

CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON

**Arts Commission
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: August 28, 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chloe Bjordahl	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robbie Howell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debbie Thoma	

Staff Present:

Gina Kallman, Cultural Arts Supervisor
Michael Lafreniere, Parks Director

Guests:

Maureen Hoffman, Community Member

Minutes

Meeting called to order. Minutes are approved as amended.

Special Presentation

Virginia reported on the August 27th City Council meeting where the Council reviewed the cities advisory boards. Staff will get presentation power point and send link to commissioners. The discussion pertained to how advisory boards are structured and their history. Most started as large working boards when the city first was developed and the city staff was small. Maureen asked about the difference between advocacy and advisory. Virginia and Shelli thought that advisory was carrying out work prescribed for boards by the Council, where advocacy is working to change the Council's direction or bring them new items. Michael L. thought the Council would not be able to define these terms at this time. He thought the main thread of the discussion was the focus on bringing a consistency to all the boards in how they function (via municipal code), such as consistent terms, requirement for quorums, attendance, etc. A new addition will be that city staff members will not be able to serve on the boards. The council seemed to be looking for advisory boards instead of working boards at this time. There is some discussion of televising or recording the board meetings for transparency. Staff is looking into practicalities (cost, etc) of this proposal.

AREAS OF FOCUS REPORT

Arts Education – Debbie reported that Stefan Nelson, Cultural Arts Coordinator of the Highline School District, is interested in still having Debbie and Shelli on the Highline Arts Council. The 2012/2013 school year meetings have not been announced yet.

Public Art—Andrea reported that the mural project is now finished and on the August 4th celebration hosted by the Dollar Tree. Around 40 people attended the celebration to meet

Augustina, have some cake, and participate in kid's activities. Staff reported on the anti-graffiti coating on the mural. The coating does not accept any paint, so tagging will not penetrate the wall and is easy to remove.

Arts and Economic Development— The Arts and Economic Development committee met on August 16th. Shelli read the revised letter that was reworked to have more active language. Those in attendance were pleased that there was active discussion about a possible future arts and culture district. The committee will be creating a questionnaire to help formulate ideas about what the community would like to see in the Town Square.

Virginia brought up her confusion about how this plan fits with what the developer plans to do with the town square parcels. She also is unsure how this plan fits with the mission of the arts commission, as well as issues regarding the current economy. She felt this could be an issue of language and would like to see the letter say that elements of arts and culture could be incorporated into the new development. Robbie felt the Comp plan said that the arts district should be in the town square. Robbie is concerned that the parcels will be filled with low to medium income apartments. Michael L. explained that the form the commission was referring to is a zoning chart, not a plan. Shelli brought up the idea of looking to entities like a children's museum to be housed in the new buildings. Andrea mentioned that it is important to create something in Burien that would draw people to the city. Shelley B. felt the idea of the letter is good but that it was too strong of a message, not advocating but demanding what should be on those parcels. Virginia suggested that the committee might be better served as a separate organization, as they would have more flexibility away from the Arts Commission, and that after the group presented the idea to the council that further work could be accomplished as a citizens organization. Shelli and Michael felt that this is the job of the arts commission.

Donna brought the conversation back to the letter, and felt that the letter needs to go to council to start the conversation. Michael L. thought a motion to the council might be better than a letter to the council. Shelli asked if the commission could agree on the sentiment of the letter if it was redrafted and then sent to the council. The question came up as to who should be listed on the letter and Michael L. explained that it is customary for communication from boards to be signed by the board members. Andrea and Shelley read their revisions. Shelli moved that the commission accept the letter with Andrea and Shelley's revisions. The commission approved the letter with the revisions.

Shelli would like to present the letter at the September 17th council meeting. Michael O. asked if the letter can be e-mailed to the council but the other commissioners felt it should be a part of public record. Michael L. let them know that no action could be taken by Council if they get the letter early. There was discussion about the letter going to the press. Consensus was that information could go to the press from individuals, but not as the commission.

Arts and Culture Grants— Gina passed out the Arts and Culture Grant Applications to the Grant committee and reminded everyone about the interviews on September 13th. There will also be an extra application packet at the BCC front desk for Arts Commissioners not on the committee.

STAFF REPORT

Arts-A-Glow—The Glow is on Saturday, September 8th. Staff made an ask for volunteers.

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The meeting was adjourned.