



*Renton  
Municipal  
Arts  
Commission*

## RENTON MUNICIPAL ARTS COMMISSION

### Meeting Minutes

June 2, 2009  
4:30 pm

Renton City Hall  
Conferencing Center (7<sup>th</sup> Floor)

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

Municipal Arts Commissioners Absent: Linda Middlebrooks and Wesley Van Doren

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

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Commissioner Patricia Pepper called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** FRED LUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MAY 5 MINUTES AS CORRECTED, 2<sup>nd</sup> BY VALERIE GOWER. COMMISSIONERS CONCUR, MOTION CARRIED.

**PUBLIC ART PIECE OF THE MONTH:** A time set aside for all commissioners to learn about a piece of public art in Renton. Jennifer Davis Hayes presented the first artwork as a "quiz" for Commissioners. She presented that it was designed to symbolize a large flowering plant. It was awarded the 1996 Outstanding Local Civil Engineering Award by American Society of Civil Engineers and 1998 Place Design Award by *Places* magazine. It consists of 8 acres and is part of a regional trail system. It attracts neighbors, birdwatchers and people nationwide interested in the transformative potential of public art. The total budget was \$1.1 million, mostly from King County 1% for Art and engineering budget. What is this public art? Waterworks Garden by Lorna Jordan.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Commissioner Lund distributed mail to RMA highlighting local art events.

Americans for the Arts Annual Convention offers a tour exploring Earthworks projects, which will visit three local sites; Kent, SeaTac and Renton. What is the possibility of an Arts Commissioner greeting the tour? Mike O'Halloran is willing to do this. People come from all over US to see this type of art form. The Renton Chamber has talked in the past about ideas on eco-tourism and showcasing these kinds of art.

Jennifer Davis Hayes asked if commissioners were receiving the packets in a timely enough manner to allow them to read and prepare for the next meeting. Could committee chairs email their meeting highlights promptly to expedite information being sent?

### **OLD BUSINESS:** Local Arts Agency

- 4Culture: The last Local Arts Agency (LAA) meeting was hosted by RMAC at Carco Theatre. RMAC showed the Renton FilmFrenzy commercial; go to [www.rentonfilmfrenzy.com](http://www.rentonfilmfrenzy.com) to view it. A site specific artist group, called Toy Boats, played for the group. Shunpike, a non-profit consultant agency for arts organizations, spoke to the group about their services. Shunpike helps emerging artists and small organizations to become sustainable. They offer monthly workshops, something that RMAC could possibly host for the artist's forum in the fall.

- SoCo Culture: Jennifer Davis Hayes passed around information from the last SoCo meeting focused on arts commissioners. Mike O'Halloran stated it was a good meeting; there were 10-minute sessions on various subject matters. It was exciting and made him feel excited about being an arts commissioner again. He noted that Kent's Arts Commission is extremely well funded. He got a good lead on a \$5,000 grants available from the Muckleshoot Tribe. Another way to fund art is to have a head tax. Kent has \$2 per person; Sumner had \$2 per person until this past year's budget cut to \$1. It was noted that many other commissions do the concert series out of their budget and here in Renton that comes out of the Community Services budget so it's difficult to compare.
- Doug Kyes mentioned that one of the islands had received a grant from 4Culture for \$72,000 for an arts center. Fred Lund clarified that it was Vashon Island. The commission should research the grant.
- School meeting debrief: The first meeting with the Renton School District staff that work with art to find out how we can work with them. Very interesting and rewarding meeting. Some teachers were seasoned, some young, but all very passionate about teaching children and young adults about art. Efforts to include both students and parents. Challenges include space for showcasing their art and need for supplies. We will meet with them again in August to build more rapport and how the partnership can grow. Britt Peterson mentioned a website called [www.donorschoose.com](http://www.donorschoose.com) where teachers can post their needs. Utilize Renton Reporter to get the word out. Music teachers need musical instruments; we should put out a call for people to donate. Susan Bressler may be able to help with her column. Instruments could be dropped off at booth at Renton River Days. Renton Technical College has an instrument repair program, possibly include them. Try to figure out a way that doesn't cost anything to commission. Work with the school district for collection and distribution. Evelyn Reingold, Mike O'Halloran and Dalia Amin will work on a list of suggested donations for teachers. Talk to the local service clubs to get the word out – a Musical Instrument drive for Renton School District.

## **ACTION ITEM LIST:**

### **Committee Reports**

- **Community Development: Committee Chair Fred Lund**

1. Fred Lund and Valerie Gower worked on the Arts Design project and will be presenting it to Renton businesses in the next week to see if they can get support from them. The project is still in the under development.

- **Performing Arts: Committee Chair Mike O'Halloran**

1. Denise Zullig: The committee debriefed the Young Musicians Showcase during their last meeting. The committee would still like to pursue a musical venue. Mike O'Halloran suggested that they attend one of the RYSO meetings and encourage them to apply for a grant.

