

**Minutes of the Waukegan Park District  
Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Cultural Arts Advisory Committee  
May 10, 2012**

The Board of Commissioners of the Waukegan Park District met in a special Meeting on May 10 at the Lilac Cottage-Bowen Park, 1911 North Sheridan Roads, Waukegan, Illinois.

**I. Call to Order**

The Meeting was called to order at 12:05pm by Superintendent Freeman who directed a call of the roll.

**II. Roll Call**

Present:

Absent: President Foley, Commissioners Duffy, Motley, Kilkelly, Saroka.

Also Present was Superintendent Freeman, Cultural Arts Museum Supervisor Rohrer, Cultural Arts Specialist Carl.

Advisory Committee members: Bill Homer, David Motley, Susana Figueroa, Jason Clark, Roxanne Bliss, Betsy Stiles, Lisa Kajfez May, Myra Gaytan-Morales

**III. Review, Discuss, Decide**

A. 2011/15 Strategic Plan Accomplishments and Upcoming Goals

- The Cultural Arts Programming was at the back of the brochure. The free programs have been moved to the front of the brochure.
- The Cultural Arts Division was able to use the van and take art projects to local parks and plans to do it the again this year.
- The Staff continues to give surveys to participants at the end of programs to evaluate.
- Comcast has given the Cultural Arts Division a grant to start a literary arts and digital photography lab and provide programs for free.
- There is a weaving class that can be taken with a partner, this cuts the cost and allows multiple generations to take it together.
- ACX is providing programs and the information is presented in Spanish. The Cultural Art Division will also provide space for Day of the Dead activities.
- Facebook has been used to reach people through the Jack Benny Facebook page.
- Cultural Arts is not able to work with the Latino Film Festival because it is not in Waukegan anymore.
- Superintendent Freeman was able to participate in Arts Advocacy Day in April.
- The Cultural Arts continues to look for sponsorships – has received funding from Comcast and Rink Side Sports and Family Entertainment.

B. Updates on State and Local Agencies and Organizations

Current Illinois Arts Council Grant

- At the end of May staff will be updating the Illinois Cultural Data Project information. This will allow WPD to continue to submit grant requests with the IAC.

Arts Alliance Illinois – CMAP 2040 Cultural Vitality

- The city of Chicago will be conducting its first cultural plan since 1986 and much of this plan should be easily translated to the City of Waukegan and the Waukegan Park District's Cultural Arts Division.

Waukegan Arts Council

- They held their first event this year when they invited a group of community leaders to be part of its honorary board.

C. Review of Current Arts programs

Changes in the 2012/13 Season

- Waukegan Symphony Orchestra and Waukegan Concert Chorus will each have one less concert and this will be the May concert. The Messiah and the Young People's Concert will continue.
- Summer and Holiday shows have been temporarily suspended. There will be one Summer show this year put on by volunteers.
- Acts to Follow is a new group of young actors performing one acts. They will perform one published play and an unpublished short play or one act.
- The next two shows that the Bowen Park Theatre Company is putting on will be *A Few Good Men* and *Killers*.

Free Summer Programs

- June 2 The Ray Bradbury Dandelion Wine Fine Arts Festival – Kick off to Summer on the first Saturday in June
- June 18-July 23 Summer HEAT Monday mornings at the Bowen Playground – Entertainment for families and youth
- June 19-August 7 Comcast Literary Arts and Digital Photography. On Tuesdays
- June 13, July 18, and August 15 – Bowen Blues, Garage bands of the 60s/70s Wednesday night entertainment
- July 12-August 16 – Arts PARK – Thursday mornings free art in neighborhood parks – Sponsor Rink Side
- June 15, July 20, and August 17 Friday night Movies in the Park – *Hugo*, *The Muppet Movie*, and *The Goonies*.
- June 8, July 13, and August 10 – Spoken Word Poetry-Urban Words – Bring the written word to spoken word on Friday Evenings.
- July 7 Tanabata A Saturday event honoring Japanese folktale

- June and July Corridor Gallery – Maggie Kraus
- Dates TBD Poetry on Sunday Afternoons.

#### Waukegan Historical Society

- Ty Rohrer
- -Recap of CA and Waukegan Historical Society Events
- -2011-12 Fiscal Year Numbers: 1,733 Museum Visitors; 149 Outreach Programs presented to total of 652 adults and 3,022 students
- -Exhibits at the Museum were *The Civil War: The War Efforts in Waukegan*, *100 Years of the Girl Scouts*, *Ray Bradbury: Waukegan's Influence on a Visionary*
- -Temporary community exhibits were at the Genesee Theatre, ArtWauk, and Juneteenth Festival
- -Exhibits coming up include *Titanic: A Fateful Ticket to Waukegan* and *Bowen Country Club: The Jane Addams Hull House in Waukegan*
- Museum information binders will be translated into Spanish.

#### D. Discussion – questions, comments, and concerns.

Suzanna Figueroa said that she uses 3 shows and 2 radio stations to communicate with the Hispanic community. Also that “not everyone reads newspapers” best way to reach out is through church bulletins and on the radio. “We all need to work together on this”

David Motley asked if a poster is in Spanish does that imply that the program will be in Spanish. Suzanna replied no, it just makes people feel welcome. The Cultural Arts needs someone who can work with and talk with people who know and can talk with others. CAD needs to engage them.

Superintendent Freeman also talked about the Bulldog Clip Gallery. It is a gallery in the basement of the Jack Benny Center that gives the schools a place to display their students' artwork.

#### E. Future Meetings

November 29, 2012

May 9, 2013

November 7, 2013

#### IV. Closed Session

There was no closed session.

#### V. Adjournment at 12:57pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Claudia Freeman, Superintendent of Cultural Arts

**Minutes of the Waukegan Park District  
Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
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May 10, 2012**

The Board of Commissioners of the Waukegan Park District met in a special Meeting on May 10 at the Jack Benny Center-Bowen Park, 95 Jack Benny Drive, Waukegan, Illinois.

**I. Call to Order**

The Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Executive Director Greg Petry who directed a call of the roll.

**II. Roll Call**

Present: President Foley

Absent: Commissioners Duffy, Motley, Kilkelly, Sarocka.

Also Present was Executive Director Greg Petry, Cultural Arts Museum Supervisor Rohrer, Cultural Arts Specialist Carl.

Advisory Committee members: Roxanne Swanson, Dennis Moisio

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### Waukegan Arts Council

- They held their first event this year when they invited a group of community leaders to be part of its honorary board.
- Their membership drive is underway.

## C. Review of Current Arts programs

### Changes in the 2012/13 Season

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Dennis Moio

- -Waukegan Historical Society Annual Meeting on May 20
- -Annual Tour of Homes on June 24
- -Conceptual plan for the museum expansion created by Partners in Design

D. Discussion – questions, comments, and concerns.

Greg Petry WPD up for the Gold Medal Award and a video is being put together.

Cultural Arts participating in the January ArtWauk was well received, but attendance was low, some people were upset that wine was not served.

Greg Petry commented that maybe we could coordinate with Fiamico to sponsor our section and to provide the wine.

E. Future Meetings

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May 9, 2013

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#### **IV. Closed Session**

There was no closed session.

#### **V. Adjournment at 6:40pm**

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia Freeman  
Superintendent of Cultural Arts