

**CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON**

**Art Commission  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Date:** June 23, 2009

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

**Arts Commission Members Present:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shelley Brittingham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Virginia Wright
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donna DiFore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robbie Howell
<input type="checkbox"/> Rochelle Flynn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dane Johnson
<input type="checkbox"/> Victoria Hall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathy Justin

**Staff Present:**

Gina Kallman, Cultural Arts Supervisor  
Debbie Zemke; Recreation Manager

**Guests:**

Randi Lacey, Past Arts Commissioner and Burien Resident  
Laurie Haslund, Burien Arts Board and Past Arts Commissioner  
John Ubehend, Burien Arts Board

**Minutes**

Meeting called to order.

Minutes approved. Robbie motions, Donna seconds

**Guest Presentation**

Burien Arts board members Laurie Haslund and John Ubehend reported on upcoming Burien Arts events. 20/20 will be happening again in November and this time will have a preview. The artwork may be used for the Empty Storefront project. The event may again be held at Karuna Yoga or possibly in an empty retail space. The pARTy Bus is planned for Sept 19 and will go to the Tacoma Glass Museums. At the Strawberry Festival the BA was thrilled to have a 25% increase in shortcake sales from 2008, they liked the vendor improvements, and the BAG had \$800 in sales.

**July 2<sup>nd</sup> Where We Live Now**

Kathy gave a short overview of the July 2<sup>nd</sup> event coming to Burien. The event is being sponsored by Suddenly.org and will be a discussion of our cities and how we live. Suddenly.org is run by Portland writer Matthew Stadler. The event will center around a visit by German Urban Planner and architect Thomas Stadler. The organizers of the event are excited about the recent development in Burien, and have added the destination to his trip to Seattle.

Thomas Sieverts writing is focused on the space in-between the city and the rural spaces: the suburban spaces; and how can community, artists, etc make those places their own. Thomas Sieverts brings up that in the near future half the population will live in these in-between spaces and that they will not often leave these spaces, so it is important to bring culture to these spaces. This is a move away from the centralization of arts and culture. Sieverts encourages people to look at where they live and make an investment.

The event will encompass meetings with visionaries and council members, a walk around the city, and a conversation and nosh at the B/ IAS site on July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **AREAS OF FOCUS REPORTS**

**Arts Education**— Victoria organized a project with Cedarhurst Elementary 3-4<sup>th</sup> graders. The students have created flowers made from recycled water bottles that have been installed at the B/ IAS site, and more pieces are coming from Gregory Heights. A shrub was also created from recycled plastic tablecloths.

**Public Art/ B/IAS**— Here are updates on the B/ IAS: Mike McGrath's sculpture "Paradigm Shift" has been installed at B/ IAS after its display at the Henry Art Gallery. Movie night has been tested and went well, three to four more movie nights are being planned, more information at [www.interim-art-space.com](http://www.interim-art-space.com). Pieces of Eight event will be Aug 15 and 16. Sustainable Burien will be installing a demo p-patch this summer. Signage is being made for the artwork at the site and will hopefully be installed soon.

**Performing and Literary Arts:** no report

**Burien Aesthetic Master Plan & Cultural Identity:** Donna hopes to move the banner project forward. She will be talking to different cities to gather information on different options for the project.

### **Special Projects**

**Americans for the Arts Conference:** Shelley and Dane attended the national conference held in June in Seattle. Shelley reported on the amazing opportunity to network, talk about similar issues about economy, sustainability, etc. Dane reported that the idea of growing cities through investing in culture is taking off as developers and city governments realize that the arts are a way to develop and sustain a city. One point of interest discussed was that cities need light industrial space for artists to thrive, for living and work spaces. Many cities are encouraging artists to move into empty storefronts to revitalize business areas...and then encouraging them to stay. A question asked during the conference was "How can a city through zoning and policy create a positive environment for creative businesses."

**BEDP Comprehensive Plan Presentation:** Shelley went to the BEDP meeting to present the Arts Commission advice on the Comprehensive Plan and had good conversation on each element, such as cultural districts, cultural institutions, artist flight issues and how to keep the arts/artists in the city. Input will hopefully be utilized in the future.

### **STAFF REPORT**

**City Budget:** Debbie reported that the city has hit some difficult financial time, and will be reducing funding for the next few years. Many options are being looked at to subsidize funding shortages. Only \$20,000 will be available for arts and culture granting for 2010, and this amount will include funding for heritage. Debbie will talk to the Highline Historical Society to make sure they understand the new policy for 2010. The city will also not have funding for Arts Corps programming, but granting will be looked for to keep the program alive in Burien. Donna asked about the funding model for the city, Debbie will bring more information to the next meeting.

**Public Art Plan:** The hope is to develop a plan in the next year to expend existing public art funds. One idea would be to use that money to accomplish the banner plan. This can either be discussed by the Public Art Committee or by the Arts Commission as a whole. At this time there is \$40,000 in the public art fund. There is limited opportunity for growth in the fund at this time or in the near future due to the way the current ordinance is written. Dane suggested stepping down from Public Art Chair to give someone else the opportunity to take the chair and move the project forward. This item will need more discussion.

**Concerts in the Park:** The Concert series started Thursday July 2<sup>nd</sup> and will go through August 6<sup>th</sup>. The lineup of entertainment is: July 2<sup>nd</sup>-Total Experience Gospel Choir, July 9-BottleRockit, July 16-Family Fiesta with Evolucion Latina, July 23-Manooghi Hi, July 30-Deadwood Revival, Aug 6-The Staxx Brothers. Also scheduled are Movie nights on Friday Aug 14 (Journey to the Center of the Earth) and Aug 21 (Freaky Friday and The Day My parents Became Cool). All events are free and are at Lake Burien School Park. Arts Commissioners have volunteered to introduce bands at the concerts.

**LAA Meeting:** On Thursday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, Burien will be hosting the 4-Culture Local Arts Agency meeting at the new Library meeting room. The meeting will focus on B/ IAS with Kathy and Dane discussing the creation on the space. The meeting will be 9:30am-1:00pm.

Meeting adjourned