

Poughkeepsie Public Arts Commission Agenda | February 16, 2023 | 6:30pm | City Hall

I. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm.

Members of PPAC in attendance: Jeff Aman, Art Jones, Tim McQueen, Jean Hinkley, Onaje Benjamin, and Brianna Charter, and Harrison Brisbon-McKinnon

II. APPROVE MINUTES OF JANUARY 19, 2022 MEETING

Jean Hinkley moved to approve the minutes; Tim McQueen seconded. The minutes were approved by unanimous ayes.

III. CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Chm Aman revised the order of items on the agenda for this evening's meeting in order to allow "Presentations" to precede "Old Business," "New Business," and "Resolutions."

IV. PRESENTATIONS:

BATTERY DANCE - Jonathan Hollander, President and Artistic Director

Mr. Hollander spoke about Battery Dance's relationship with Vassar College what he thought it could mean for the community. He said that Battery Dance is not just focused on itself, but also works with other dance companies. He discussed "Dancing to Connect" and how it was developed. The goal is not to train young people to become professional dances, but to motivate them in general and help them become responsible adults.

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IV. PRESENTATIONS (BATTERY DANCE—continued)

Battery Dance worked with Vassar College to bring a dance program from the campus into Poughkeepsie High School, and Battery Dance would like to make this a yearly program. They can accommodate up to 25 students and generally work with students 14-years old and up. Only seven students, however, were involved in the pilot program at Poughkeepsie High School, and all were female. The program held at Poughkeepsie High School was an after-school activity with students meeting two times per week for one and a half hours each time.

Tom Pacio made additional comments about the pilot program between Battery Dance in Vassar College, and several PPAC members asked questions and also added positive comments.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

1. POUGHKEEPSIE ARTS AND CULTURE NON-PROFIT - brief update.

Chm. Aman said he spent the last two weeks with leaders of other nonprofit organizations to investigate ways to get an arts and culture nonprofit started in Poughkeepsie. He hopes to wrap things up within the next month.

2. PPAC SOCIAL MEDIA - Jean Hinkley

PPAC member Jean Hinkley gave a presentation on her efforts to create a Poughkeepsie artist directory. She also proposed a form to collect information from artists and sought input from others.

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VI. RESOLUTIONS: None.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

**1. PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION 2023 PRIORITIES - Publicity
for Events and Venues.**

Chm. Aman said he would like to seek funding from the City of Poughkeepsie to help better promote local arts activities. In particular, he proposed using this funding for designing and printing rack cards that could go to Dutchess Tourism, area businesses, and other sites for distribution to the public.

**VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Three minutes per person on
any topic.**

Gully Stanford commented favorably on the presentations by Mr. Hollander, Mr. Pacio, and Ms. Hinkley.

He then went on to comment about the importance of high school student clubs as a way to help promote the arts, and asked how we might better connect with them. He noted that we have not been very successful in connecting with these clubs in the past.

Mr. Stanford also said that while he thought it was a good idea to bring in visiting artists, we should not overlook our local talents.

In regard to yearly Poughkeepsie Open Studios events, he thought they were great for visual artists, but we should also have a yearly performing arts event that is similar.

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IX. CURRENT EXHIBITS AND UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Victoria Horner Senior Recital: February 26, 3:00. Martel Recital Hall, Skinner Hall of Music
- Gallery 40: Rhinebeck Fine Art group show.
- WomensWork.art: closed for winter break
- Fall Kill Creative Works: Classes and workshops at www.fallkillcreativeworks.org
- Adriance Memorial Library: Emmanuel Ofori exhibit
- Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center: exhibits by Renee Samuels, Frank Rapant, and Adrian Lee
- Majed J. Nesheiwat Convention Center: www.midhudsonciviccenter.org
- Bardavon 1809 Opera House: www.bardavon.org
- *Is it Me: International Juried Exhibition*, opens March 10, The Art Effect: Trolley Barn.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

Tim McQueen moved to adjourn the meeting; Jean Hinkley seconded.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

The next PPAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 16, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

Minutes prepared by Art Jones, PPAC Secretary