

Westport Public Art Collections (WestPAC)

June 12, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Public meeting held at Westport Library, McCall room 216

Minutes submitted by Barbara Wang

Attending in person: Ive Covaci, Patti Boutilier, Reese Anderson, Tatyana Hixon, Jilda Manikas, Barbara Wang

Attending on zoom: Scott Springer, Carla Devillers

Approved Minutes from Previous Meeting May 8, 2024.

1. Committee Updates.

- New member Tatyana Hixon - She will cover SES. Her candidacy is in process, awaiting final approval from First Selectwoman's office.
- Survey results -
 - confirmed that all sites have at least 1 representative. CMS and CES could use an additional rep, we will focus on trying to recruit for those positions.
 - A lot of interest in project groups
 - Meeting time preference expressed for every other month. Will start in September with this new schedule
 - Current meeting date is September 11 – we will move that to September 4th in order to avoid BTS nights. Barbara will adjust this with the Town.
- Randa Trivisonno - former Chairperson and longstanding member, she will step down from the Committee. We thank her for her service!

2. Collection Update - none at this time

3. Special Projects

- Brian Walker, son of Mort Walker, originator for popular comic strips, Beetle Bailey and Hi and Lois is curating the exhibition, Cartoon County: The Golden Age of Cartooning in Connecticut, September 10 – December 10, 2024, Sheffer Gallery and North Wall, Westport Library. The exhibition will feature many artworks from WestPAC cartoon collection and additional works from contemporary graphic artists.
 - Update from Anne (via Ive) is that there will be a lecture at the opening event. Additionally SHS graphic novel class will have a field trip to visit the exhibit. SHS Comics Club also plans to engage with this exhibit.

- Outdoor sculpture: Jilda has worked with a photographer to document all town sculpture sites. We will plan to print and frame the photographs - goal to display them at the Senior Center and then rotate to other learning galleries.

4. Site Reports

- Ive emailed all site reps regarding pre-summer preparations; additionally Ive updated potential summer paint projects
 - Anne will email for assistance - removing art at SHS for a paint project.

5. Friends of WestPAC

- Art in Bloom Gala recap – Success! We raised \$16,050.. And after expenses we netted \$11,500.
 - discussion and feedback on event, including venue, pricing, auction, attendance, decor, with conclusion to proceed again next year especially with 60th anniversary celebrations, with a committee to run the event.
- Remaining FY 23-24 budget:
 - Committee agreed that conservation of the Bernard Chaet *Sunset Through Trees* (#61) should proceed due to its delicate state. Estimate \$4000-\$5000. For any leftover money, there is a priority list of works that need framing or repairs, especially items for the Cartoon show. Estimates will be pursued.

6. Member Announcements -

- Celebrate Westport - asked Jilda and Reese to let them know about the Cartoon exhibit in September

7. Next Meeting - NEW DATE: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 WL McCall Room #210 7pm