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City of Langley LANGLEY ARTS COMMISSION (LAC)

MINUTES

August 8, 2019

LANGLEY CITY HALL

112 2nd Street, Langley WA

- 1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:34 AM. All LAC members were present. Also attending were City Council liaison Peter Morton, Gail Fleming, chair of the Langley Parks and Open Space Commission, Frank Rose of the Langley Arts Fund and Langley Mayor Tim Callison.
- 2. Approve Agenda:** Don Wodjenski made the motion and Ann Johnson seconded, with unanimous approval of an amended agenda, moving up item c, out of courtesy to guest Gail Fleming (follow-up on the LAC special meeting of July 25, 2019). Chair Diane Divelbess recommended that everyone read Guiding Principles for Commissions and Boards and cautioned us regarding conflicts of interest.
- 3. Approve Minutes:** Mary Ann Mansfield moved, it was seconded by Ann Johnson, and the meeting minutes for July 11, 2019 were unanimously approved. Mary Ann Mansfield moved, it was seconded by Don Wodjenski, and the meeting minutes for June 13, 2019 were unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION

- a. Dates of Service of Current LAC Members – Diane Divelbess**
- b. Announcement of Open Position on LAC – Diane Divelbess**

Diane Divelbess described the staggered terms of service of the first seven members of the Langley Arts Commission and their replacements. LAC has an open seat due to Hank Nelson no longer serving on the commission, although he served past the time when his term had ended.

Current status of terms is as follows: Joann Quintana's term extends through 2020; Don Wodjenski's term extends through 2020. Keegan Harshman's term

extends through 2021. The terms of Ann Johnson and Mary Ann Mansfield both extend through 2021.

Diane Divelbess' term ended in 2017, then she signed up for two more years, and that is now. Diane Divelbess is interested in a logical fadeout and finding a replacement for her role as chair from among the current board members. Peter Morton spoke in favor of a planned succession and recommended that current board members interested in becoming LAC chair should contact Diane Divelbess.

It was noted that three people are interested in the seat vacated by Hank Nelson, and that the seat is available now and a replacement could start before year's end. At the LAC's September meeting, members will interview the candidates and make a recommendation to the Mayor and City Council.

c. Follow-up on LAC Special Meeting, Thursday, July 25, 2019

A discussion was held concerning the July joint meeting between the Langley Arts Commission and the Langley Parks and Open Space Commission. The two boards met to explore cooperating to bring more funding for public projects into the city through grants.

A motion was made by Joann Quintana, seconded by Mary Ann Mansfield, and passed unanimously, to recommend that Council Member Peter Morton represent the two boards in the upcoming city budget planning meetings and that he request that the City Council consider an appropriation of \$5,000 to be shared by the two boards for the purposes of retaining a grant consultant to help identify potential sources of funding for projects that both boards are seeking to complete.

1. Small Working Group for 2020 Budget Requests/LAC 6-year Plan – Diane Divelbess

Diane Divelbess said she wanted a small group to meet to review the current LAC 6-year plan and streamline it. Ann Johnson and Don Wodjenski volunteered to work on this with Diane Divelbess.

2. Seek Sponsorships for LAC Sculpture Program – Don Wodjenski

A discussion was held concerning seeking private funding (sponsorships) to keep the city's sculpture-on-loan program up and running, despite the lack of city funds.

It was pointed out that donations to the City are not tax deductible. Joann Quintana suggested that the sponsorship contribution be made to the Langley Arts Fund (rather than the City of Langley), thereby making the donation tax deductible.

Diane Divelbess asked Don Wodjenski and Ann Johnson to prepare a write-up describing how a sculpture sponsorship program would work, and then this description could be reviewed by City Clerk Debbie Mahler and the city attorney.

3. Seek Sponsorships for LAC Wraparounds Program – Ann Johnson

Ann Johnson pointed out that the problem with the utility box wraparounds was not due to lack of money, but to the fact that no artists responded to the RFP.

REPORTS

a. Certified Creative District “Langley Creates” – Mary Ann Mansfield

Mary Ann Mansfield reported that due to difficulties with the Port of South Whidbey, the Langley Creates steering committee has had to delay submitting the Letter of Intent to the state until it's clear whether or not the Port will be part of the creative district. The LOI must first be submitted before submitting the application to the state for a Certified Creative District. Planning assistant Jill Needham is prepared to produce the final map of the creative district boundaries as soon as it is clear what the proposed boundaries will be.

b. Sunday Fundays and Little Big Fest – Keegan Harshman

Keegan Harshman reported success on both his music promotion events, with greater attendance this year for both, especially Little Big Fest. The Mayor congratulated Keegan.

c. Langley Arts Fund “Wishing Whale” – Frank Rose

Frank reported that the Langley Arts Fund team is working on three areas in regard to the whale sculpture – production, administration and fundraising. He reported that the administrative issues are difficult and taking a lot of time and funds because of the state shoreline permit, environmental review and city permitting process.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Free and Inexpensive Langley Arts Events – Joann Quintana

Joann Quintana requested that due to a lack of funding for expensive projects, that the LAC consider sponsoring free events that get the community involved in creative/artistic endeavors. These endeavors could range from sidewalk chalk art to a pots and pans community parade kicking off DjangoFest. Joann stressed that LAC should piggyback on events already taking place in Langley, especially events sponsored by the Langley Main Street Association and Chamber. Diane Divelbess asked that Joann write up ideas for presentation at the next LAC meeting.

b. An Artists' Registry for Communication – Joann Quintana

Joann Quintana suggested the need for the Langley Arts Commission to do a better job staying in touch and communicating with island artists. If a request for qualifications/proposal is posted only on the city's website, most artists do not pay attention to the city's website.

It was determined that LAC needs to be on Facebook and have a social media/web presence and a means of contacting and staying in touch with community artists. Keegan Harshman was asked to take charge of this effort, to get the ball rolling.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

The next meeting of the Langley Arts Commission is Thursday September 12, 2019 at 9:30 AM at Langley City Hall.