

Bellingham Arts Commission (BAC) Minutes
January 5, 2011, 6:00 PM
Mayor's Board Room

Commission members Present: Alex Wiley, Christopher Morrison, Jeni Cottrell, Denise Snyder, AnMorgan Curry, Debbie McCunn, Trish Harding

Commission Members Absent: Shirley Erickson, Marisa Papetti

Staff Members Present: Shannon Taysi, PCDD

1. Call to Order

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

2. Introductions and Public Comment

There were no public comments.

3. Presentations

Proposed Donation to Big Rock Garden – Jeni Cottrell

Jeni presented the proposed sculpture donation entitled "Hope" by Emory Scott. She said the Park and Recreation department will incur all installation costs and this is a low maintenance piece. She said they have clearly told the artist that if it were vandalized or needed repair at some point the artwork would not be repaired but rather removed from the collection. The collection sub-committee will meet in January to review this donation proposal and make a recommendation to the Commission as a whole at the February meeting.

4. Arts Commission Business

Sculpture Collection Discussion

The Commission has had multiple discussions about the City's current sculpture collection over the past year. The goal has been to try and identify the direction of the collection, including current pieces and pieces to be obtained in the future. Tonight's goal is to have a plan of next steps in regards to the collection. Some questions arose during the brainstorming session:

- Should some pieces be deaccessioned?
- Should some be sold, what would be done with the money?
- Could some pieces be leased to other jurisdictions?
- How is it determined something should be removed from the collection?
- What defines the collection?
- Is it more about location of pieces rather than the artwork itself?

The Commission decided they would like to jury the current collection. It was felt if they take a fresh perspective based upon the criteria in place for accepting new artwork they could get a better handle on the future direction of the collection. Shannon will organize a jury for the April Arts Commission meeting. The Commission would like to have both a powerpoint presentation as well as hard copy images and information for each sculpture. Shannon will recruit help from one of the Commissioners to prepare for the April meeting properly.

2011 Action Plan

Shannon said some of the revisions to the action plan are obvious and she will change. She said specifically item numbers 7 and 8 need to be defined and expanded upon. Item 7 will be redefined as assessing the collection through an internal jury process. Item 8 will be reworded to state the Commission will participate in or host one fundraising event in 2011. It was suggested the Commission participate in the Human Race, a local fundraising event in the Spring/Summer. It was also mentioned that this years' rotating sculpture show incorporate the ceramic show Linda Hughes is coordinating.

Arts & Economic Prosperity Study

Shannon mentioned the Arts And Economic Prosperity Study is underway. Allied Arts is expected to get a minimum of 800 surveys from events throughout the year and is asking for the assistance of the Commission. Shannon gave the Commission members information packets and survey materials in case they do collect survey information at any upcoming events.

5. Agenda Items for February 1, 2011 Meeting

Hope by Emory Scott
Mayor's Arts Awards

6. For the Good of the Order

Parks Board Update

- The Director of Parks and Recreation, Paul Leuthold, has resigned. There is no feedback as to who will be replacing him.
- There is a discussion about combining the Greenways Advisory Committee with the Parks Advisory Board since the Greenways Committee meets so infrequently.
- The board is discussing capital improvement options at the golf course due to the additional funds that will be available since the loan will be paid off and the funds that have gone towards the loan can now be used for other projects.
- The "Hope" sculpture was approved by the board.
- A park has been established in the Cordata neighborhood. Two memorial benches have been purchased.

Meeting Adjourned