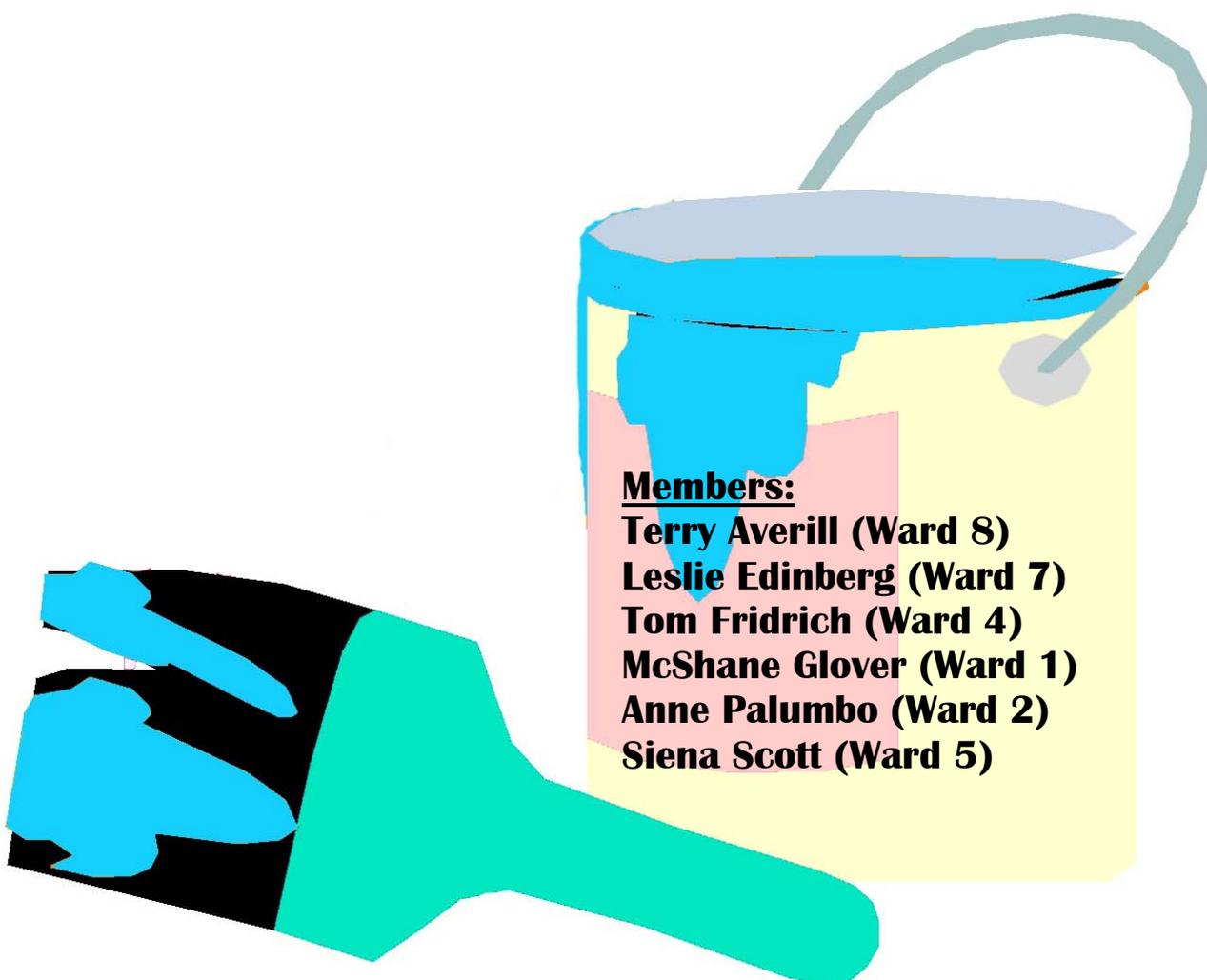


***Art in Public Places Commission
City of Annapolis, MD
2009 Report***



Members:

**Terry Averill (Ward 8)
Leslie Edinberg (Ward 7)
Tom Fridrich (Ward 4)
McShane Glover (Ward 1)
Anne Palumbo (Ward 2)
Siena Scott (Ward 5)**

