

Westport Public Art Collections (WestPAC)

September 4, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Public meeting held at Westport Library, McCall room 216

Minutes submitted by Barbara Wang

Attending in person: Ive Covaci, Anne Boberski, Kathie Bennowitz, Patti Boutilier, Reese Anderson, Tatyana Hixon, Jilda Manikas, Emily Ziegler, Emma Quilhot, Barbara Wang

Attending on zoom: Amanda Castellano

Approved Minutes from Previous Meeting June 12, 2024.

1. Committee Updates

- Annual Report:
 - Process to renew this committee caretaking the Collection for the next 5 years.
 - Ive presented the rough draft and asked everyone to review by Friday September 6th if any concerns.
- Project Work Groups:
 - Ive will send to the Committee a link to our roster for everyone to review their contact information as well as confirm their Work Group assignment they selected
 - Small group goals should be discussed at first meetings.
 - These groups should meet between now and our next full committee meeting on November 13th, and provide and update at that time.

2. Collection Update - none at this time.

3. Special Projects

- Cartoon County at Westport Library:
 - September 4th all works delivered to library for installation.
 - September 10th is opening reception and lecture by Brian Walker, son of Mort Walker, originator for popular comic strips, Beetle Bailey and Hi and Lois. Exhibit is September 10 – December 10, 2024, Sheffer Gallery and North Wall, Westport Library.
 - SHS buy-in: Graphic novel class will get special tour as well as Staples Comic Book Club.
- MoCA 2025
 - Dates for exhibition are January 16th - March 25, 2025.
 - Proposed title is On Fire: Energy, Climate, and the Built Environment.

- Will especially feature works by Ralph Boyer, The Evolution of Heat.
 - Learning Gallery will feature watercolors from the Ford Times Magazine in our Collection.
- Westport Outdoor sculptures: Committee reviewed selected framed prints presented by Jilda Manikas. The full set of prints will be hung at the Senior Center first and then at Town Hall.
 - Jilda proposes a tour of sculpture sites for the Y Women.

4. Site Reports

- Site Reps: advised to do a Fall Walkthru to review summer maintenance projects. Also Reps advised to reach out to Principals and Maintenance crews.
- Art Smart: Amanda Castellano will be following up with Art Smart leaders and workshops. Remind Site Reps to promote.
- SES: highlight new exhibit of 5 pcs featuring the Olympics from our Collection now hanging in the main hallway.
- Site Reports - look to get full reports at November meeting.

5. Friends of WestPAC

- Committee reviewed Budget Request proposal for FY 24-25.

6. Member Announcements -

- Celebrate Westport - Reese will attend their next meeting and highlight for them the Cartoon County exhibit and other upcoming WestPAC activities.
- Fairfield History Museum - Kathie Bennewitz will give a lecture there on September 18th.

7. Next Meeting - November

- Next full committee meeting will be on November 13th, 7pm WL.
 - Project Work groups will proceed to meet during October.
 - Barbara will cancel the scheduled October meeting with the Town. We will keep scheduled December meeting and discuss at our November meeting.