



RENTON MUNICIPAL ARTS COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

December 6, 2011
4:30 pm

Renton City Hall
Conferencing Center (7th Floor)

Municipal Arts Commissioners Present: Jerri Everett, Peter Hartley, Bill Huls, Doug Kyes, Patricia Pepper, Britt McKenzie, Evelyn Reingold and Denise Zullig

Municipal Arts Commissioners Absent: Brook Lindquist

City Staff Present: Jennifer Davis Hayes, Community & Economic Development; Judith Subia, Community & Economic Development; Vincent Orduna, Community Services; Elizabeth Stewart, Renton History Museum

CALL TO ORDER: Commission Chair Pepper called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Pat Pepper welcomed guests, including Jaris English and Jon Schindehette, who has shown interest in serving on the Commission. Andee Jorgenson from Allied Arts was also in attendance. Jaris and Ben Andrews, who were unable to attend the meeting, will both be considered for appointment on December 12 at the City Council's Community Services Committee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: COMMISSIONER PAT PEPPER PRESENTED THE MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER TO THE GROUP AND ASKED IF ANYONE HAD ANY COMMENTS. ON PAGE 3, UNDER COMMISSION BUDGET, IT SHOULD READ PIAZZA. BRITT MCKENZIE MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED, SECONDED BY BILL HULS. COMMISSIONERS CONCURED, MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC ART PIECE OF THE MONTH: Bill Huls is working on the piece. This item was tabled to the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Jennifer Davis Hayes passed around the folder for people to review.

MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Committee Updates

Performing Arts (PAIR): The Committee met last night. They are working on joint marketing. With new members in the group, they are also exploring other projects.

Galvanizing Projects: The Committee is reviewing project options. The next meeting will be on December 12 at 3:30 p.m. in the Downtown Library.

Art Center: The Committee is researching what art opportunities currently exist. The next meeting is not scheduled at this time.

Spring Arts Equinox: The planning meeting will be held on Monday at 6:00 p.m. at Berliner Pub. The Spring Equinox will be on March 22, 2012, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Committee is researching locations for this event.

OLD BUSINESS

Action Item List

Arts Commission Committees

Resource Development: Peter is working on a spreadsheet that organizes and lines up resources and needs. He asked if anyone has experience, or know anyone who does, in grant writing. Jenifer gave an update on the state grant which was denied. The 4Culture email with deadlines for grants was also discussed. There are other grants to apply for and she asked for project ideas. Evelyn will help research grants.

1% for Arts: The Rainier Ave project is out for bid. The Transportation Department has also been awarded a state TIB grant for \$1.7M to improve the intersection of Garden Avenue and Park near The Landing.

4Cow Request: The estimate for this sculpture is \$50K to \$75K. Denise is working with the South Renton Connections Neighborhood who will contribute \$10K. It was proposed to allocate \$20K from the 1% for Arts fund with the remaining to come from sponsorships from the community and fundraising. The Committee will do an RFP for an artist fabricator and will include a conceptual design. Commissioners agreed that the project should be funded at the level of \$20K from the Arts Commission and the amount that can be raised by South Renton Connections. EVELYN REINGOLD MOTIONED TO COMMIT TO \$20K FROM THE 1% FOR ARTS FUND AND THE \$10K FROM THE COMMUNITY AS A STARTING POINT, SECONDED BY PETER HARTLEY. COMMISSIONERS CONCURED, MOTION CARRIED. If no proposals come in at that budget, this issue will be revisited.

Communications & Marketing: Brook and Evelyn are working on the Speakers Bureau Power Point presentation. Britt asked the Commission to think of faith-based groups, neighborhood associations or service clubs where the Commission can discuss the Master Plan. There has been an invitation to speak at the next Kennydale Neighborhood Association meeting in January. The calendar and newsletter are still being worked on. Britt needs help in this group; Jaris and Jon offered help. It was suggested that one person from each committee serve on this group.

Ad Hoc Committees

Renton River Days Booth: VJ and Bill shared their idea to build a large toss across, similar to tic tac toe. The Commission would choose photos that would be put in the squares. Prizes would be solicited from the arts community. One idea for a make and take activity is to decorate masks. There was also discussion about a suggestion from Bonnie Rerecich, which was to have a separate booth with artists creating art. The Commission would spearhead and create a schedule for the artists.

Commission Recruitment: There are currently 2 open seats, including a youth position. Jennifer encouraged the Commission to share the media release with others to solicit interest. The deadline for applications is December 15. Denise, Britt, and Evelyn volunteered to review applications and participate in the interview process. There was also discussion about a Commission-in-Training position. This person would attend meetings, but would be unable to vote.

Commission Projects

Carco Theatre: All artists have been selected and confirmed. Britt and VJ are working on reception dates. VJ will be moving offices which may possibly affect the way art will be displayed and accessed.

Library Architecture Design Team: The next public open house meeting will be on December 14 at the Renton Pavilion Event Center from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

City Public Art in the Libraries: The Commission discussed the art pieces that are at the Downtown and Highlands libraries, which pieces should be kept in the libraries, and which pieces could be moved elsewhere in the City. The pieces the Commission recommends keeping for the Downtown Library include: "Untitled Bronzes" and "Homework Comes First." The North Coast Indians and Coal Miners at the Highlands Library are pieces that the Commission would like to see included in the future library building. Denise and Brook will represent the Commission on the library design committees and communicate this request.

FilmFrenzy: SIFF is coming back to Renton in May. Denise asked to be removed from this Committee.

Financial Reports

Commission Budget: Jennifer reported that she is still waiting on a few grant reports to come in. We may have additional resources to carry forward for next year.

Boards & Commission Training

A few Commissioners attended. Good feedback was received. Peter mentioned that one idea from the training was a suggestion made by Terry Higashiyama to move meetings into the community.

NEW BUSINESS

2012 Officer Elections: The following motions were made for the 2012 Officers: for Britt McKenzie as Chair, for Peter Hartley as Vice Chair, and for Jerri Everett as Secretary. Being no further nominations, ALL MOTIONS CARRIED.

2012 Art Grants: Jennifer will work with the Executive Committee to draft the applications for next year. She asked the Commission to send her any input to include in next year's application.

4Culture Site Specific Art: At the November Local Arts Agencies meeting, members looked at current proposals. Jennifer will share the proposals and offer the resources to the arts community.

Earthworks Bicycle Tour: The City of Kent has applied for and was awarded a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to do a bicycle tour to connect three Earthworks. The tour is scheduled for June 2, 2012, to guide through the three areas (Kent, Renton, and SeaTac). There are wayfinding and identifier signs developed for the trail that Jennifer will work with our Transportation Division to ensure they meet the City's standards.

Adjournment: The December 6, 2011, meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on January 3, 2012, in the Conferencing Center at 4:30 p.m.

Britt McKenzie, Chair