at each site who will submit a monthly update. Membership attendance to be addressed.

- SHS
 - New works are hanging in the theater/music area

- Social Studies/English wing - Opportunity for discussion with Tom Scavone and Angela Simpson (Prof dev coordinator) about the possibility of taking down old student art.. Or updating it. This could open up more wall space.
- BMS: planning for next year should begin now, coordinating thru Dr. Rosen and the art teachers. Possible for this year may be small pieces for the Comic Strip Club.

7. Additional Business: We have received donations that need to be evaluated.

- Chagall print numbered and signed. Requires some research to prove provenance
- Iranian artwork pieces for consideration. Again require research to evaluate and decide if these are pieces we would consider for the collection.

8. Next Meeting to be held Friday December 13, 2019 at 9am TH room 309