

Bellingham Arts Commission (BAC) Minutes
August 2, 2011, 6:30 PM
Mayor's Board Room

Commission members Present: Alex Wiley, Christopher Morrison, Jeni Cottrell, Shirley Erickson, Marisa Papetti, Denise Snyder

Commission Members Absent: AnMorgan Curry, Trish Harding

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

Columbia Neighborhood Sign - Shannon Taysi

Shannon presented the proposed sign design for the Columbia Neighborhood. This sign will be placed at West Street and Squalicum Parkway. The proposed sign design and size is consistent with previous neighborhood signs approved throughout the City. She explained that currently there is a neighborhood sign for Columbia located on Monroe Street. The existing sign located on Monroe reads "Welcome to the Columbia / Eldridge Neighborhood". The proposed sign will read "Welcome to the Columbia Neighborhood". Shannon said the proposed sign reads more accurately since the neighborhood name is Columbia and not Columbia / Eldridge. Shannon suggested the Commission consider recommending that any future signs or replacement of the existing sign require the signage uses the proper neighborhood name.

Shirley Erickson moved and Marisa Papetti seconded the approval of the Columbia Neighborhood sign as proposed with the condition that all future signs installed or replaced in the Columbia Neighborhood will use the proper name of the neighborhood. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

York Neighborhood Historic District Street Signs - Shannon Taysi

Shannon presented the sign design for the proposed street signs identifying the historic district. These signs are different than the signs the BAC have reviewed in the past. Each sign would be placed on top of the street name signs. The color and size of each sign will be consistent with the existing standard street identification signs. Once the neighborhood association receives all of its' funding there will be a total of twenty nine signs in the district. There was a comment made that this seemed like an excessive amount of signage. There was a brief discussion regarding the number of signs.

Jeni Cottrell moved and Marisa Papetti seconded the approval of the historic district signage for the York Neighborhood. All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

4. Arts Commission Business

Parks Board Update

There was no Parks Board update.

Big Rock Update

Jeni said 2013 will mark twenty years since the City acquired Big Rock Garden. The Big Rock Committee has discussed planning a large celebration. She said they are currently conducting artist interviews with the artists that have sculptures located in the park.

In regards to the 2012 Mother's Day show at Big Rock Garden, Jeni suggested they host an invitational exhibit. She suggested they invite Anthony Howe to display 3 to 5 pieces of artwork at the park. Additionally, she suggested one cycle of the City Hall Sculpture Show include smaller Anthony Howe sculptures. By highlighting Anthony Howe, it will give the community an opportunity to gain expanded knowledge of an artist who has a dynamic piece of artwork located in the City. The Commission felt this was a good idea. Shannon will contact the artist so see if he is interested in an invitational.

She mentioned the Big Rock Committee has been considering becoming a less formal committee and becoming more of a Big Rock advocacy group. She mentioned the Parks Department has fewer people staffed to support the park. With both of these changes, the BAC may need to take a larger role in the activities that occur at Big Rock. It was discussed that it was logical for the BAC to play a larger role since they are responsible for overseeing the sculpture collection.

Meeting Adjourned