

## Westport Public Art Collections (WestPAC)

September 13, 2019

Town Hall, room 309

Minutes submitted by Barbara Wang

Attending: Randa Trivisonno, Inna Agujen, Leonor Turut, Marion Morra, Anna-Lisa Nixon, Tom Savone, Jennifer Fridland, Eve Potts, Ive Covaci, Kathie Bennewitz, Lee Goldstein

Absent: Barbara Wang, Imke Lohn, Paula Argosh, Scott Springer, Patra Kanchanagom, Jen Berniker, Anna-Luise Ruttman, Reese Green, Wendy Morgan Hunter, Elise Meyer

### 1. Introductions

Randa introduced Anna-Lisa Nixon, who wants to join us as a CES rep.

### 2. Committee Organization and Status

Inna Agujen announced she is going to step aside as Committee co chair after 2 and half years in role, she will stay on committee as KHS rep.

Ive Covachi will assume role of Chair of Education Committee

Members received overview of site reps roles and responsibilities over the year.  
Discussed organizing committee into other subcommittees for:

- o Collection Management

- o Accessions/Research—help needed now for assessing, and research for, pending pieces

- o Special Projects

Kathie reported: The Westport Public Arts Collections Committee, a subcommittee of the Westport Arts Advisory committee, is designated to serve as steward of the approximately 1,900 art works in the Westport Public Art Collection [WestPAC] by the First Selectman, Westport Public Schools Superintendent, and the Board of Education. The WestPAC Committee is charged with installation and interpretation of art works, their conservation and repair, recommending donated works for accession, maintaining

on-line access to collection, and the safe keeping of works in storage, as well as integration of the collection into the school curriculum. The Committee activities are subject to annual reporting for its appointed term of service [July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019] and periodic renewal. The Committee is pursuing a renewed term as steward of the collection with WPS and Town effective July 1, 2019. Committee members will likely be reappointed at beginning of new term of service.

Kathie Bennewitz also shared the WestPAC FY19 and FY18 Reports [FY2016 submitted in 2017], with Friends of WestPAC's financial statements of activity; she also reported that at the Westport Arts Advisory committee at its September 10, 2019 meeting approved the following: the WestPAC Collection Management Guidelines [GMC], as revised with pending last edits from the town attorney; and new Town of Westport Art Policy . These documents will next be submitted to the WPS Superintendent BOE and Town of Westport Board of Selectmen.

## 2. Friends of WestPAC

Ive reported on Friends of WestPAC's Westport Calendar fundraiser and Back to School Night sales help needs.

## 3. New Initiatives and Events

Kathie reported on Westport Library Exhibit—"Let's Dance" (Sept. 19 to Dec. 12, 2019, with opening reception October 3, 6-7pm, and asked for help pulling works from storage and sites.

Ive reported on New "Learning Galleries" being installed in ES and SHS. Approved locations include: SES, GFS, LLS location approved, SHS. Visual arts still life completed at LLS; Ive is leading a professional development day at SHS this month with Social studies teachers on their installation with works selected by SS chair.

Ive and Tom reported on Westport Youth Concert and China global focus project and installed that will rotate through the schools during the year. Will include two Chinese paintings donated by Westport's sister city and possibly photographs by Larry Silver.

Kathie is giving a talk this month on WestPAC and Otocast to the Ys Men. They are also interested in a tour of the collection at its site, perhaps with the Ys Women Tour

Playhouse Gallery Exhibit--TBD

#### 4. FY 20 Budget

Operating funds from Friends same as last year.

#### 5. Other Business

Kathie reported that the Friends of Westpac's

Connecticut Collections Application 2019 is being submitted this week. CTCO is for a new collection management opensource program and tool sponsored by the Connecticut League of History Organizations.

Coleytown insurance claim was partially approved, with remaining claim to be further reviewed.

THE NEXT MEETING OF WestPAC COMMITTEE IS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11TH AT 9:00 am, ROOM 309

Minutes taken by Inna Agujen

For Barbara Wang, Secretary