



*Renton  
Municipal  
Arts  
Commission*

## RENTON MUNICIPAL ARTS COMMISSION

### Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2008  
4:30 p.m.

Renton City Hall  
Council Conference Room

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Municipal Arts Commissioners Present: Patricia Pepper, Dalia Amin, Jerri Everett, Valerie Gower, Doug Kyes, Fred Lund, Linda Middlebrooks, Mike O'Halloran, Britt Peterson, Evelyn Reingold, Denise S. Zullig

Municipal Arts Commissioners Absent: Wesley Van Doren

City Staff Present: Jennifer Davis Hayes, Community & Economic Development  
Vivienne Lietz, Administrative Secretary, Community & Economic Development  
Vincent Orduna, Community Services

Guests: Philip J. Skochilich, artist specializing in figured maple  
Gregg Zimmerman, Public Works Administrator  
Abdoul Gafour, Water Utility Supervisor  
Mary Clymer, Small Project idea: Fortune Parking Lot

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Commissioner Pat Pepper called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Commissioner Pepper introduced Phillip Skochilich and his wife. He carves fish out of maple and he would like to donate two to three maple fish carvings to display in a City building. He grew up here in Renton. The fish carvings are maintained with oil and are for inside display only. Jennifer Davis Hayes stated we do not have a current policy on donated art and we will look into what will work. Phillip Skochilich also inquired about artist grants. Commission Chair Pepper informed him about the financial assistance awards provided by the Commission. Since the Commission does not have a policy in place regarding the acceptance of donated art, members cannot vote at this time. The Commission will look to create a policy and decide about accepting his donation at that time.

Commissioner Pepper introduced Gregg Zimmerman to speak about the Water Tower proposal. Jennifer shared with the Commission the City ordinance 5383, which addresses the height of public water utility facilities and requires that facilities exceeding 50 feet are required to be treated with public art that shall be reviewed by the Commission. Gregg Zimmerman thanked the Commission for reviewing project at short notice. Gregg Zimmerman stated they were in the process of building 125' water tower at Hazen HS site at Sunset Blvd and Hoquiam on city-owned land north of the school. Greg Zimmerman passed around map and a rendition of what project looks like. This project was already planned before the new ordinance was passed and therefore would not be covered by the new rules, but a request by Hazen students and the ASB to paint an H on the tank prompted Public Works to visit the Arts Commission. Hazen student Eric Carlson requested to paint the water tower the school colors - blue, green and yellow. Due to costs and aesthetics, the final proposal is to paint a blue H near the top of the tank for a cost of \$3300.00 which will be raised by the school. Questions included school district and neighbors' support. Gregg mentioned the project would not proceed without school district approval and he had briefed School Board member Al Talley. COMMISSIONER MIDDLEBROOKS made motion to accept Hazen's idea of putting H on the water tower as the proposal indicated as long as the other stakeholders agree, SECONDED BY FRED LUND. COMMISSIONERS CONCUR, MOTION CARRIED

Next guest presenter Mary Clymer: Mary owns a Downtown business and she presented an idea to paint fortunes on parking stalls in the Main Ave public parking lot (located in 200 block of Main Ave S). The idea was borrowed from a lot in San Francisco. The current parking lot is difficult to find and naming it could help to better identify it. She passed around the proposal and sample fortunes that included details about the costs (\$250) and volunteer plans. Jennifer mentioned that she has made a few calls to determine which department at the City would need to approve this project and will continue to work on this. Vincent Orduna asked about maintenance; Mary will develop a plan for this. Commissioner Kyes was concerned about the quality of volunteer painting and suggested researching professional sign or paint assistance. It was also suggested to paint the fortunes on signs rather than the asphalt. The Commissioners liked the idea and requested that Mary research the options and return with a proposal.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The Commission approved the September 2008 minutes as written. MOVED BY LINDA MIDDLEBROOKS, SECONDED BY MIKE O'HALLORAN. COMMISSIONERS CONCUR, MOTION CARRIED.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Commissioner Lund distributed mail to RMAC.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Local Arts Organization Updates:**