Art in Public Places Commission

www.annapolis.gov/art

Annual Report 2009

COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

Membership:

Term Completed: Elissa Lowell (Ward 6)

Ongoing members: Terry Averill (Ward 8), Tom Fridrich, Vice Chair (Ward 4),
McShane Glover, Chair (Ward 1), Anne Palumbo (Ward 2), Siena Scott (Ward 5)

New Members: Leslie Edinberg (Ward 7)

Vacancies: Ward 3, Ward 6 and At Large

Staff Liaison: LeeAnn Plumer

Recorder: Tami Hook

Attachment 1 provides information on the current Commissioners

Eleven meetings were held in 2009. (In addition to regular monthly meetings, project sub-committees held separate meetings on specific projects)

PROJECTS

As stated in the 2008 report, there was interest in pursuing the following:

- ◆ An artistic plan for the Westgate Circle
- ◆ A student-focused event featuring chalk art on sidewalks/parking lots which would be done in concert with the new Arts Magnet school and/or other events
- ◆ Better signage for the current city-owned art so people are both alerted to it's location, history and credit is given to the artist(s)
- ◆ Continued research and planning to safeguard city-owned art, i.e lighting, cameras, etc.

Since that report, we have also begun to look at the viability of a Living/Green Wall for Annapolis.

ART FOR WESTGATE CIRCLE

Finding some way to beautify Westgate Circle has been under discussion since it was created. There is an unhappy history from 2001, when a competition was held, a winning design named but the project stalled over disagreements between the City and the winning designers on who would install the project.

Tom Fridrich is the project manager for this initiative, with Anne Palumbo assisting. (Terry Averill was involved initially but expressed interest in submitting a proposal so has been excluded from any discussions on the project.) Their concept is a temporary display/sculpture in the Circle area, which could be changed periodically. The Commission does not have the funding to undertake a permanent structure (such as a

statue or fountain) and felt a time-limited, temporary exhibit would be more palatable to all concerned and also provide opportunities for multiple artists.

The project must include a “green” component, in materials, process and/or environment. Rather than a contest format, as previously used, they are inclined toward a Call for Art grant offering. Discussion is ongoing regarding use and number of outside experts as judges and how the final selection would be made. \$25,000 was budgeted for this project.

In an effort to avoid past problems, they met with Lisa Greico (Public Works), Mike Mallinoff (Neighborhood & Environmental Programs) and Mike Miron (Economic Affairs) to discuss concerns and solicit ideas. Some concerns about pedestrian traffic were raised but the overall reception was positive for a more attractive gateway to the city.

Tom and Anne are preparing the Call for Art for discussion by the Commission.

SIDEWALK CHALK ART

Siena Scott has been overseeing this project. In April, she drafted a Request for Services for a Coordinator for a sidewalk art event (modeled after the Savannah College of Art program) to involve members of the community, artists and the general public, in display of temporary art designed on sidewalks within the City of Annapolis. The RFS was sent to Brian Snyder, Purchasing Officer, for review.

We learned that the Magnet School was planning a sidewalk art activity as part of their Grand Opening in October. A decision was made to support the Magnet School event and learn about producing a similar event in the future. Carol Alexander contacted the Commission and we agreed to supply chalk as needed. Siena made several attempts to ascertain what the monies were but Carol said that she had been unable to get any estimates from the teachers. A week prior to the event, \$200 was requested to supply the chalk and the Commission approved that and requested an invoice. Shortly thereafter, we were told that the chalk art event had been dropped from the program.

The Commission would still like to pursue the sidewalk art concept and will re-visit the RFS. Since the new Recreation Center is now open, this may be an ideal site for such an event. A budget of \$7,500.00 to \$10,000 was discussed for this event and Ms. Plumer is interested in collaborating on it.

SIGNAGE FOR EXISTENT CITY-OWNED ART

Annapolis has Public Art in several locations which have little or no information on the artist, the concept or the funding. In addition, some art is not visible from more trafficked thoroughfares near it so people can be very close to the art without knowing it is there. The Commission found it important to have the location of these art pieces better identified and the specifics of the art (the artist, the concept, the funding) available at the site. (Attachment 2 lists all City-owned art.)

