

CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON

**Art Commission
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: April 22, 2008

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Arts Commission Members Present:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shelley Brittingham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laurie Haslund	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Ketcherside
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donna DiFore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maureen Hoffmann	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> June Yormark
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rochelle Flynn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dane Johnson	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Victoria Hall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathy Justin	

Staff Present:

Debbie Zemke, Recreation Manager
Gina Kallman, Cultural Arts Supervisor

Guests:

Randi Lacey, Past Commissioner and Burien resident

Minutes

Meeting called to order. The March minutes were corrected and approved.

2008 Focus Areas Committee Reports

Visual Arts

Arts Education – Victoria presented a report on the Grid Project she is working on with area schools. She has delivered the posters and materials to the schools and the finished work will be hung in B-Town Scoop and possible Karuna Yoga during Arts Education Week, with an ice cream social for the artists on Saturday, May 17th at B-Town Scoop. Five schools are involved and the largest art piece will be 4’x8’. Victoria also mentioned that she has connected film maker Steve Edminson with the Puget Sound Skills Center and that students from PSSC will be working on the film. Students from PSSC will also be painting a trash can for the Teen Council’s art can project.

Victoria shared an Arts Education proclamation by Christine Gregoire. Arts Commissioners will look into what it will take to create one for Burien.

Debbie reminded everyone that Monday, May 5th is the Washington Arts Education Association’s annual meeting at Teatro Zenzinni, and that an rsvp is necessary if any Commissioners are interested in attending.

Public Art – Dane reported on the Town Square principal artwork selection process. The art selection panel meeting at 4-Culture on April 1st went very well. The panel was able to come to a consensus easily. The panel will meet again on Thursday, June 12 at 5:30 PM at the Burien Community Center to see the presentations from the three chosen artists: Dan Corson, Claudia Fitch, and James Harrison. The artists chosen had very strong portfolios and fit well into the approved criteria. After the panel chooses a single artist they will then recommend that artist to the Arts Commission at their June meeting. If approved, this recommendation will be forwarded to City Council for final approval.

4-Culture Site Specific: Visual Art– Debbie reported that artist Susan Robb will be bringing her installation “Toobs” to Lake Burien School Park on Thursday, July 17. The installation will involve 50 ft black garbage bags inflated into huge tubes. The artists will need some assistance that day. Commissioners Donna, Shelley, Rochelle and June volunteered to help on the day of the event.

Art Walk/Beat Walk – Laurie presented information on the Fall Art Walk. The Art Walk committee suggested making the art walk event the signature event by the Burien Arts Commission. They intend to use the things that worked in the past Art Walks and then add new life to the event with some additions and changes. Here is a summary:

What worked:

- Late afternoon to evening event. Sept 6th 4-9PM?
- Happy Hour Menu and special sampling by Mick Kelly’s
- Some kind of performance art such as the 4 Culture 3 Minute Theatre
- THE LANTERN PARADE with the addition of a band this year

What we want to add:

- Event could be a “participatory arts event.” Participants not only can look and listen to the art but make art as well with hands-on booths for lantern making, basket making, costume making, instrument making. Also could incorporate food and wine tasting, music lessons...
- THEME and some sort of physical cohesion, i.e. ribbons running the length of the street or perhaps paint on the street the length of the event.
- No solicitation of artists. Let the stores that have their own artists bring their own artists in. If a store needs an artist referral, Gina can help them with that.
- This could possible piggy-back with the Kid’s Day celebration.
- INFORMATION BOOTH-Staffed by the Arts Commission, with face painting too.
- Have a music education/demo booth featuring Mills Music instruments for rent and mini music lessons
- Perhaps music in some of the retail locations instead of just art, esp. At the Mark and the Yoga place
- Just a few food booths that would add to the atmosphere, but not take away from the restaurants, i.e. Kettle Corn, Hot Dogs, beverage of some sort.
- NW Basket Weavers booth featuring display, demo and lessons.
- Get some interest from the new Woodworkers Shop on 152nd
- Have BLT (Rocky Horror Show) and/or other local community performing groups participate in the parade too. The community arts events should be spread out throughout the event to keep it lively.
- Add Fire Dancers to the Lantern Parade which will end the evening.

What we need from you:

- Arts commissioners should be on board to head up a portion of the event and work the day of the event. We will need to have folks to chair certain committees which will be determined later. We will also need you to man/woman the info booth on the day of the event. We want the city government and the citizens of Burien to recognize this as an “Arts Commission “event. Pull out the stops. Let your creativity flow. Commit to be a part of this Arts Commission signature event.

When we know that we have your support, we will have one more “Artbash” meeting and then come back to you with organizational details (i.e. budget,etc...)

