

**CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON**

**Art Commission  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Date:** May 24, 2010

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Arts Commission Members Present:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Shelley Brittingham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dane Johnson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Virginia Wright
<input type="checkbox"/> Donna DiFiore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathy Justin	
<input type="checkbox"/> Victoria Hall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ted Ottinger	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robbie Howell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debbie Thoma	

**Staff Present:**

Rochelle Flynn, Parks Dept Program Assistant

**Guests:**

Michael O'Neill, Interior Designer

**Minutes**

Meeting called to order. Since only 4 of the members present had been at the April meeting, it was determined that we did not have a quorum to approve the minutes. A decision was made to postpone approval of the April minutes until the June meeting. The members will then approve both the April and May minutes.

**Introductions**

Kathy introduced the new Commissioners, Ted Ottinger and Debbie Thoma, and welcomed them. She also introduced Michael O'Neill, an interior designer and new Burien resident who was invited by Gina to attend a meeting. Kathy asked Ted and Debbie to speak a little bit about their backgrounds and their interest in the arts. Ted is a retired teacher and has experience in the theater. Debbie has been a long time coordinator/volunteer for the PTA "Reflections" program, a juried art competition for students of all ages. She has also been active in Art Docent programs in local schools. Both new Commissioners will attend an orientation on June 8 at 3:30 pm.

**"AREAS OF FOCUS" REPORT**

**Arts Education** — Update on banner project for 153<sup>rd</sup> street. Kathy gave a brief history and update of the banner project for the benefit of the new members. The schools involved were Gregory Heights Elementary, Sylvester Middle School, and Highline High School. We are currently waiting to hear back about production costs before proceeding further with the project.

**Public Art**—The Public Art committee had its first meeting to discuss a comprehensive plan for funding, acquisition, and placement of public art. Dane explained how the 1% for Public Art Fund works. There is \$47,000 currently in the fund. The committee will be looking at fiscal contributions and revisiting current policies and procedures for the fund's management. Some of the questions that arose are:

- What's the basic vision for public art in the city of Burien?
- What's the best way to leverage the public art fund?
- How do we refill the fund after we spend the money?

The committee will be working on a proposal to bring to the Commission.

Kathy and Rochelle explained a little about the existing Public Art program for the benefit of the new members and guests. Some discussion followed.

Michael asked if public art was only sculpture and only used in external, outdoor places.

Kathy talked about the new sculpture coming to the Atrium at the new Community Center. She spoke about the history of Puget Sound Skill's Center's previous "Eagle" sculpture at B/IAS.

Michael asked if the Commission receives funds from the Strawberry Festival. Some discussion followed as to how the Arts Commission, the Parks Department, the Arts and Culture Fund, and the "1% for the Arts" operate.

In response to questions from Ted and Michael, a discussion followed about various events including Art Walks/Fairs, Empty Space Storefronts showcasing art, "Arts-A-Glow", Strawberry Festival, Farmers Market (Discover Burien sponsors), etc.

A discussion also followed about the origin and management of B/IAS and all its surrounding artwork. There was more discussion regarding the use of that space in the future. A new movie theater may be located in the downtown but will likely look at a different parcel of land than B/IAS, most likely where the original City Hall was located.

Michael wondered if there was a design review committee for the city.

#### **Arts and Economic Development—No Report**

**Other--**Dane talked briefly about Kathy & Gina's meeting with the organization, ArtsSpace. Research is available on live/work spaces for artists and there was a discussion about the City's shortage of quality performance and studio space. Additional discussion followed about the using existing vacated businesses, i.e. the Nissan dealership as potential performance spaces.

#### **Staff Report**

**Wild Strawberry Festival**—The festival is happening June 19-20 at it's new location in Town Square Park. The schedule is listed on the festival website, [www.burienstrawberryfestival.org](http://www.burienstrawberryfestival.org). Rochelle passed out posters and asked the members if they would be willing to put some up at various locations. Postcards are also available for distribution.

The meeting was adjourned.