The sites are

1. The mural by Stewart White by the Hillman Garage behind City Hall

2. The murals by Cynvia Arthur Rankin and Diane Monday at the Stanton Center:
3. Art currently located in the City Council chambers in City Hall which includes three portraits by Aletha Kuschan, four photographs by Marion Warren, and three murals by Lee Boynton

A Request for Services was drafted, approved and sent to Brian Snyder. About a dozen other names (Arts organizations, galleries, etc.) were supplied to Mr. Snyder to use for this RFS.

A pre-bid meeting was held in June, 2009 and Art At Large (Sally Wern Comport) was the only attendee interested in submitting a proposal. She submitted the proposal and, after review by the Commission, a decision was made to remove the City Hall art from consideration. It was felt that the upcoming renovation might change the décor and also impact sign location.

There were two further meetings with Ms. Comport to fine-tune the proposal. Fabrication of the signs was added to the proposal and installation will be provided by the City. The final bid was for \$8,000.00 which was accepted. Ms. Plumer has supplied Ms. Comport with the journals kept by the artists who created the murals. The Commission will continue to work with Ms. Comport on design and location of directional and informational signage. McShane Glover headed this project.

VANDALISM OF AIPPC ART

Vandalism of the more accessible AIPPC art continues to be an ongoing problem and is considerably more costly than ongoing maintenance.

As mentioned in the last report, the Harlin piece by the Naval Academy gate was partially removed less than a week after installation. All repairs were done by Art At Large (Sally Wern Comport) and the cost was \$3547.00 which included both re-installation and re-framing the mural to make it more difficult to remove.

At the end of 2008, The Stewart White mural by the Hillman Garage was spray-painted. The repair was done but it was tagged several times again. Three repairs were made and Stewart White was paid \$1500.00. Further vandalism occurred when one of the six pieces of art in Newman Park was stolen from the fence and there were signs of attempts made to remove others. Luckily, the stolen piece was quickly located by the Annapolis City Police who were in the area. It was able to be repaired, re-hung and new fasteners were substituted for the original ones. The new locking fasteners are less esthetically appealing but more of a deterrent to thieves. Parts, restoration, storage and re-installation were \$1515.00

With \$6562.00 paid out in one year to deal with vandalism, we have had several discussions on ways to protect the art. The Commission has looked at the lighting at the Hillman site and been assured that it is adequate. It was good news when Central Services decided to add surveillance cameras to the area.

We researched poly-carbonate coverings to keep the spray paint from seeping into the wall for both the Hillman and the Stanton Center murals. In February, Leela Alland in

Central Services, sent word that the Mayor was not interested in pursuing this. LeeAnn Plumer is testing using solar lights in some of the parks. The challenge is getting enough sunlight due to the tree canopy, building shadows, etc to keep the lights shining all night. If these lights prove viable, locations for the "charging cell" are a major consideration.

None of the sites currently have any information on who to call about vandalism. We are exploring placing plaques by city-owned art or, for some pieces, etching the information on the back of the art itself.

GREEN/LIVING WALL

After Siena Scott mentioned seeing a Green Wall in Madrid, AIPPC decided to look into this as a possibility in Annapolis. In *Azure Magazine* (May 2008), Lloyd Alter says,

“Green facades and living walls are outpacing green roofs as the environmentally correct way to wrap a structure. It’s easy to see why: vertical gardens reduce cooling loads in summer by shading buildings; this “blanket effect” also cuts heating loads in winter, with the green layer acting as extra insulation. As the plants grow, they trap carbon dioxide and produce oxygen, and soak up such pollutants as lead and cadmium. Green walls absorb noise; help reduce the heat island effect, keeping cities cooler; and provide a habitat for insects and spiders, which in turn feed birds and bats. And, as Wright noted, these interventions can hide a lot of ugly buildings.