Commission also discussed how a unique or different presentation or event will bring a crowd, such as digital or “video terrorism” presentation or fire presentation.

Following Laurie’s presentation, the Commission discussed this proposal. Maureen, Donna and June were not able to take a role in event. Dane, Kathy, and Shelley would be able to help day of the event. Laurie would be able to help with the booking of musicians. Shelley suggested that the event be scaled to the workload that the committee and Parks staff could take on. The art walk committee will meet again and report a final decision at next meeting.

Literary and Performing Arts

Literary Arts – Nothing to report at this time.

City Arts Events –

Festivals and Concerts – Debbie reported the Al Parisi has resigned from his part-time event position to work for a private event company that is organizing the Tacoma Tall Ships Festival. Debbie, Casey Stanley and Gina will be administering the Strawberry Festival and the Concerts in the Park.

4-Culture Site Specific: Performing Art Musician Byron Au Yong will be in Burien this summer (date to be determined) to present his “Kidnapping Water: Bottled Opera”. The Opera will involve eight opera singers and musicians, and possibly be held at Seahurst Park. It will be 14-40 minutes in length. The opera will include 8 portable songs to create site-specific sets that last from 16-40 minutes. The music will explore human interactions with water.....including songs of human foibles set amidst tales of droughts and floods. Also in Burien this summer will be the “Trash Apes”. These performance/movement artists/actors are dressed and truly move as apes, not upright like humans in ape suits. They’ll interact with people at the Strawberry & Arts Festival, but will generally keep to themselves, picking up trash after humans. They’re scheduled to be on-site directly after the Skateboard Competition on Saturday, June 28 (approximately 1:30 pm), which should provide them with enough litter!

Special Projects

2009 Arts and Culture Fund – Debbie reported that the city’s Arts and Culture grant application packets will be mailed out soon and will be due in July. She encouraged Commissioners to help spread the word about this opportunity to artists and arts organizations.

Arts Summit – The Arts Summit will be Saturday, May 17, 12:30-4:00 PM at Karuna Yoga. Maureen and Donna have volunteered to lead break-out sessions. 4-Culture will be sending out a questionnaire to all those who have been invited: local arts organizations, arts related businesses, artists and arts stakeholders, City Council and City advisory board members. The follow-up summit will be scheduled for this coming Fall.

Burien Aesthetic Master Plan – Maureen has received an e-mail from Community Development Director Scott Greenberg about a possible Burien wayfinding project with the UW School of Art and Design. Maureen has also spoken to “Art Exchange” about using their collection of textiles to inspire possible banners for the city. Mayor Joan McGilton has spoken to Maureen and is encouraging the Commission to draft a formal proposal for this project.

Cultural Diversity–Donna attended the City of Seattle Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs workshop on Public Art: “Public Art in a Nut Shell”. The workshop presented artists discussing their experiences with public art. Donna shared her observations after attending the recent Town Square public art panel in that the proposed artwork doesn’t include design elements and/or

participation by members of the community. It was agreed that this type of scope/criteria could be developed for a future public art piece.

Staff Report

Debbie thanked Dane and Kathy for all their hard work bringing the Birthday Bus to Burien. Also thanked were Rochelle for organizing the numerous riders, Maureen for taking fantastic pictures, and June dressing as a clown and providing face painting for children during the afternoon party. The Bus truly added a unique and memorable element to the City's 15 year celebration.

Youngstown Cultural Center – Debbie accompanied 4 Councilmembers, 2 School District board members, and 2 Burien Little Theater board members on a tour of the Youngstown Cultural Arts Center. The City Council and School Board members were very impressed with how this former school facility has been transformed to be a hub of the Delridge community and a regional arts facility. Debbie will coordinate a tour of Sunnysdale Elementary School, which may have possibilities for a similar conversion in the years to come. The Delridge Neighborhood Association, who own and manage the Youngstown facility, are available to provide contracted services for cities and agencies who are interested in pursuing the feasibility of similar facilities in their own communities.

4 Culture's Local Arts Agencies Meeting – At last LAA meeting, Debbie collected information about the Shoreline Arts Festival's "Going Green with Arts" program and the City of Kirkland's new video for developers, which can provide them with support and resources necessary to incorporate public art into their project design.

South King County Cultural Coalition's Open House – Will be held on Wednesday, May 14, 5:30-8:00 PM at the Kent Senior Center. Both Gina and Rochelle are actively involved in the performance art component, and will also be volunteering on-site during the event.

Washington State Arts Alliance Cultural Congress – Rochelle, Gina and Victoria will be attending the WSAA's Cultural Congress in Leavenworth from April 28-30.

Next Meeting

Scott Hardin, City of Burien Director of Finance, will be at the May meeting to report on the City Budget.

Meeting Adjourned.