

**ART WORK SUB-COMMITTEE**  
**McHenry County Administration Building**  
**667 Ware Road**  
**Woodstock IL 60098**

MINUTES OF JANUARY 12, 2006

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairman Gilman at 10:35 a.m. The following members were present: Ann Gilman; Tina Hill; and Rick Klasen. Virginia Peschke and Pete Merkel were absent. Also in attendance: John Hadley, Building Operations; Ralph Sarbaugh, Associate County Administrator, Finance; Sue Stelford and Peter Benkendorf, Art Coordinators; Mrs. Julie Tomaso, Artist.

	Ann Gilman, Chairman	
Tina Hill		Rick Klasen
Pete Merkel		Virginia Peschke

MINUTES

Committee members viewed the minutes of December 7, 2005. Ms. Hill made a motion, seconded by Mr. Klasen to approve the minutes of December 7, 2005 as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

*Art for the Government Center – continued discussion:* Ms. Sue Stelford and Mr. Peter Benkendorf, Art Coordinators, joined committee members for ongoing business of the committee. Committee members welcomed Mrs. Julie Tomaso, a local Woodstock Artist. She donated a piece of artwork to the County that will become a part of McHenry County's permanent collection. Mrs. Tomaso is an award winning landscape artist. The oil, on linen is titled, "Through the Trees". It will be on display at the County's Administration Building and will be featured in an exhibition of the permanent collection in May. Committee members thanked Mrs. Tomaso for her donation and stated that the County is fortunate to obtain this piece. Chairman Gilman requested both donated pieces of art be available for presentation at the County Board Meeting. She noted the need to show the generosity of artists in the area. Committee members were informed that Jeanine Hill-Soldner has donated a large triptych called, "Snapshots and Memories" that will be on loan for one year.

Ms. Stelford informed committee members that she was able to obtain both pieces of artwork for purchase from Ms. Juria Mekte. These are painting of the Woodstock Opera House and the Old Courthouse. The picture of the Old Courthouse will be included in a show, but, will be available after its showing.

Robin Prendergast will be donating a piece to the County in February. He informed Ms. Stelford that he would be presenting a money making project to committee members at the next meeting. She noted that he would provide prints for sale, of the donated piece, of which he would donate ½ of the proceeds to the County.

Mr. Austin has assigned Ms. Fetterman as the contact person for the Artwork Sub-Committee.

Ms. Stelford stated that the Singers for the Employee Christmas Luncheon went over well. Employees seemed to like the entertainment provided during their luncheon. The second event, a presentation of "What is Art" by Mr. Alberto Aguilar, an Instructor of Art History, from MCC took place on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. 18 people attended and seemed to enjoy his presentation. Committee members suggested that a sign in sheet and survey form be available for completion at these events. Ms. Stelford stated that at the department head meeting it was suggested that these events be staggered during the lunch hour to provide more exposure for the employees. With more than one presentation, more employees would have the ability to attend. It was stated that most of the employees that attended the event was from the Administration Building.

Ms. Stelford stated that insurance that covers these pieces will have to be increased. She stated she is working with Mr. Labaj and will provide an inventory and value for the pieces currently owned by the County. Mr. Klasen left committee at 9:08a.m.

The event for February will be a flute and guitarist in a County Board Conference room. Committee members questioned whether this could take place in the Lobby of the Administration Building. Mr. Hadley was informed that chairs would be needed for this event. It was suggested that an email be sent out encouraging employees to bring a "brown bag" lunch to

the event. Mr. Sarbaugh suggested the purchase of a frozen yogurt machine to sell cups of yogurt as a fund raising idea. Committee members were favorable to the idea.

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Mr. Benkendorf presented to committee members the "Studio McHenry County". This is a program of the McHenry County Board Art Work Sub-Committee. Studio McHenry County is an annual public art initiative that will bring together the talents of a McHenry County artist and a select group of area high school students. The proposed project will be identified by the Art Work Sub-Committee and take place on county property. The first project is the cafeteria mural in the Administration Building. The student artist will be comprised of one senior per high school, which has been selected by their high school arts department. It will be necessary to develop selection criteria, which should include a combination of talent, commitment to the arts and personal character. Selection to this program should be given the same importance as qualifying for District or State band/choir in the musical arts. The students would not be paid. Our objective would be to get as much of the project funded from outside resources, such as the Illinois Arts Council, McHenry County Community Foundation and local business. The Committee's goal should be to contribute no more than 50% of the project's cost. It was suggested that nomination letters be sent to the high school art departments in September and due back by November 1<sup>st</sup>. The Artist RFP would go out in the spring. The project would be announced in November with work commencing in early 2007. The committee would select the artist and the outcome. This calendar would be followed annually after successful completion of the first year. The committee will have to come up with a project for the following year.

Grant opportunities were presented to the Committee for consideration. It was noted that the County Board is in the process of considering a Resolution at next week's County Board meeting to join a web-based grant locator program. This allows an opportunity for the committee to ultimately become 100% grant funded. Mr. Sarbaugh informed committee members that if grants are going to be received, a department would have to be formed to accept the grants. He reminded committee members that the committee is now solely funded without taxpayer funds. It was noted that this will need to be addressed in the future. He stated that the County has a terrible track record for grants and it might be advisable to set up a department for this before applying for any grants. Committee members requested Mr. Sarbaugh come up with ideas regarding this issue with a suggestion of what department should handle the possible grants.

Mr. Sarbaugh presented committee members presented budget of receipts and expenditures for FY05/06. He stated that since this account is not taxpayer funds, the funds sit in a liability account under Courthouse décor. The account currently has a balance of \$26,351.43. Mr. Sarbaugh questioned whether this vending account should be tracked more closely, as the amount earned might be higher than what is being guessed at. Ms. Hill stated she would present the budget and grants document to the Management Services Committee.

Committee members were reminded that the County is a working environment and we should not plan programs that would detract from the work that is being done by employees in the buildings.

Mr. Hadley reported that the current vending is being done by A & H Vending. Committee members questioned whether the items in the machine could be upgraded for both better choices and increased revenue. Committee members suggested a coffee kiosk be placed in the Government Center and Administration Building and suggested an RFP to see if this would be feasible. Mr. Hadley stated he would check with Purchasing to check into the type of food that would be available for the vending machines. Mr. Hadley suggested that a survey of employees be completed to find out what type of food items they would like to see in the vending machines.

Mr. Benkendorf questioned how many would be attending the self portrait workshop. Ms. Clair Gantner would be teaching the project. All supplies would be donated for use for this workshop only. He requested committee members remind county board members of this workshop. Ms. Hill suggested food be available since this would take place during the dinner hour. It was suggested an email be sent requesting an RSVP and informing them that food would be available during the workshop.

The rail system has been received and will be installed in the next couple of weeks. Mr. Hadley questioned whether he should purchase the display panels, as they were more expensive than previously thought. It was suggested this be discussed at the next committee meeting.

The employee art show is scheduled for March 21st.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no further business, The Committee adjourned the meeting at 9:59a.m.

: ksf