1. Jennifer Davis Hayes attended SoCo Culture and Heritage organization joint meeting. The meeting included brainstorming 100 ideas of how arts and heritage organizations can work together. She will share the notes from the meeting when she receives them.
2. Fred Lund shared with the group that the Americans for the Arts Action Fund rated Congressional Arts Report Card. Washington state ranked 19<sup>th</sup>, Maine ranked 1<sup>st</sup>.
3. Allied Arts: Linda Middlebrooks relayed that this Sunday Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra is playing this Sunday at 3:00 p.m. at the IKEA PAC. Hazen High School students will be playing violin. Prices are kept low, \$8 for adults, \$5 seniors, \$3 students, in part by the Commission support of the event. An advertisement is on the front page of the tomorrow's Renton Reporter.

**ACTION ITEM LIST:**

1. ***Master Plan for RMAC.*** No new information. New program request of \$25,000.00. As people find things of interest continue to do research on your own and then bring back to group. Budget will be presented October 27 and Council will decide to vote yes or no. Arts commission funding is embedded in budget at this time.
2. ***Bravo Award.*** The reception and presentation is now on November 3rd. The reception will start at 6:45 p.m.; the presentation will be on the Council agenda starting at 7 p.m. Fred Lund and Mike O'Halloran will design invitations, Linda Middlebrooks will gather invitation list, and Jerri Everett and Linda Middlebrooks will organize the reception. The City will print and mail the invitations. Doug Kyes shared the completed Bravo Award certificate.
3. ***Carco Theater Guest Artist.*** The next artist, Carolyn Buck, will install her art on Saturday, October 18. Britt Peterson requested assistance, Valerie Gower offered to help. Vincent Orduna developed a draft schedule for installations and discussed the desire to schedule out the reception schedule for 2009 in advance. Britt Peterson asked the Commission that if anyone sees artwork that would be great to display to collect contact information of the artist and share with her.
4. ***Resource Development.***
  - a) Financial Assistant award— Eduardo Mendonca and Show Brazil submitted a report for \$750.00 for reimbursement for the assemblies at Renton Park Elementary. He also submitted a CD and DVD of the show. Patricia Pepper said to show samples at next meetings. Renton Youth Symphony Orchestra also submitted a complete final report for their \$1000.00 grant. Doug Kyes asked could Allied Arts get a check for \$1000.00. Jennifer Davis Hayes has received no invoice. Reimbursement forms were sent out. Linda Middlebrooks requested copy of reimbursement form.
  - b) 4Culture Grant - Jennifer Davis Hayes reported the City (Community Services Department) received the check for the grant, which includes \$800.00 for the Commission. Instead of making two transfers, Jennifer will transfer \$200.00 to Carco Theatre to complete the \$1000.00 payment for the financial assistance award for the Summer Teen Musical. Assuming similar funding, the

City should receive a similar amount in 2009 from 4Culture. After that, the Arts Commission and Carco Theatre will apply separately for 4Culture grants.

c) Printed materials – nothing to report.

5. **Update on Bylaws.** Upon review, Fred Lund and the committee decided that the bylaws did not need to be updated at this point, rather the committee recommends forming committees as outlined in the bylaws.

Committees: Bylaws recommend 4 committees – Community Development, Performing Arts, Visual Arts and 1% of Art. Committees should be divided up between the 12 – many are doing many things. Needs to be manageable size to meet and discuss.

