

**WESTPORT ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, January 14, 2020**  
**12 noon, Town Hall, room 212D**

**Attending:** Nancy Diamond, Richard Epstein, Kathie Bennewitz, Miggs Burroughs, Eric Chiang, Lee Goldstein, Deirdre Kelly Kellie Ruden, Deirdre Price, Elizabeth Strick

**Absent:** John Dodig Frederic Chiu, Wendy Morgan-Hunter, Carole Schweid.

**Guests:** Judith Bacal, Harris Falk

**Let's Connect Meeting,**

The event will be held at the Library on Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> a light lunch will be served. Nancy has notified all arts organizations. There will be a presentation of Otocast. Kellie, Eric and Elizabeth will help.

Planned for the weekend of April 25 – 26 a “Westport Arts Crawl”

A way to promote Otocast, Westport’s visual and audio tour of the Towns art and art organizations and an opportunity for the public to explore all the different arts organizations in town.

**Otocast**

Kathie, Judith, Deirdre Kelly met to review and make changes and clean up the content. Phase 2 is to replace images where needed, and remove images owned by the Westport Museum of History.

The Westport Museum of History will be listed only as a point of interest, not as a separate tour. Deirdre P will ask MOCA whether it wants a separate tour or if they wish to create their own app, as they are now located outside of downtown.

Richard will explore creating a new app name for Otocast Westport. Suggestions, “Discover Westport “ “Welcome to Westport” presented by the Otocast platform.

**WestPAC update**

Kathie reported that the Town Art Collection has been accepted to join the CT Collections cohort. The WestPAC database will be migrated to a new open source collection management platform, Connecticut Collections, hosted by the Connecticut League of History Organizations with support from CT Humanities.

This new collaboration will raise the profile of WestPAC. The new software is much better suited to the needs of WestPAC.

WestPAC Friends will cover the cost for the data migration, about \$1,000 - \$2,000. Friends has set aside an additional \$1,500 for the post migration clean-up.

Kathie asked for a motion of support for this endeavor, Richard Epstein moved, Eric Chiang seconded. Passed unanimously.

2] The James Daugherty Foundation has given WestPAC 21 works on paper by the Puerto Rican born artist, Paul Camacho {1929-1989} He created these works while living in the Westport-Weston area. All the work needs varying degrees of restoration due to mildew and dirt. Five works will be cleaned and framed for display at a cost of \$2,750. Friends has made the initial deposit of \$1,500 and have asked WAAC to share the cost.

A motion was made to support this project, Nancy Diamond so moved, Deirdre Price seconded. Passed unanimously.

3] Dr Arthur Beasley contacted Kathie to arrange for pick up the three-art works which had been donated to the Town collection and approved by Molly Donovan years ago. Kathie and Elizabeth will pick up.

4] Ann Sheffer wishes to donate a large outdoor sculpture, "Rock Paper Scissors" 2019, to the Town Collection. Details are still to be worked out, including when it will be removed from her property and where will it be place.

Kathie and Nancy are working with Assistant Town Attorney Eileen Flug to create a public art policy. When complete it will become part of the Town Art collection polices for managing the Art collection.

#### **WAAC Meeting Time**

After discussion, the meeting time and place will stay the same. Tuesday, 12noon, room 212D  
2/11, 3/10, 4/14, 5/12, 6/9, 7/14, 8/11, 9/8, 10/13, 11/10, 12/8, 1/12/21

#### **Other Business**

Kellie reported Diane Lowman, Westport's Poet Laureate has initiated a series of poetry workshops at the Library, beginning on May 17th.

Diane has also been conducting poetry workshops at the Senior Center and has introduced herself to the Westport Public schools.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11  
AT 12 NOON, ROOM 212D**

Meeting adjourned at 1:20pm  
Elizabeth Strick  
Secretary