

**WESTPORT ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, November 10, 2020**  
**12 noon, Town of Westport recorded Zoom call**

**Present:** Nancy Diamond, Richard Epstein, Kathie Bennewitz, Miggs Burroughs, John Dodig, Diane Lowman, Deirdre Kelly Carole Schweid, Elizabeth Strick, Doug Tirola, Steve Zimmerman.

**Not participating:** Eric Chiang, Frederic Chiu, Lee Goldstein.

Nancy opened the meeting at 12:10 pm

**“Rock Paper Scissors”**

A short and lovely event for “Rock Paper Scissors” was held this past Sunday outside the library. Nancy thanked the First Selectman and the many Town committees who helped make the installation of the sculpture possible. Kathie gave background on the artist Kevin Fox. The First Selectman thanked Ann Sheffer and Bill Scheffler for donating the sculpture to the Town Art Collection and their continued support of the arts in Westport. The event concluded with Diane Lowman reading one of her Haiku’s and a poem by Rumi.

Accepting gifts of sculpture to the Town Art Collection needs simplifying. The word sculpture is not used, only structure in the P&Z rules. Kathie recommended a de-brief with all involved, with the view of simplifying the process for future gifts.

A 20-minute video was made by Miggs of the event. It will be sent to Nancy and Richard for editing before posting on WAAC web site.

**Progress with School’s project, “Art and Words”**

Diane and Steve Zimmerman, Westport Schools, Pre-k–12 Music and Visual Arts coordinator are working on a poetry project relating to the curriculum in the Elementary and Middle school to be called, “Westport Voices”. Deadline for submissions is December 29<sup>th</sup>. All children K thru Middle School would participate, with the teachers in each school selecting the work to be read. High School students would help with graphic design and a series of concerts is also planned in March to celebrate “Art and Words”

**Projects update**

Kathie proposed a new member for WestPAC who would represent Greens Farms School. Ariel Dunne has a global marketing background and has worked in public relations. She has a degree in Art History and a passion for collecting and an understanding of architecture and design. She serves on the board of Earthplace and the Nature Discovery and environmental Learning Center in Westport.

Kathie asked for approval in excepting Ann Dunne to represent Greens Farms School on the WestPAC committee. John so moved Richard seconded, all were in favor. Kathie will present the proposed candidate to the First Selectman.

**Donation to the Town Art Collection for approval.**

Ann Tolson "Compo Showers" 1921 – 2021

J. J Clay "Canon on Compo" 1958

Howard Heath, "Merritt Parkway" 1955  
Donated by the Gault family.

Scott Froschauer, "Art Town"  
Former Staples High School 88 student  
Donated by Ann Scheffer

Kathy made a motion to except the four works of art to the Town Art Collection. Diane so moved and John seconded, all were in favor

**New Business:**

Nancy would like the Committee to become more visible in the community. She would like us all to think about ways we could do this. WAAC also needs help with marketing and publicity, younger members and new ideas.

John suggested John McGonagall who has established a website that reaches out to the LGBTQ community in the area. He has lots of ideas and will send his bio to Nancy for forwarding to the committee.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>  
AT 12 NOON**

Meeting adjourned at 12:49 pm  
Elizabeth Strick, Secretary Westport Arts Advisory Committee