

## Westport ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Town Hall, room 309

Tuesday, April 10 2018

THE NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY, MAY 8 2018, TOWN HALL, ROOM 309 AT 12 NOON

Present: Nancy Diamond, Richard Epstein, Kathie Bennewitz, Miggs Burroughs, John Dodig, Sandy Lefkowitz, Kelle Ruden, Elizabeth Strick.

Absent: Eric Chiang, Frederic Chiu, Lee Goldstein, Wendy Morgan-Hunter, Deirdre Price, Carole Schweid.

Guest: Judith Bacal

### AGENDA:

#### 1, OTOCAST

Judith reported the first stage of the Let's Connect app is just about complete. Logos have been added and she will be meeting with Kathie Bennewitz to collect input for the app. The Levitt still has to responded. On reviewing the app, Nancy suggested that under the heading, Arts and Cultural, the organizations names should be mentioned in the audio. There were also questions about the map, which could be more user friendly. Also, a link to the WAAC website should be included. All this will be discussed at the next Otocast meeting.

The next meeting of the Otocast sub-committee is Wednesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at Town Hall, 9am room 309.

#### 2. TEA Talk

Dates under consideration for the event, October 21 or 28

Suggested topic for this year's TEA Talk was a program to explore the digital divide, and would focus on the millennials, a group of young people between the age of 18 – 34. Two possible names were suggested, Ben Reiser, former Staples graduate, Columbia law student and hearing impaired. John will contact him. Will Haskell, another possibility, Sandy will speak to him. The program would look and learn how millennials use and explore the arts through digital media. A statement is needed to describe what we are thinking, Miggs will ask a former TEA Talk participant, Murk Yurkiw to write one. No final decision was made.

### 3. Lambdin Mural

The Robert Lambdin mural was dedicated on April 5<sup>th</sup> at its new home, Staples High School. As part of the event, characters in the mural derived from literature were portrayed by, Jim Marpe, First Selectman, Maizy Boozin and David Corro, Staples Players, John Dodig, former principal, Staples High School and Melody Stanger, Coleytown Middle School and Eric Stanger. Also, taking part were Bill Harmer, Executive Director, the Westport Library and James D'Amico, Principal, Staples High School. Inna Agujen, chair, Westport Public Art Collections introduced the program. The event was festive, with good scripts and was a great gathering of different groups and ages from the town.

### 4. Conversation Bench

Postponed till next meeting.

### 5. New Business

The Community Theater black box may have to give up its space. Town Hall needs more space for offices. This is a valuable theater space, very few Black Box's in the area. Committee felt a follow up conversation with Jim Marpe was needed, to find out more about the possible loss of the space.

### 6. Up-coming events

April 21<sup>st</sup> Westport Library, Maker Fair 10 – 4pm

April 23<sup>rd</sup> Westport Library, "Protect" student poetry competition readings

April 28<sup>th</sup> Westport Women's Club, celebrating local talent. Opening 5-8pm, exhibition continues through 29th

May 5<sup>th</sup> the Artists Collective, 13 studios on tour. Preview party 6-8pm at Design within reach.

May 12 Westport Garden Club Annual Plant Sale. Saugatuck Congregational church, 9:30-1:30

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Meeting adjourned at 1:25pm

Elizabeth Strick  
Secretary