



Langley Arts Commission Minutes
Thursday February 8, 2018 - 9:30 AM
Langley City Hall

Attendance

Diane Divelbess (Chair), Joann Quintana (Secretary), Don Wodjenski, Hank Nelson, Ann Johnson, Mary Ann Mansfield, Brigid Reynolds (City Planning Director), Peter Morton (City Council Liaison)
Absent – Callahan McVay

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Diane Divelbess at 9:32 AM.

Statement of Possible Conflict of Interest

Diane Divelbess read from the City of Langley's "Guiding Principles for Committees and Boards."

Introduction of Guests

Guest present: Frank Rose, Chair, Langley Public Arts Consortium

Approval of Agenda

The meeting agenda was approved with the following amendments:

I. DISCUSSION, a Temporary Public Arts Insurance – Jon Bloom: Jon Bloom declined to attend today's meeting because he does not have anything to add regarding the insurance issue. He contacted various cities and obtained what information he could, which was minimal because he was not representing another city. This item is on the Langley City Council meeting agenda for February 20, 2018 and Langley Arts Commission members are encouraged to attend.

In II. REPORTS, item e, the Ad Hoc Tourism Committee was added and Don Wodjenski was changed to Joann Quintana

In II. REPORTS, an item f was added: Public art inventory, Don Wodjenski

Approval of Minutes of January 11, 2018

A motion was made by Don Wodjenski, seconded by Mary Ann Mansfield and unanimously passed that the January meeting minutes be approved as written.

I. DISCUSSION

a. Temporary Public Arts Insurance

See above. No further discussion on this issue.

b. Call to Artists for 2nd Street Sculpture

Brigid Reynolds reported that the city would use the standard RFP and it would go out in early March, calling for artists to submit works to replace Second Street sculptures with new ones. It was hoped that the insurance issue would be settled before this RFP was issued. Diane Divelbess suggested that if the insurance issue is not settled, that to clear up confusion, the RFP should contain a disclaimer letting artists know that their work is not insured. In the past, there was an assumption that art works on public display were insured. Frank Rose pointed out that Pam Schell obtained insurance for her publicly displayed sculpture in Clyde Alley and that it was not expensive.

c. Langley Public Arts Consortium

Frank Rose, past chair of the Langley Arts Commission (LAC) and current chair of the Langley Public Arts Consortium (LPAC), reported on LPAC.

LPAC is a subcommittee of LAC. Three LAC members are represented on LPAC: Diane Divelbess, Joann Quintana and Don Wodjenski. LPAC's primary goal is to raise funds for the arts in Langley, with the immediate focus being functional art pieces for the Seawall Park improvements effort. LPAC was formed because the city does not have enough money to properly fund the arts.

II. REPORTS

a. Star Store Mural

Frank Rose reported that Star Store owners Gene and Tamar Felton are excited about a mural on the back east concrete wall in the parking lot. The Feltons said they do not need a detailed proposal, just conceptual design drawings. The LAC is acting as a facilitator for public art on private property by obtaining artist proposals, but the Fultons will make the selection. Peter Morton will report to the City Council concerning the status of the Star Store proposed mural.

A discussion centered around the role of the city when it's private property. It was pointed out that "development" in the central business area must be approved by the Design Review Board, but it's unlikely a mural would be defined as development. Don Wodjenski pointed out that high school students want to be involved in creating a mural in the city, and it's likely to be the Firehouse wall, and that's in the LAC master plan. For the school, the Firehouse wall would be better because it could be created on panels attached to the wall, instead of trying to create a mural on the spot. An apartment is

being built on the backside of the Firehouse, so the mural is delayed until its completion.

b. Arts Commission Work Plan action at City Council Meeting, February 5, 2018

Diane Divelbess reported that action concerning the Langley Arts Commission Six-Year work plan was delayed because further work was required and City Council Members had many questions that could not be properly answered, especially concerning how certain budget numbers were arrived at. Also, as written, the Work Plan did not make it clear to the Council that many of the budget items are “aspirational.” Peter Morton suggested that the Work Plan budget be broken into two parts, one showing the budget for 2018, the other as “aspirational.” Another concern expressed by one City Council Member was that the Work Plan placed too much emphasis on sculpture, and that the city has enough sculpture and needs other types of art. Frank pointed out that other organizations, such as WICA, focus on other art forms, especially the performing arts, and that LAC is focusing on other art forms, such as functional art for Seawall Park and murals. Don Wodjenski pointed out that the Work Plan might do a better job of calling out LAC’s focus on supporting a balance of art forms. Brigid Reynolds and Peter Morton pointed out that the Work Plan should state and must stay internally consistent with the legislative goals, as written.

Following the discussion, Ann Johnson made a motion for the LAC to recraft the Work Plan to make it better align with the existing legislative goals. Don Wodjenski seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Brigid Reynolds will insert clarifications into the draft Work Plan that respond to council concerns. A meeting workshop will be set up to finalize the Work Plan.

c. Whidbey Arts Forum, January 29, 2018

Diane Divelbess noted that there was some confusion regarding what kind of artists we were trying to attract for the January Arts Forum. In the future, it was decided we need to be clear about the purpose of the event, who we’re trying to attract and make sure a concerted effort is made to reach out to those artists.

d. Seawall Park Design

Joann Quintana provided an update concerning Seawall Park improvements. The city issued an RFP, two submittals were received, the Seawall Park subcommittee and Parks and Open Space Commission recommended entering into a contract with architect-designer David Price. The City Council will vote concerning this recommendation at its February 20, 2018 meeting.

e. Walking Tour Brochure and App

The Langley City Council noticed that there was overlap with Main Street, the Chamber and the LAC all discussing the production of a “Walking Tour” brochure. The Council

decided to create an Ad Hoc Tourism Committee to better coordinate this effort and avoid duplication or overlap in expending tourism dollars. Members of the ad hoc committee will be City Council Members Dominique Emerson and Bruce Allen, City Clerk Debbie Mahler, and one Langley restaurant owner and one Langley lodging owner.

It was decided that we can just pass on our ideas concerning a walking tour brochure and app to the Chamber and Main Street Association.

f. Public Art Inventory

Don Wodjenski reported that he has completed the inventory and is looking for errors or omissions from everyone.

III NEW BUSINESS, Proposed Wraparound Vinyl Utility Boxes

Frank Rose discussed the proposal by Debra Waterman that three utility boxes be “wrapped” in art. One is in front of the Post Office, one in front of the Firehouse, one in front of Sweet Mona’s. Debra Waterman brought the idea to the Main Street Association and Main Street recommended Debra approach LAC. Frank mentioned that Whidbey Tel provides grants and he thinks the company might be interested in funding the wraps. Ann Johnson will research the Whidbey Tel grants program.

For the Good of the Order

Nothing to report.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 PM. The next LAC meeting is Thursday March 8 at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Joann Hamick Quintana, Secretary