

Bellingham Arts Commission (BAC) Minutes
Tuesday, October 7, 2008, 6:00 p.m.
Mayor's Board Room

Commission Members Present: Alex Wiley, Debbie McCunn, Christopher Morrison, Pearl Yewell, Shirley Erickson, Cathy Gersich, David Meyer, Curt Carpenter

Commission Members Absent: Denise Snyder, AnMorgan Curry, Jo Morgan

Staff Members Present: Tara Sundin, PCDD, Darby Galligan, PCDD, Fiona Starr, PCDD

Others Present: Jenni Cottrell, Dominique Zervas, Kelli Hart, Allied Arts Executive Director

1. CALL TO ORDER

Arts Commission meeting was called to order by Alex Wiley, Chair

2. Introductions and Public Comment

There was no public comment. Alex Wiley introduced Dominique Zervas, replacing Bill Hadley as the Parks Board Representative.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the September 2, 2008 minutes

1. Presentations

Whatcom Creek Boardwalk Sculpture Project – Darby Galligan, PCDD
Information Enclosed, Action Required

Tara Sundin filled in for Darby on this update and explained that this sculpture project has already been approved, however, there is a minor change to the installation. The pilings are off kilter and adjustments will be made to make them plumb and allow for the level installation of the artwork.

Shirley Erickson moved and Cathy Gersich seconded the installation change. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

2. Arts Commission Business

a) Approval of September 2, 2008 Minutes
Information Enclosed, Action Required

Pearl Yewell moved and Shirley Erickson seconded the approval of the September 2nd, 2008 minutes. All in favor, motion carried unanimously

b) Review of Draft Arts Commission Policies and Procedures

Several commission members and staff have contributed numerous hours over the years to create the current version of the BAC Policies and Procedures. Darby has been working on the latest update and would like to incorporate input from the commissioners into the final version. The following changes were recommended during the review of the draft Policies and Procedures document.

2.36.020 Membership

A. Do not reduce membership to 9, keep at 11.

C. Change City of Bellingham to Whatcom County in the 2nd sentence.

D. In the last sentence after recommendation add "or review"

2.36.030 Terms of Office

C. The 3 unexcused absences will be within one year.

2.36.040 Authority and Duties

B. Big Rock Garden Show is an exception

D. 2) Add to the end of the sentence: "unless review is requested by the initiating department."

IV. Election of Officers

Add number 4. Renewal of existing commissioners may be requested in writing for approval by the Mayor at the end of the term.

V. Sub-committees

1) Change the number from 5 to 4.

VI. Procedure for Maintaining Minutes and Records

1) Darby will check with Legal about records kept during sub-committee meetings

3) A quorum consists of a majority of the current membership of the BAC

VII. Procedures for Review and Approval of Projects

2) Add in that the proponent may request additional preliminary meetings and that the BAC may decide at the preliminary meeting that final approval is granted.

VIII. Selecting Public Artwork

3) Soften the language to make the number of jurors an optional guideline

4) a) Change "highest" to high

d) take out this criteria (that duplication is not allowed)

g) take out the word "easily"

h) change "easy to install" to "capable of installation"

6) Take out this sentence about consulting with other departments.

7) c) take out this sentence (Is Permanent)

d) Change to read "Is secure and able to maintain, and"

X. Removal of Public Art

1) In the second sentence after the word "remove" add ",relocate, or deaccess".

2) Add "the following information as it is available" or similar wording to the end of the sentence.

3) Darby will check with Legal about the artist's rights when removing a piece from a the collection.

Language in the contract might be the way to address this concern.

c) & d) reference the surplus policy

e) add "e" to say "Other methods as indicated in the artist's contract"

c) 2008 Budget recap / 2009 Budget

Tara explained the committed budget in comparison to the projected budget. For 2008, we are right on or under budget in every category. The BAC has spoken previously about maintenance and part of those funds will be going towards paying a professional to survey each piece and report back on specific repair and cleaning needs for our collection. The commissioners requested that Big Rock Garden be included in the maintenance inventory. Tara will contact Rae Edwards about this possibility and to expect an increase in the maintenance funds by adding this additional work. We are carrying over \$15,000 as a result of uncommitted 2008 funds and not doing Bay Street Co-Motion this year. It is normal to carry over funds to the following year because many projects take more than one year to complete. Alex added that they need a clearly defined project for these funds that are not going towards continuing projects. The commissioners brought up the glass panels and questioned if funds can go towards their placement.

Tara reminded everyone that before that could happen a location needs to be secured and at this time all possibilities have been exhausted.

The VeloCity Outdoor Sculpture Show is open through may of 2010, but next fall we need to work on a call again and that will show up in action program. Once the results are in from the maintenance survey, we will have a better idea about how much to set aside in the maintenance fund. For now that amount for the 2009 budget is \$10,000. Other expenditures include: \$14,000 for Administration; \$30,000 for the Grant Program; \$1,500 for the Mayor's Arts Awards; \$1000 for VeloCity; \$350 for the Leisure Guide; \$5000 for maintenance; and the miscellaneous category has been dropped down to \$1,000. The uncommitted funds added to the total expenses equals the \$85,653 total budget for 2009.

d) 2008 Action Plan recap / 2009 Action Plan

The Special Projects Sub-committee will meet and bring back recommendations for the 2009 Action Plan. Funding another event on Bay Street and increasing the advertising for the Mayor's Arts Awards were two suggestions to consider.

Agenda Items for November Arts Commission Meeting

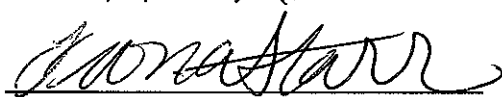
- **Whatcom Creek Trail Art Project proposed by Wendy Scherrer**
Everyone is welcome to attend a tour of Whatcom Creek Trail on the signage and art along Whatcom Creek Trail on October 16th at 11AM. The tour is given by Wendy Scherrer who is interning at Parks. The tour begins at the Environmental Learning Center.
- **Downtown Renaissance Network – Recap Downtown Sounds**
- **Mayor's Arts Award Application**

3. For the Good of the Order & Announcements

- On October 18th at 3PM, everyone is invited on by the Fairhaven Green Committee to the unveiling of the C X Larrabee bust created by Bob McDermott. A reception will immediately follow in the Waldron Building. (The bust is located in the Fairhaven Alley by Flats Restaurant).
- If you haven't received them already, invitations to Bellingham reparatory Dancing Performances will be on their way to you soon.
- Because of election night, the November 4th meeting will be moved to November 5th.
- Members of City of Bellingham's boards and commissions have been invited to a presentation on Waterfront Connections on October 28th and 29th at Depot Market Square. The purpose of this meeting is to receive feedback as an individual and a member of the community.
- Curt shared his observation that the informational signs placed along the rain garden at Depot Market take away from the curved design and gets in the way of the benches. He believes it would have been better to place the signs on the adjacent wall. He brings this up as an example to keep in mind when approving installation. It is important to focus on the quality rather than the quantity of art.

BELLINGHAM ARTS COMMISSION PUBLIC MEETING (S): ADJOURNED: 8:00PM

Minutes prepared by:


Fiona Starr, PCDD Staff

Minutes edited by:


Darby Galligan, PCDD Staff