

## **Westport Arts Advisory Committee**

Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 12 noon. Town Hall room 201

**Present:** Nancy Diamond, Kathie Bennewitz, Eric Chiang, Frederic Chiu, Richard Epstein, Lee Goldstein, Diane Lowman, Elizabeth Strick, Dina Upton, Jerri Graham, Ive Covaci Westpac Chair.

**Guests:** First Selectwoman Jennifer Tooker, Harris Falk,

**Unable to attend:** Miggs Burroughs, Shobana Mani, Jessica Noyes, Charles Rosoff.

### **Call to order 12.00pm**

#### **Planning Lets Connect:**

Eric and Diane will help coordinate this event. We will invite Arts organizations to a networking lunch which will be a chance for the organizations to talk with their fellow arts organizations. Tentative title for event, "Next Chapter." All attendees will receive a question prior to the luncheon. Possible questions are, "What are your biggest challenges" and "what are you doing differently?" A February 7<sup>h</sup> date at MOCA has been confirmed. Diane will draft the Let's Connect invitation.

#### **Downtown Planning Committee report:**

Dina and Nancy attended the meeting which focused on traffic flow downtown. It is hoped at the next meeting to put forward a proposal of installing art on Town property. A list of possible sites will be presented. Kathie raised the question of care of work placed in public spaces. It was decided that a sub-committee be formed to discuss public art. Kathie, Dina, Eric, Nancy, and Elizabeth offered to help. It was suggested that a WestPAC member might want to join. Nancy, Dina and Kathie are meeting with Jen Fava on Jan 17. The sub-committee meeting will follow on January 18 at the Library at 12. Kathie will reserve a small room.

#### **WestPAC:**

Kathie reported that money has been set aside to clean and re-wax the Dough Boy statue in the spring. Repair to the stonework and railing is being funded by the Towns Fine Arts Insurance. "Rock Paper Scissors" has been washed, repair to rusted areas is expensive, bids are being evaluated.

Ive reported that the second annual exhibit at MOCA opens on January 12 through February 26, 2023 and will feature the work of Paul Camacho. Work is on

loan from the Town collection as well as work loaned from other institutions will comprise the exhibition. An opening reception will be held on January 12 and it is hoped there will be a separate opening for Town elected officials. A date of January 26<sup>th</sup> was suggested.

There has been regular rotation of artwork within the schools. Art has been installed in the Selectwomen's office and recommendations of artwork for approval for the collection has been put on the BOF agenda for their next meeting.

**At 12:35pm** the Committee broke for a holiday lunch, along with homemade cookies by Dina. First Selectwoman Jen Tooker joined the celebration.

**Our next meeting is January 10, 2023 at 12noon Town Hall room 201**

Respectfully submitted

Elizabeth Strick, Secretary Westport Arts Advisory Committee