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City of Langley

Arts Commission

MINUTES

November 8, 2018

LANGLEY CITY HALL

112 2nd Street, Langley WA

1. Attendance

Diane Divelbess (Chair), Joann Quintana (Secretary), Don Wodjenski, Keegan Harshman, Peter Morton (City Council Liaison), Brigid Reynolds (City Planning Director), Jill Needham (new city planning assistant). (Absent LAC Members: Ann Johnson, Mary Ann Mansfield, Hank Nelson.)

Guests: Frank Rose (Chair, Langley Public Arts Consortium-LPAC); Verna Everitt (Executive Director, Whidbey Island Center for the Arts).

2. Call to Order at 9:45

3. Approve agenda

4. Approve minutes of October 11, 2018

5. Discussion Items:

a. **Site for Sculpture at Langley Chamber of Commerce – Don Wodjenski, Inge Morascini**

Don Wodjenski reported on his work with Inge Morascini and the Langley Chamber of Commerce to place a Hank Nelson sculpture in front of the Langley Chamber office on Anthes. Since signage in Langley will be redone/replaced, the pedestal for the sculpture would be coordinated with placement of a new Chamber sign.

In addition to having a striking work of art in front of the Chamber, the Nelson sculpture would also include a plaque directing people to Cloudstone to see more of Hank Nelson's work, providing another activity for visitors to Langley.

The pedestal and sculpture to be placed at the Chamber will not be part of the city's revolving loaned sculpture program.

Commission members also discussed the upcoming annual budget preparation by the City Council. It was decided that budget presentations to the Council will break down which items are to be funded from public funds and which paid for by privately raised monies.

Don Wodjenski moved, and it was seconded by Keegan Harshman, that the LAC seek Langley City Council approval to install a pedestal on public property, using staff from public works to do so, in front of the Langley Chamber of Commerce, where a Hank Nelson sculpture will be placed. Motion unanimously approved.

b. Proposal to dissolve LPAC and replace with Langley Arts Fund, a citizens group – Joann Quintana

Joann Quintana reported on conversations with LPAC members and the Whidbey Island Arts Council (WIAC) to set up a fundraising entity to support the arts in Langley. Because the Langley Public Arts Consortium is a subcommittee of LAC, it cannot be a 501(c)(3), so an organization that is not part of LAC is needed. Names for the new arts organization were discussed. Funds would be privately raised. WIAC would act as the umbrella 501(c)(3) for record-keeping purposes. The Langley Arts Council and the Langley City Council would continue to review and approve or reject these privately funded proposed art projects in the city.

Joann Quintana made a motion, seconded by Don Wodjenski, to dissolve LPAC. Motion unanimously approved.

c. Public art at South Whidbey Community Center – Mary Ann Mansfield

Mary Ann Mansfield was absent, but she provided LAC with a letter from South Whidbey Community Center director Gail La Vasser. The letter described a meeting regarding the planned hanging/installation of public art at the community center.

There was a brief discussion concerning the proposed "Langley Arts District." Brigid Reynolds pointed out that the LAC is welcome to try to spearhead efforts to create such a district.

As a first step, LAC members who are available will attend an upcoming Whidbey Island Arts Council event that will provide information concerning the creation of arts districts. This WIAC-sponsored event is scheduled for Wednesday December 5, 11:00 AM in Coupeville.

d. October 15 presentation to City Council on Art Wraparounds – Ann Johnson

Ann Johnson was absent. It was pointed out that Ann made a presentation concerning art wraparounds to the city council, that it was well-received by council members, and this project is moving forward.

It was pointed out that Langley business owner Callahan McVay has offered to pay for a utility box wraparound in front of his place of business. Also, Peter Morton reminded LAC members of his offer to pay for a science fiction-themed wraparound. Brigid Reynolds recommended that LAC stick with the first proposed wraparound, in front of Mona's Chocolates, and simply let the City Council know that LAC is working on others.

e. October 14 Seawall Park invitational event – Diane Divelbess

Diane Divelbess reported that the Seawall Park private invitational event was under-attended. However, terrific discussions took place and several key people expressed their interest in being involved in the proposed improvements to the park.

f. Seawall Park update and Wishing Whale presentation to City Council – Joann Quintana

Joann Quintana reported on her presentation to the City Council with LAC-recommended resolutions that were passed by the Langley City Council to move forward with improvements to Seawall Park. Joann also reported on her presentation to the Council concerning the idea of a Wishing Whale at Whale Bell Park that would raise funds for park maintenance, and the Council's approval of this idea.

6. New Business

Diane Divelbess reported on the recent resignation of Kristi O'Donnell from her position as program director for the fairgrounds for the port district. Kristi, a musician and artist, was doing an outstanding job and Diane will be writing a letter to the port district to express dismay at this loss.

7. Citizen comments

8. Announcements

9. Adjourned at 12:35 pm

10. Next Regular Meeting: Thursday December 13, 2018

