

Bellingham Arts Commission (BAC) Minutes
Tuesday October 5, 2010, 6:00 PM
Mayor's Board Room

Commission members Present: Alex Wiley, Marisa Papetti, Christopher Morrision, Jeni Cotrell, Shirley Erickson, Denise Snyder, Trish Harding

Commission Members Absent: AnMorgan Curry, Pearl Yewell, Debbie McCunn, Jennifer Newman

Staff Members Present: Shannon Taysi, PCDD,

Others Present: Dominique Zervas-Foley – Parks Board Liaison, Kelly Hart, Executive Director, Allied Arts of Whatcom County, Yelena Nelson, Whatcom Symphony Orchestra

1. Call to Order

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

2. Introductions and Public Comment

Alex Wiley introduced Kelly Hart and Yelena Nelson to the other Commission members.

3. Presentations

Allied Arts Update – Kelly Hart, Allied Arts of Whatcom County

Kelly gave the Commission an update on Allied Arts and its focus for 2011. She mentioned Allied Arts will not be hosting the Chalk Art Festival and La Bella Strada next year. However, Allied Arts is coordinating with the Mount Baker Theatre and Western Washington University to hopefully host a regional festival that will have a greater draw for tourist as well as locals. She said that the focus of Allied Arts in 2011 will be the importance of art and the positive impacts it has economically for the community. She said she will be looking to the Arts Commission for their help and support on projects in the future.

Alexander Ardakov Piano Performance – Yelena Nelson, Whatcom Symphony Orchestra

Yelena Nelson of Whatcom Symphony Orchestra gave a brief overview of Alexander Ardakov and his musical background. Mr. Ardakov will be in the Seattle area and would be willing to perform in Bellingham. Yelena explained that this would be a rare opportunity for the community. She has come to the Commission to get their support for a free concert to be played by Mr. Ardakov on December 2, 2010 in the Whatcom Museum of History of Art. She is looking for assistance in paying for the room rental and a stipend to be paid to Mr. Ardakov. The total expense would be \$1100.00, \$600.00 for the room rental and \$500.00 for the stipend.

The Commission discussed the benefit to the community of a free concert performed by an artist of Mr. Ardakov's caliber.

Denise Snyder moved and Marisa Papetti seconded the approval to fund the concert for a total of \$1100.00.

There was a brief discussion regarding taking donations at the event to help cover the cost.

Arts Commission Business

a. Approval of September 7, 2010 Minutes

Denise Snyder moved and Shirley Erickson seconded the approval of September 7, 2010 minutes.

b. Possible Temporary Sculpture Installation – Shirley Erickson

Shirley had previously spoken with an artist, Tony Hermanutz, who told her he was interested in temporarily installing one of his sculptures in the City of Bellingham. He currently has a sculpture located in Blaine in front of the US Bank. The sculpture he is proposing to install is a tree made of stainless steel and copper and approximately 9'Hx7.5'Wx6'D. She wanted to give the Commission an opportunity to consider the artwork and have a discussion before anything formal was proposed. Shannon said the City will want to understand how the piece would be installed prior to committing to anything. She will work with the artist and Public Works Engineering to see what would be necessary. There was a discussion regarding how long is "temporary". This needs to be determined. The Commission discussed taking a field trip up to Tony Hermanutz's home to view the piece in person. Shirley will coordinate a visit.

4. Agenda Items for next Arts Commission Meeting

Sculpture Discussion – Continued
Update on Alexander Ardakov Concert
Mural Project
Big Rock

5. For the Good of the Order & Announcements

Parks Advisory Board – Dominique Zervas

Dominique announced the following:

- There was an Executive session regarding 6 properties that Greenways brought forward
- Mark Peterson is stepping down and Parks Board chair
- There was an acquisition update on Fairhaven Highlands and Outlook Mountain
- Gina Gobo presented the EPA cleanup and re-routing of Little Squalicum.

Meeting Adjourned