- Community Development—Fred Lund (chair), Pat Pepper, Wesley Van Doren, Dalia Amin and Jennifer Davis Hayes
- Performing Arts—Mike O'Halloran (chair), Denise Zullig, Jerri Everett, Dalia Amin, Doug Kyes, and Vincent Orduna
- Visual Arts—Britt Peterson (chair), Doug Kyes, Linda Middlebrooks, Fred Lund, Jerri Everett and Vincent Orduna
- 1% of Art—Pat Pepper (chair), Evelyn Reingold, Denise Zullig, Valerie Gower, Wesley Van Doren and Jennifer Davis Hayes

Patricia Pepper communicated that committees should meet and work in between Commission meetings and she should be included on e-mails so she is aware what the groups are working on. She also mentioned that this structure will help to develop a depth of leadership on the Commission. Vincent Orduna offered for committees to meet at Carco, Jennifer Davis Hayes offered the same for City Hall meeting space. A new format will be developed to report that includes an action item list and committee reports.

6. **Renton Film Frenzy.** The awards ceremony will be on Tuesday, October 28 at 7 p.m. at Renton IKEA PAC. Fred Lund is one of five judges. All other films will be shown at Downtown businesses, the exact locations will depend on the number of film entries. For more information, check out the website at [www.RentonFilmFrenzy.com](http://www.RentonFilmFrenzy.com).
7. **Commission Retreat.** Patricia Pepper confirmed with Commissioners that Tuesday, January 13 from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. worked for everyone. Jennifer Davis Hayes is going to explore using a community room space at the Bristol Development by Coulon Park or Council Conferencing Center.
8. **1% for Art.** – Missing Public Art plaques were ordered.  
2nd & Main Development: Haven't applied for building permits but are moving forward on other fronts.  
Wayfinding Signage: Moving forward, expects second phase of installment early next year.
9. **Commission budget.** Budget as of 9/26/08 reports \$10,490.00 of income, \$2,880.91 of expenses with \$7609.09 remaining. This does not include the two latest award invoices for Eduardo Mendoca and Show Brazil or Renton Youth Symphony for a total of \$1,750.00. Once all financial assistance awards are paid, the balance remaining will be approximately \$1,800.00. The remaining known expenses include framing for Bravo Awards (~\$50), reception for Bravo (~\$75), SoCo Culture membership (~\$25) and possible small project ideas such as Fortune Parking (~\$250+). Jennifer Davis Hayes is going to explore utilizing 2008 funds for the retreat. The balance of the funds should be spent this year. Members will discuss other projects at the next meeting.
10. **Website Information.**  
The Commission's website address will be changed to: [www.ArtsCommission.rentonwa.gov](http://www.ArtsCommission.rentonwa.gov).
11. **Current art projects.**
- a) Welcome to Renton Sign – Mike O'Halloran talked to Peter and when deck is done artwork will go up.
  - b) Burnett Linear Park Art – Rededication event this Saturday, 9:00 a.m. Mike O'Halloran to speak and present certificate to the artist/welder.
  - c) Herons – No update.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Patricia Pepper will give presentation about the Commission on October 23 to Rotary.

Officer elections in November: In the theme of following the current bylaws, it states that officer elections take place in November (Article VIII – Elections.) Officer terms are 1 year, beginning on January 1. Commissioners interested in an officer position (Chair, Vice-Chair or Secretary) should inform Patricia Pepper or Jennifer Davis Hayes. All current officers are interested in continuing in the positions.

Small grants: The remaining budget allows the Commission to provide grants for small projects. Some of the remaining budget will be spent on reception supplies.

Future Renton River Days activities: Patricia Pepper would like to have a booth that reflects the Commission's mission and the public art. Ideas included passport or coloring book. Evelyn Reingold will bring an example of something the Seattle Art Museum does. Denise Zullig asked if we support culinary arts and we could partner with Renton Technical College to make mini-pastries of public art pieces. Mike O'Halloran liked the set-up to draw parents into the tent and perhaps we should have a larger area for seating while kids do the activities. The Community Development Committee will develop ideas and a proposal to bring to the full Commission that will appeal to all ages.

Neighborhood Program Grant: Jennifer Davis Hayes passed around photos of the Renton Hill sign design that will be installed at the base of Renton Hill.

**Adjournment:** The October 7, 2008, meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 4, 2008 at 4:30 p.m.

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Patricia Pepper, Chair