While green roofs are more efficient at minimizing stormwater runoff, vertical gardens have a big advantage over their horizontal counterparts: they are visible to the public, where a rooftop most often is not. That’s no small consideration for an architect or client investing in a sustainable structure; they want people to see the work. And unlike green roofs, vertical gardens can more easily be retrofitted onto buildings without adding a significant structural load.”

In addition to the environmental pluses, it is possible to create designs through using plants of varying colors and textures. The green wall becomes a living mural. This project has just begun - issues to be explored include:

- * Learning about the different methods of creating green walls
- * Considering site locations
- * Maintenance: watering, winterizing, updating
- * Estimating costs
- * Researching federal or state monies
- * Creating a list of people/organizations for an RFP

McShane Glover is chairing this project and has formed a sub-committee to do the research. One issue to be addressed is that the AIPPC ordinance specifically excludes funding of landscaping projects. We have drafted legislation for the City Council’s approval that would remove that restriction. Current members are Remy Agee, Terry Averill, Suzanne Pogell (as a liaison with the Environmental Commission) and Joanie

Surrete. The project was discussed with Patricia Blick so she could share the information with anyone who might be interested.

ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS

The Commission continues to be challenged by not having a full complement of members over the last four years. All current members are very committed but there are inevitable problems with attendance: child care, a vacation, a business emergency. It has been difficult to attain a quorum or to have the wo/manpower to tackle the tasks that need to be addressed. The removal of the ward-specific requirement for positions vacant over three months has given us more flexibility in the search.

The Commission has set up guidelines for funding and posted them on the website and moved away from a model of grant cycles where funding went primarily to non-profits for ongoing activities. A request for matching funds and mandated accountability are given an important place in the process. AIPPC is encouraging innovative projects which engage the public in art in unique and memorable ways and draw people into under-utilized areas of the city.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. In 2008, AIPPC took over distribution of the brochure on *Art in Annapolis* that was printed in 2006. By providing economical pocket holders allowing the brochures to be easily visible on counters without taking up excessive space, we were able to get almost all of these brochures out where the public could use them.
2. In 2009, we had two representatives at Maryland Day for the Arts to lobby for maintaining adequate funding for the Arts.
3. As an adjunct to the inventory of the City-owned art, AIPPC is researching some of the history of the pieces, such as the Warren photographs, in an attempt to document the stories behind them.
4. Terry Averill continues to be on the board of the Art & Entertainment District and serves as the liaison from AIPPC.
5. The website has been updated with current information, including the funding guidelines, the Annual report and some graphics. An account was created with Constant Contact to build a mailing list for people inquiring about funding. There is still a great deal which we would like to do with the website, including a picture gallery and resource information for artists. A bookmark was designed and printed for distribution giving out the new URL of www.annapolis.gov/art (Cost = \$46.75)

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

At periodic intervals, the Commissioners get together to discuss projects which might be of interest for the future. These sessions focus on creative ideas unfettered by details of location, viability, etc. Some ideas have been:

- * *Open Air Performances:* Portions of plays or music performed in “regular” settings. For example, an aria performed by a singer strolling through First Sunday.
- * *“What Can You Imagine” RFP:* An open-ended RFP for a specific amount coupled with a request for the most creative idea to enhance Annapolis’ artistic life.
- * *Permanent art piece for Recreation Center:* Example of Air & Space Museum
- * *Kinetic Art:* Art that changes in response to wind and/or solar. Example of wind-driven sculpture (Highland Center, Provincetown, MA)
- * *Use of vacant buildings to display art:* Main Street did some of this. Perhaps rather than large-scale prints, use of clothesline to hang original art?
- * *Suggestions to beautify all parking garages*
- * *Night of outdoor performance art in A&E District*
- * *Time-limited Sculpture creation from recycled materials*

CONCLUSION

The Arts are an important part of the lifestyle of Annapolitans and a significant contributor to the economic base of the City. One-tenth of one percent of the general fund is the annual amount requested for the AIPPC fund in the budget. It is not an exorbitant amount of money to allot for artistic endeavors throughout the City. Gloria Steinem said, “We can tell our values by looking at our checkbook stubs.” The Art In Public Places Commission recognizes that the economic times are “challenging” but are hopeful that the City will continue to appreciate and support art in Annapolis.

