

Bellingham Arts Commission (BAC) Minutes
Tuesday, August 4, 2009, 6:00 p.m.
Mayor's Board Room

Commission Members Present: Shirley Erickson, AnMorgan Curry, Denise Snyder, Christopher Morrison, Debbie McCunn

Commission Members Absent: Curt Carpenter, Pearl Yewell, Trish Harding, Alex Wiley

Staff Members Present: Shannon Taysi, PCDD, Darby Galligan, PCDD

Others Present: Rae Edwards, Parks and Recreation Department, Jeni Cortrell, Big Rock Committee, Dominique Zervas, Parks Board, Doug Granum, Artist

1. CALL TO ORDER

Arts Commission meeting was called to order by Christopher Morrison, Vice-Chair

2. Introductions and Public Comment

3. Presentations

Doug Granum, Artist – Basic Cleaning Techniques for Outdoor Sculpture of Various Mediums

Shannon Taysi recapped the previous discussions the BAC has had regarding the maintenance of the outdoor collection. The Commissioners will soon be going out into the field to do some very basic cleaning of the collection. Doug Granum is an experienced artist who has volunteered to give the Commissioners some tips on minor cleaning techniques. Shannon introduced Doug Granum. Doug gave his personal history and a presentation of his artwork. He commented on the sculptures he looked at around downtown Bellingham. He said of some of the pieces he saw, pressure washing would be a quick and productive way to clean algae and dirt. Others would need professional cleaning and repair. He mentioned that volunteers are limited to the amount of work they can actually do to clean a deteriorating piece of artwork. Some cleaning techniques he mentioned were:

- Mild solvent to remove gum and stickers (check the solvent on a discreet spot prior to overall application)
- Mild Soap and water
- A three parts water/one part white vinegar mixture to spray on wood/stone once clean to stave off algae
- Pressure washing objects that can handle the water pressure
- Use polymer glues or epoxy to maintain shape of artwork
- Contact specific artists regarding their artwork for additional ideas

There was a brief discussion regarding cleaning and maintenance of the artwork.

4. Arts Commission Business

Membership

Shannon mentioned the Commission currently has two vacancies. She asked the Commissioners if they would like to recommend reducing the number of current members from eleven to nine. The Commissioners said they would rather keep eleven members. Shannon will work with the membership committee to start reviewing new applications and to make some decisions on new members.

Lipchitziana Update

Shannon said there have been some problems with the maintenance of Lipchitziana. Stan Bennett of Whatcom Powder Coaters has been working on the artwork. He has sandblasted it and has discovered that the artist used Bondo to sculpt the shape of the piece in several spots. Stan told Shannon there are several spots where a significant amount of Bondo needs to be re-applied to recreate a smooth line. He will continue to try and recreate the shape but is having some difficulties. Shannon will continue to keep in contact with Stan and will keep the Commissioners informed of the progress.

5. For the Good of the Order

Shirley Erickson said this years EDGE group will have their show on display on the night of gallery walk.

Debbie McCunn and Trish Harding are going to Tacoma in late September for a tour of the arts. Whatcom Community College will be offering this day trip so please check their site.

6. Big Rock Update

Jeni Cottrell said the artist who had a piece of artwork in Big Rock Garden's May show would like to donate the piece to the City. Big Rock Committee already supports this donation. Shannon mentioned prior to any acceptance of artwork the Arts Commission needs to review and decide if they want to recommend to the Mayor the acceptance of the artwork. Jeni will bring a presentation to the next Arts Commission meeting.

7. Parks Update

Dominique Zervas said Parks will be doing work on Boulevard Park. The work will be done primarily on the beaches due to erosion. They may be extending the beach from the dock, north.

BELLINGHAM ARTS COMMISSION PUBLIC MEETING (S): ADJOURNED: 8:10PM

Minutes prepared by:



Shannon Taysi, PCDD Staff

Edited by:



Darby Galligan, PCDD Staff