



ARTS COUNCIL MINUTES NOVEMBER 9, 2016

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair, An Tootill at 6:35 pm.

Roll Call

Members Present: An Tootill, Amy Barnes, Karen Kaser, Joy Langley, Joy Liechty, Matt Lome, Angelina Odievich, Jessica Prince, Rene Stratton and Erin Vivion

Members Absent: None

City Council:

Council Member Jeff Sanderson was absent.

Staff:

Amber Britton, Kai Fulginiti, Eileen Hemmis Trifts

Appearances:

Cyclermates Bikes, 7420 N. Mercer Way, Mercer Island, WA 98040

Represented by Laurie Lyford, Jane Brahm and Fran Call.

Request for approval of design and location of a bronze bicycle art sculpture for which Cyclermates is planning to raise funds to complete. The sculpture will consist of a bronze bicycle on granite block with inscriptions and directional signs depicting bicycle trips by destination and year as led by Fran Call. Two of the proposed locations for the sculpture are on the western edge of the Lid (Aubrey Davis Park) and one at the base of 24th & 76th, across the street from Freshies. Installation would be sometime in the spring.

The Cyclermates group thanked the Arts Council for their consideration prior to leaving the meeting.

In discussion following the presentation, Amber stated that if installed, the sculpture would become a part of the City's permanent collection. It would then be added to the public art repair and maintenance schedule. Once a location is determined by the Arts Council, coordination with Parks Maintenance and DSG will be necessary to assure there are no obstacles to successful placement. It would then go to the Parks Director for approval. Amber didn't think it would have to go to City Council.

An Tootill motioned to accept the proposal from Cyclermates to install their Bronze artwork on Mercer Island at a location to be determined. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

Joy Langley made a motion to accept the October 12, 2016 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Chair Report:

An Tootill, Chair

Welcome new members: The Arts Council welcomed new members Matt Loam, Jessica Prince and Angelina Odievich.

An distributed an updated Outdoor Gallery locator map.

Outdoor Gallery Plaques: An Tootill circulated sample outdoor gallery plaques that have been temporarily placed in the Outdoor Gallery. The height of the plaques from the ground are at 18". An felt this was the optimum height as it was still legible from the path without being too intrusive, and the QR code can be accessed without bending over. White text on a black background was chosen vs black text on a white background to keep it from competing with the artwork while remaining legible. An stated that she would like the text on the "for sale" plaques to be reduced from 3 lines to 2 lines so that the word "is" does not sit alone on one line. An requested that since the phone number on the plaques goes to the Community Center Front desk, that they be given an information sheet with prices for pieces that are for sale. Kai indicated that could be done, but calls will continue to be forwarded to her for more information.

An Tootill motioned to accept these plaques for the Outdoor Gallery with minor typographical changes. The motion was seconded and passed.

Open Committee Positions: An reported that the Chair and Vice-Chair election will take place at December's meeting. She stated that Committee Chair positions will then be appointed. She requested that members think about chairing committees that do not presently have a chair. Namely, Indoor & Outdoor Gallery and Literary Committees. Amber indicated to the new members that information about all committees will be covered in their upcoming orientation.

Light Rail Update: An reported that Light Rail is starting up again with some minor redesigns to the stations downtown. The two access stations will be at 77th & 80th. The artwork that has been selected for these stations are hanging pieces that will hang inside of the head houses. An felt this could be the perfect opportunity to do something more to integrate the stations into the area or to do something at the platform level to encourage people to get off of the train and visit Mercer Island. She asked everyone to let her know if they have any ideas to this end.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Art & Outdoor Gallery:

Erin Vivion, Chair

Gateway Art Relocation: Erin Vivion reported that in addition to the two options presented at the October Arts Council meeting, there is now an option to temporarily move the Gateway art to the new location and then to a new permanent location once all of the construction is complete. Erin noted that she just found out that a new stoplight is planned at the 77th Avenue off ramp, and she is not sure how this area will look once that happens. It would also be helpful to know what the 88th Street landscaping will look like before making a permanent move..

The Arts Council agreed to accept the suggested temporary move with the stipulation that Sound Transit will move the pieces at the end of construction to a place that the Arts Council stipulates. Amber said this will need to be in writing, and that the City Attorney can come up with the wording for an agreement.

Rene Stratton made a motion to ask that the Gateway Artwork be temporarily located near the Mercer Island Sign with Sound Transit then supporting a move to a permanent location as stipulated by the Arts Council. Motion seconded and passed unanimously.

