



Langley Arts Commission Minutes
Thursday July 13, 2017 - 9:30 AM
Langley City Hall

Attendance: Chairperson Frank Rose, Diane Divelbess, Michele LaRue, Callahan McVay, Hank Nelson; Kelsey Loch, Assistant to City Planner Brigid Reynolds; Burt Beusch, new City Council liaison to LAC.

Absent: Stacie Burgua; Brigid Reynolds, City Planner.

Guests: Ann Johnson, Managing Director Children's Theater, Joann Quintana, Jerry Wennstrom.

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Frank Rose at 9:30 AM.

Minutes of June 8, 2017 were read. Callahan McVay moved and Michele LaRue seconded that the Minutes be approved as written. Motion carried.

1. DISCUSSION:

a. Filling LAC vacancy - Following the resignation of Jeannie Miller, Frank Rose invited Joann Quintana to consider filling this LAC vacancy as he had observed her impressive work on the ad hoc Seawall Park Planning Committee. Joann Quintana then submitted a letter and a resume, and today Frank Rose asked her to speak about why she would like to serve on the LAC. After this short "interview" Michele LaRue moved and Hank Nelson seconded that Joann Quintana be recommended to the City Council to fill the vacant LAC position. Motion carried.

b. Selection of Two New Sculptures for Clyde Alley - Frank Rose distributed the ballots prepared by Brigid Reynolds. Three submissions for sculpture had been received for consideration by the following sculptors: Lyn McJunkin/Milo White, Dale Reiger, and Scot Alexander. Hard copies of their submission packets were also distributed as an aid in the pre-voting discussion (they had been previously viewed online). With a possible 10 votes maximum per each sculptor, with 5 LAC members voting, the results were as follows: Lyn McJunkin/Milo White (49), Dale Reiger (50), Scot Alexander (21). These

results will be presented to the City Council for their review/approval. The sculptures will be installed on the new pedestals in Clyde Alley on August 18, 2017 with an Unveiling Ceremony on August 19, 2017.

c. Call to Artists for Langley City Hall Window Art - Frank Rose called for a brief recess so that all in attendance could walk outside and view the City Hall window in question. The window is on the right side of the front entrance above a flower box; it has not been used as a window for sometime and, in fact, has been covered in plywood. To make it more attractive temporarily, Callahan McVay had hung a handsome metal/ceramic art piece. In the discussion which followed, the question became should LAC seek a permanent art piece/structure for the window or should LAC consider the window a space for rotating art? LAC agreed to allow the City Council to make the decision.

2. REPORTS:

a. 43rd Langley Street Dance - Callahan McVay reported that the Street Dance was a great success with throngs of happy people, good dance music and all the food and drink vending places jammed! Attendance was easily double that of last year. They were able to collect ZIP codes from tourists - for future budgeting dollars - and all the vendors were local. Callahan McVay said it is very important to have local events that support local businesses. When asked about his next year's budget Callahan McVay said if he could have an increase of \$1,000/\$1,200 he could have T-shirts printed for sale. Callahan McVay moved and Michele LaRue seconded that in the City Budget TBD the Street Dance be given a \$5,000 allowance. Motion carried.

b. Increasing Public Awareness of Clyde Alley Art - Guest Jerry Wennstrom spoke of the need to make the art of Clyde Alley better known. There are now the 3rd Street Steel/Glass Clyde Alley Archway, Jerry Wennstrom's newly installed Interactive Bunny Sculpture, the flower gardens planted by Callahan McVay, the pedestrian bench and the Orcas Mural. By mid-August there will be the additional two new sculptures. Clyde Alley was originally created as the pedestrian entrance to Langley businesses from 3rd Street. Callahan McVay spoke of the lack of enforcement of employee parking which should occur on the 3rd Street parking areas and not in front of Langley retail stores. Callahan McVay also mentioned lack of 3rd Street addresses and the "Dead End" sign that confronts anyone turning into 3rd Street from Anthes. Kelsey Loch said that the City could look into the signage issue and that there were possibly funds available for signage. ACTION: Frank Rose suggested that LAC and Brigid Reynolds discuss possible new signage for Clyde Alley, ie., "Clyde Alley Gateway Park," or "Clyde Alley Art Park." Michele LaRue reminded everyone that the area surrounding the art is as important as the art itself.

c. and d. Upgrading Langley Public Arts Walking Tour Brochure and Marketing Langley Public Art - Michele LaRue said that to produce a new brochure costs a lot of money and

we still have many copies of the original brochure. It is simpler and much less expensive to print an insert; the budget this year is approximately \$1,200. LAC members must remember that the City receives a 20% commission on all sales and LAC should focus more on marketing.

e. Whidbey Arts Forum, Wednesday August 2, 2017 - Diane Divelbess said that the location of the Arts Forum has been moved back to WICA, beginning at 5:30 PM with a meet-and greet, no-host happy hour on the Zech Hall patio. The focus of this Arts Forum will be shared artist studio spaces on South Whidbey, with three speakers: Kristy Macarro, Executive Assistant to SWSD Superintendent Jo Moccia, who will discuss possibilities for the former Langley Middle School; Karin Bolstad, artist/founder of The Blue School in Clinton; and sculptor Sue Taves, artist with the Freeland Artist Studios. Although the focus is on artist spaces in South Whidbey, artists and interested people from elsewhere are welcome. In discussing possible artist spaces Diane Divelbess mentioned the number of vacant stores in the area - especially the large vacant building along the highway in Clinton - and that it is actually distressing to see vacant buildings. Burt Beusch said a good resource for locating ownership is the County Assessor's website. Several LAC members commented on a general lack of communication among the various city organizations that might provide much helpful information in the search for available space.

For the Good of the Order:

Michele LaRue said she would pass along all her LAC materials to Joann Quintana after her approval by the City Council. Michele LaRue will also prepare an additional packet of LAC materials for the new member joining in August.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Diane Divelbess, Secretary

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Thursday August 10, 2017 at 9:30 AM.