- **Visual Arts: Committee Chair Britt Peterson**

1. Art work at Carco: Britt Peterson is working with VJ on the transfer of artwork from one artist to the other.
2. Public Art Maintenance: Houser Way, Lincoln Park side of road. Has mid-century concrete panels in that Fred Lund and Britt Peterson noticed needs to be pressure washed. Doug Kyes will take a photo and send it to Jennifer Davis Hayes to research.
3. Art Acceptance Policy: Britt Peterson has the rough draft and will review it with the committee. They will review it from the point of view of an artist or a citizen donating a piece of art. It was asked how Renton History Museum deals with it? Jennifer Davis Hayes will check.

- **1% for Arts: Committee Chair Pat Pepper**

1. Mural project at Community Center – waiting for approval and will then send a call for artists. Jennifer Davis Hayes explained that it would actually be an RFQ rather than a call for artists. Doug Kyes mentioned that the State has a list of artists. Jennifer Davis Hayes stated that 4Culture also has a list. Jennifer Davis Hayes will send out the draft of the RFQ. The committee would reach out to all resources. This is small project that would allow the group to gain experience for the complete process to prepare for the next 1% for art project.

## **2. Commission Budget**

Arts & Culture Master Plan is finalizing. Jennifer Davis Hayes noted changes in budget.

Mike O'Halloran said there should be a sign up sheet for Annual Arts Show at next meeting.

### **Arts Commission brochure**

Jennifer Davis Hayes passed around a draft of latest version of the Arts Commission brochure and requested feedback. Suggestions were made for photos to be included.

Mike O'Halloran mentioned that we should run it by Council. Fred Lund mentioned that the art map could be reformatted in the same way. It was suggested that RFQ and musical instrument drive should also go to Council.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **RMAC Goals**

Everyone voted for the top 3 tasks that they would like to see as a priority in 2009. Commission agreed with the five goals as presented. Denise Zullig asked if this would spur a realignment of committees to work on these tasks. The top 3 selected fitted perfectly with the suggested new committees.

1. Master Plan / Partnerships/Community Development
2. Host Forum or Outreach / Communications
3. Apply for other funding sources / Resource Development

Bylaws would need to be updated if the committees were realigned. Discussion ensued on whether to reorganize the committees. BRITT PETERSON MADE A MOTION THAT WE TRY THE SUGGESTED NEW COMMITTEES FOR AN INITIAL TRIAL PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS, AND REVISIT AGAIN AT THAT TIME. 2<sup>ND</sup> BY DOUG KYES. COMMISSIONERS CONCUR, MOTION CARRIED.

Commission stated their preferred committees:

#### **Communications**

Fred Lund

Britt Peterson (1<sup>st</sup> choice)

Jerri Everett

Mike O'Halloran (2<sup>nd</sup> choice)

#### **Resource Development**

Pat Pepper

Evelyn Reingold (1<sup>st</sup> choice)

Denise Zullig

#### **Partnerships/Community Development**

Dalia Amin

Valerie Gower

Doug Kyes

Mike O'Halloran (1<sup>st</sup> choice)

Britt Peterson (2<sup>nd</sup> choice)

Evelyn Reingold (2<sup>nd</sup> choice)

Jennifer Davis Hayes mentioned Ad-Hoc committees. Britt Peterson asked if commission would have a Sergeant of Arms. Fred Lund mentioned the secretary's duties should be addressed. Pat Pepper will find out preference of other commissioners and will select members for each committee and advise commission on the new committees. New committees will schedule their next meetings. Valerie Gower asked if the old committees need to meet; Pat Pepper asked each committee and no meetings were necessary.

4Culture Site specific art. Jennifer Davis Hayes mentioned that due to building a relationship with 4Culture we will be able to add \$3,500 to our budget. This money will be specifically for Site Specific Art

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and for no other purpose. Charlie Rathbun, with 4Culture's public art section, Jennifer Davis Hayes, and Vincent Orduna met with him to discuss ideas. RMAC can decide which site specific art they would like to bring locally and he will contribute \$3,500 toward it. Eduardo Mendoza is listed as an option, could possibly work for Farmers Market August 18<sup>th</sup>. It would be great to have something at the car show, the FilmFrenzy and the Farmers Market.

4Culture is looking for venues for Two Wheels North, a play about the bicycle journey from San Francisco to Seattle for the AYP. The opportunity is free and would take place in the September to October timeframe. The Renton History Museum is interested in partnering on this project. Would the commission be interested? Jennifer Davis Hayes will send the Site Specific list out for commissioner's review and feedback on selection choices.

**Adjournment:** The June 2, 2009, meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 7, 2009 at 4:30 pm.

  
Patricia Pepper, Chair