Outdoor Gallery Update: Erin reported that Ingrid Lahti's "Reflections" sculpture will be installed in the Outdoor Gallery. Kai Fulginiti indicated that she is currently working with Parks Maintenance and Development Services group on the install.

Renaming Outdoor Gallery: Erin reviewed and gave an update on the renaming of the outdoor gallery to "The Greta Hackett Outdoor Gallery". Kai Fulginiti stated that next step will be for the Parks & Recreation Director to take it to the Parks & Recreation Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee will determine if it needs to go to the full City Council for approval.

Special Projects

Rene Stratton

Street Banners:

Rene Stratton gave an update on the street banners. The preliminary budget includes a design prize of \$2,000, \$4,780 for making the banners and \$2,295 for installation. Rene reported that the City may prefer to do the installation, and they would most likely do it for the same fee.

Amber said that since not in the current work plan, it will need to be included in the Arts Council's 2017 work plan, it won't go in front of the City Council before then. Once the work plan is approved, the Arts Council can take it in front of the City Council for approval to go forward using the 1% For the Arts fund to fund it. Kai Fulginiti will put out the Call for Artist once City Council approval is received.

Mostly Music in the Park

Joy Liechty, Chair

No Report

Community Relations

Joy Langley, Chair

State Poet Laureate Redoux –Joy would like to have the Poet Laureate back, in partnership with Island Books, prior to the final submission date of January 31 for the State Laureate project. It was determined in light of the fact that it is now November, the holiday season is coming up and the dance coming up in January, having the Poet Laureate back before the end of January is not feasible. An suggested that the Arts Council might consider another reading after publication.

Joy reported that 4Culture grant opportunities still exist.

Indoor Gallery

Joy Langley reported that the MIVAL gallery show hanging went smoothly. She thanked Arts Council members for their assistance.

Staff Report:

Kai Fulginiti

Rising Times Sculpture: Kai reported she and Amber visited the Rising Times Sculpture last week to assure that it is in good order following completion of construction in that area. She reported that it looks good.

Art Maintenance: Kai reported that art maintenance has been completed on some of the art around New Seasons in time for their soft opening. Maintenance on some of the tree grates will be completed tomorrow.

Outdoor Gallery Installation: Kai reported that she is working on installation of the Ingrid Lahti sculpture with Parks Maintenance and the Development Services Group. A location has not yet been determined.

Playful Pup Repair: Playful Pup was stolen and recovered. It was cut at the base, and Kai is working with Art Site on getting an estimate for repair.

Russian Chamber Concert: The Russian Chamber has communicated their interest in coming back next year. Kai wanted to know if the Arts Council is interested in contributing to financial support and having them back in 2017. An Tootill said she is in favor of keeping them with the same allotment. There is no separate budget line item, but instead it would have to be a part of the Mostly Music in the Park budget as it has in the past.

An Tootill motioned to keep the Russian Chamber Orchestra at the same rate in Luther Burbank Park next year. The motion was seconded and passed.

Kai reported that Suzanne Zahniser has resigned from the Arts Council, so if anyone knows of someone that might be interested, let her know.

Kai stated that the December Arts Council meeting is traditionally hosted by someone on the Arts Council. An Tootill said that she would be hosting the December meeting at her home. Hopefully, the agenda will be minimal and there will be time for socializing. She invited everyone to bring something to eat to share.

Eileen Hemmis Trifts

Eileen reported that the Jose Orantes exhibit did very well. He sold \$5,300 of art. The Arts Council will receive \$1,325 as their share.

Eileen presented three artists for consideration; Anna Macrae, Terry Smith and Cole Millard. In the absence of a gallery chair and in an effort not to have the gallery be empty after the first of the year. It was agreed that an invitation should be extended to these artists to show in January & February. Joy Liechty stated that she is willing to continue to hang shows until a new Gallery Chair is appointed.

In response to a question from Matt Lome, An advised that the gallery currently only shows original artwork. Matt suggested the Gallery consider selling quality prints as well as original artwork. This might increase the number of applications from artists that cannot leave their original artwork in the gallery for an extended length of time. An Tootill felt that it would be up to the Gallery Chair to make a determination on this, and that he or she certainly could do so.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

An Tootill, Chair

Attest:

Eileen Hemmis Trifts, Scribe