

CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON

**Art Commission
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: April 24, 2012

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Arts Commission Members Present:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shelley Brittingham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shelli Park	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Virginia Wright
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donna DiFiore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael O'Neill	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andrea Reay	<input type="checkbox"/> Chloe Bjordahl	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robbie Howell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debbie Thoma	

Staff Present:

Gina Kallman, Cultural Arts Supervisor

Debbie Zemke, Recreation Manager

Michael Lafreniere, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director

Nhan Nguyen, Management Analyst

Steve Botkin, Public Information Officer

Guests:

Maureen Hoffmann, Community Member

Minutes

Meeting called to order. Minutes are approved as amended.

Community Outreach—City of Burien Staff Report

Nhan and Steve presented a report on how the city communicates with the community as well as how the city is working to reach out to its changing demographics. Steve began by talking about communication vehicles used by the city, such as quarterly newsletters, e-news, press releases, the city website, cable TV, radio, social networking, and more. The city is also working closely with the local ethnic media to disperse information. Steve and Nhan feel that it is important to research and find how best to reach each ethnic community as each community gathers information differently.

To effectively gather information from the community the city has used surveys, both phone and in person. At this time Nhan is working on two types of informational outreach.

Nhan provided some “best practices” for community outreach:

Be passionate about information.

Be tactful—polite but direct.

Be fearless—don't be afraid of people saying no.

Ask your audience to take action—such as hanging up a flyer.

Always follow up after first conversation, either stop by, call, or e-mail.

Enjoy working with the community!

Nhan mentioned how impressed he is by range of services and retail in the White Center area as the city looks at the possibility of annexation. He believes the community is being well served at this time by the many organizations and businesses in the area. Shelli talked about how family

and food are so important to cultural communities and how this could help in outreach events. Debbie talked about how important it is to have trusted advocates working within the communities such as parent groups as these groups will call families to advocate and invite. Calling and word of mouth is so important to many communities. The commissioners did some brainstorming on community outreach such as information sharing with Green Bridge and working with the TV station and with HSD students to product video clips. Please send Nhan any other ideas!

AREAS OF FOCUS REPORT

Arts Education –The HSD Arts Council did not meet in the last month, so no report at this time.

Public Art— Artist Augustina Droze will be visiting Burien in May for two days to gather information and experience the community. She has also developed a cultural pattern drawing project that has been sent out to the local community and teachers. The drawings are due May 24th and a few of the drawings will be picked to be incorporated into Augustina’s mural design.

Arts and Economic Development—The committee will be meeting on April 26 to discuss how to move the committee forward.

STAFF REPORT

Highline School District Art Walk-- The art walk will take place on Thursday, May 3rd. Twelve downtown businesses will be participating along with many of the art teachers from the HSD’s middle and high schools. The event will be from 5-8pm, with visual and performing art being the focus. Some businesses will keep the art up until May 14th. This event is celebrating “May is Art Education Month.”

Arts Education Proclamation—The Highline School District will be declaring May as Art Education Month in a proclamation at its April 25th meeting at Bow Lake Elementary. Arts Commissioners are encouraged to attend.

WABI--Maureen spoke about WABI, a new walking and biking organization in Burien. The website is up, and the organization is working on a May 18th event, “Burien Bike Day” (in conjunction with National Bike to Work Day). Included at the May 18th event will be activities for commuters and kids as there is no school that day, one activity being a bike safari. There will also be a free Bike 101 class on May 9th at Bike West.

The meeting was adjourned.