

# Minutes

The City of Greenbelt

## Arts Advisory Board

February 7, 2012

**Present:** Board members Anna Socrates (Vice Chair), John Drago, Shane Wisdom, Gale Martineau, Ginny Zanner (7:29pm); Konrad Herling, Council Liaison; Nicole DeWald, staff liaison.

**Members absent with prior notice:** Tatiana Ausema (Chair), Mark Granfors-Hunt, Tiahna Nugent (6:50pm; message received after the meeting)

**Meeting focus:** public arts policy, preparation for Recognition and Contribution Group reviews

Ms. Socrates called the meeting to order at 7:16pm.

Mr. Wisdom reported to the group on his visit to the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, where he had assessed possible opportunities for the display of public art. He emphasized the available wall space in the lobby and game room. Ms. DeWald noted the wall space in the gym as another possibility, and suggested that digital artwork might be featured elsewhere in the building in conjunction with the Center's new computer lab. Citing a show at the Corcoran, Mr. Drago added that installations could be considered for rooms with sufficient ceiling height to permit sculptural displays overhead.

The group discussed next steps needed on the Board's draft Public Art Policy document. A volunteer is needed to update the site index spreadsheet of recommended public art sites. Ms. DeWald will prepare guidelines for those wishing to propose public art exhibits. Board members believed that Mr. Granfors-Hunt may have been working on narrative for a proposed fifth section of the policy document; Ms. DeWald agreed to follow up with him about that and about January meeting minutes.

At the request of Ms. Socrates, Ms. DeWald provided a brief update on the City's exploration of possible community use of the old Greenbelt Middle School building.

The Board discussed the upcoming annual review of applications for new or continued Recognition and Contribution Group status. Members agreed that they would like to meet with all applicants as is the Board's tradition, with extra time being provided for any new organizations coming forward.

Mr. Drago moved that all Recognition Group applications be reviewed at the March 6 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wisdom and passed with unanimous consent.

Mr. Drago moved that all Contribution Group applications be reviewed at the April 3 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wisdom and passed with unanimous consent.

Mr. Herling joined the meeting and provided a summary of a retreat which he had attended with the Greenbelt Arts Center. He noted that GAC is working toward more diverse programming and is planning a clean-out of their prop storage area, removal of some seating, and expansion of the theater's technical booth. Mr. Herling noted that he had reminded GAC of the purpose of an earlier grant from Doug Peters, which is to support GAC in creating a new performing arts space.

Round Robin topics included the following:

- Ms. DeWald provided a recap of the February Artful Afternoon.
- Mr. Drago and Ms. Socrates commented on alight dance theater's new show *Truth Be Told*, which will be performed at the Greenbelt Arts Center later this month.
- Ms. Zanner recapped Goddard's October/November 2011 production of Showboat, commenting on the show's social justice message. She relayed discussions which the show had stimulated on topics including gender equity in the professional culture of the Goddard Space Flight Center.
- Ms. DeWald announced highlights of the upcoming March 4 Afternoon, which will include a shadow puppetry showcase.
- Ms. Socrates recommended mosaic artist Rick Shelley to Ms. DeWald as a possible performer and/or workshop leader.

At the conclusion of the Round Robin discussion, Mr. Drago moved to adjourn the meeting. His motion was seconded by Mr. Wisdom. The meeting was adjourned at 8:24pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tatiana Ausema, Chair

Minutes approved by acclamation at the 3/6/12 meeting

**Approved by acclamation at the January 3, 2012 meeting**