Attachment 1

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES COMMISSION
(City Code Section 6.24.030)

COMPOSITION: Nine residents of the city; one from each ward and one appointed at large. Term - three years. Appointed by Mayor, confirmed by Aldermen.

DUTIES: To adopt guidelines and procedures which identify suitable art objects for city property, and to facilitate the preservation of art objects and artifacts that may be displayed in public places. To prescribe a method for the competitive selection, acquisition and display of art, and for the presentation of performing arts, in public places. To establish other matters appropriate to the administration of the placement of art or the promotion of the performing arts in public places.

MEETINGS: 3rd Wednesday of the month, 5:30 pm Maryland Hall

LIAISON: LeeAnn Plumer 410.263.7958; laplumer@annapolis.gov

<u>MEMBERSHIP:</u>	<u>APPOINTED</u>	<u>EXPIRES</u>
Ward 1 McShane Glover 124½ Archwood Avenue Annapolis, MD 21401 (W) 410.268.8232 mcshane@mcnote.com	7/1/2009	6/31/2012
Ward 2 Anne Palumbo, Ph.D 1 Steffen Point Annapolis, Md 21401 410.216.9988 pala3636@aol.com	7/31/2008	6/31/2011
Ward 3		
Ward 4 Tom Fridrich 75 Spa Road Annapolis, MD 21401 (C) 410.703.7070 tfridrich@mdhallarts.org	7/1/2009	6/31/2012

Ward 5 Siena Finley Scott 7/31/2008 6/31/2011
308 Carriage Run Rd.
Annapolis, MD 21403
(H) 410.267.9778
(C) 410.279.2730
wscott003@aol.com

Ward 6

Ward 7 Leslie Edinberg 7/1/09 6/31/2012
9 Leeward Court
Annapolis, MD 21403
(H) 410.263.1375
(W) 410.263.5544 x. 19
ledinberg@mdhallarts.org

Ward 8 Terry Averill 6/19/2006 6/31/2010
219 Chesapeake Ave
Annapolis, MD 21403
(W) 410.268.0179
arch.plan@verizon.net

At Large

Staff: Tami Hook
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laplumer@annapolis.gov

Attachment 2
LISTING OF CITY OWNED ART

Harriet Tubman	Council chambers	Portrait: Acrylic	2004	Aletha Kuschan
St. Clair Wright	Council chambers	Portrait: Acrylic	2006	Aletha Kuschan
Anne Catherine Green	Council chambers	Portrait: Acrylic	2006	Aletha Kuschan
Portraits - four	Council chambers	Photographs		Marion E. Warren
Chas. Carroll of Carrollton	145 Gorman	Portrait: Oil	2006	Lagman Univ. MD
Thomas Stone	145 Gorman	Portrait: Oil	2006	Lagman Univ. MD
William Paca	145 Gorman	Portrait: Oil	2006	Lagman Univ. MD
Samuel Chase	145 Gorman	Portrait: Oil	2006	Lagman Univ. MD
Wings & Sails	Hillman Garage (ext)	Mural: Mineral paints	2005	Stewart White
Old Fourth Ward	Stanton Center (ext)	Mural: Mineral paints	2004	Rankin & Monday
1708 Charter Reading; Providence Settlement; Nicholson Plan	Council chambers	Acrylic triptych	1995	Lee Boynton City commission
Annapolis Collage	Harbormaster	Mounted mural	2007	Sy Mohr
John Paul Jones Ranger	Craig Street Gate	Mounted mural	2007	Greg Harlin
Community Rising	Attman Glazer Bldg.	Mounted mural	2008	Lassie Belt
Six photographs	Sean Donlon lot	Mounted murals	2007	M.E. Warren
Anne Catharine Green	Severn Savings Bldg.	Mounted mural	2007	Sally Wern Comport
Shaping a City	Newman Park	Sculpture	2008	Sally Wern Comport
Alex Haley statue	City Dock	Sculpture	2001	

April, 2008

Note: The geese in Acton Cove Park are classified as “park enhancements” rather than art.