

WPB Promote the Arts Minutes

May 5, 2009

WPB Promote the Arts met at 1615 W North Avenue. Present: Dan Kuruna, Claudia Skylar, Lela Head, Jamie Simone, Laura Weathered, Allison Stites, Wayne Jones, Gretchen Travers, Lynn Basa.

Our meeting began with a long discussion of working with Red Moon Theatre to present a spectacle of sorts on the Polish Triangle. Jamie presented a description of the coordination required with the city for the closing of Milwaukee Avenue, in addition to possibilities of expanding activity beyond the Triangle to include Mautene Court and the environs of Milwaukee Avenue. It was noted that this project would fulfill some of the strategy goals and experimentation required to implement the master plan. After much discussion of possibilities, including partnering with other performance groups, Wicker Park Fest along with the funding requirements, the committee decided to table the proposal of supporting this project until some other options were explored and other information obtained.

Motion: WPB Promote the Arts would propose to fund the public art proposal submitted by Novem Studios to produce a mural on Mautene Court at 1258/60 N Milwaukee Avenue. This funding will be at least \$ 2,500.00 but not to exceed \$ 4,000.000. This grant is also conditional in that we require additional information and details regarding installation of this mural and its durability and maintenance for up to two years, with the additional costs to be incurred to be included in the cost estimate.

A proposal from the Chicago Opera Vanguard to fund a production of the opera 'Greek' was considered and the committee declined to fund this project.

A proposal for a continuing art installation/festival, Face The Street, to be organized and implemented by NNWAC was discussed in light of the master plan recommendations, the SSA budget and SSA funding policy. This proposal was tabled for later discussion.

Over the course of the entire meeting, a discussion evolved concerning the Promote the Arts mission, strategy and criteria for awarding grants, funding projects and directing our energies in general. It was suggested by Lynn Basa that the committee consider having a retreat to further refine policy in order to better decide appropriate action. It was also suggested that an email discussion occur to at least initiate this refinement process, to be led off by Dan Kuruna.