

**CITY OF NEWBURGH
SUSTAINABLE MASTER PLANNING
CULTURE & HERITAGE FOCUS GROUP**

**Meeting Notes from Committee Meeting
Held on February 8, 2006**

In attendance:

Garin Baker
Kippy Boyle
Paul Ellis
Karen Heroy
Sara Pasti
Stuart Sachs
Iris Sandow
Kevin White

Letter Sent to City Manager

The group discussed the letter sent from the Focus Group to the City Manager and Mayor regarding the waterfront development. Paul indicated that Jean-Ann McGrane had contacted him and indicated that the development of Newburgh's waterfront is a lengthy process that will have a public component allowing for arts and cultural considerations to be voiced. The group wondered whether a timeline for waterfront development process could be created for the benefit of stakeholders, to let them know how and when they will be invited to participate in this process.

Possible Consolidation of Committees

The group discussed the possible consolidation of the Culture & Heritage Focus group with other committees, possibly Education & Recreation and Health & Social Well-Being. After much discussion, the group decided that its own scope of work was large enough that the addition of discussion time for other topics could hinder progress. On the other hand, recognizing that education is an important component of culture and heritage discussions, the group agreed to send a representative to the monthly Education & Recreation Focus Group meetings, and to encourage the Education group to send a representative to the Culture & Heritage Focus Group monthly meetings. Paul agreed to attend the next Education meeting.

Asset Inventory Worksheet

There was much discussion about the inventory worksheet, and how to undertake this assessment process. The group agreed that the assessment to be made was not an evaluation of Newburgh's individual arts organizations, but an evaluation of what existed in the City and what is needed to meet the City's cultural and heritage needs. Paul and Kippy agreed to create a worksheet that committee members can use to gather information from cultural organizations. Paul will incorporate into this worksheet the names of Newburgh organizations / assets developed at the first Culture & Heritage

Focus Group meeting. He will forward sheets to the group at the end of February. The next Focus Group meeting will be spent filling in the worksheets based on information provided by committee members. One important task will be to understand the long-range vision of each organization and how the various visions can be brought together to inform the master planning process.

Notes taken by Sara Pasti and edited by Paul Ellis.