

Westport Public Art Collection Committee Meeting

March 8, 2019 9:00am

Attendees: Inna Agujen, Kathie Bennewitz, Randa Trivisono, Ive Covaci, Scott Springer, Leonor Dao Turut, Tom Scavone, Reese Green, Jen Fridland, Elise Meyer, Patra Kanchanagom, Barbara Wang.

Minutes submitted by Barbara Wang

Minutes

Meeting held at Town Hall, Rm 309

1.Collection Inventory Status

A. Progress to date: New closet at SHS is extremely helpful.

1.Fire Station is left to do.

2.Schools are priority - would like to be finished prior to April break. For SES (Cancelled due to snowstorm) - Imke and Inna will coordinate; SHS - Leonor will help coordinate to get this completed.

3.SHS Closet inventory is final - to be completed after April break.

B. Request for membership assistance: Signup Genius will be resent out.

C. Final notes: at completion, all reps should take their location list and compare with the data online to make note if anything is not updated. Can let Kathie know with a "to locate" message.

2.Recruitment Update:

A.1 week before meetings will try to send around reminders of the event to hopefully boost attendance. Inna may look into texting over emails for reminders.

B.Both Ive and Elise have possible upcoming meetings with potential recruits.

3. Address from Tom Scavone: Tom recapped the meeting he and Kathie had on 2/25 with the art teachers - there was great feedback and dialogue. Lots of planning and strategizing for next year - dedicated spaces, projects, expanding these things to all schools. Next year World Culture focus for art will be Chinese (this year was Indian). Looking forward to following LLS prototype of Teaching Gallery space and expanding to all schools over the summer. Tom will definitely be working with all art teachers and alerting them to our resources; he's also happy to liaise with any principals and to go into schools walking around and identifying spaces.

4.WestPAC presentations: Kathie made presentations this past month to both Rotary and to the Art Teachers (above). Great work Kathie!

5. Status of Data Entry Project/hiring situation: Megan is starting to work on the database... setting up a way to sort the collection by media, eliminating old tags. We will continue strategizing about this. Possible work for an intern to help out with this.

A. Research: looking for committee members who can research artworks for database notes to expand context in the system, connectivity for curriculums. Elise has some interest... anyone additional is welcome

6. Middle School Art Show: Coley/BMS will have combined end of year art show on May 2nd. Jen will work with art teachers. Might be possible to set up some WestPAC features on easels in the cafeteria reception area.... Hope to possibly put a WestPAC presentation up on the tv monitors during the event.

7. Friends issues:

A. Project Calendar: The calendar and its improved success last year was discussed by Friends - they would like to boost school participation this year and will coordinate with art teachers. Friends has volunteered to help students make digital submissions. Suggestion to have a poster advertising the calendar for kids to submit.

1. I've will send out member request for help as we did last year with the review of student work.

B. Drew Friedman Foundation - Friends money for curriculum work. This needs to be brought up at next Friends meeting. Tom might be able to help promote this to staff... Kathie will send Tom all details.

8. Site Representative Reports:

A. KHS: Inna and Randa are working on the Art Smart Museum Night in May - hope to gain more WestPAC exposure, hopefully utilizing the tv monitors with WestPAC video clip.

B. LLS: Have 2 Art Smart projects using our works; Rehangs works in the Kindergarten hallway; Annie Exhibition is ready to go in time with the Show - and got approval to keep using the Annie Exhibition spot to become a "teaching gallery" to rotate more WestPAC works

C. CES: Rescued some works that were getting light exposure; with conferences coming up, Scott hopes to hang some more of our works to raise awareness as parents will be walking around the building.

D. BMS: Museum Night (as detailed above) in May, Jen will work with art teachers, see about getting our video clip on the tv monitors for that night.

E. GFS: need follow up to get a recruit in place to take on this site.

F. SES: Imke needs more help

G.Town Hall: rotating art in places, desperately need more manpower!

H.Senior Center: Einsel shadow boxes from the SHS closet will get hung in the Game Room - Kathie will circulate SignUp Genius to get member help to hang.; They have requested an education talk on the Collection; New hanging artwork needs labels - may see about getting some of the seniors to help out with this.

9.Additional items for review:

A.Howard Abel Connections: 8 pieces identified to donate to our collection - Westport artists. Kathie is facilitating these works going thru our process.

B.BEFORE JUNE 30th: WestPAC will have to do end of year report for renewing our 3 year stewardship of the Collection. We'd like to propose a longer stewardship than 3 years. Need to focus on this at our next meeting.

10. Next meeting is scheduled for Friday April 12. However this is friday before Westport Public Schools Spring Break. Recommend cancel this meeting and move to April 26th. Barbara will coordinate with the Town.

Next meeting: TO BE CONFIRMED.