



Langley Arts Commission Minutes
Thursday September 14, 2017 - 9:30 AM
Langley City Hall

Attendance: Chairperson Frank Rose, Diane Divelbess, Joann Quintana, Don Wodjenski; Burt Beusch, City Council Liaison; Kelsey Loch, Assistant City Planner.

Absent: Stacie Burgua, Callahan McVay, Hank Nelson; Brigid Reynolds, City Planner.

There were no guests.

Meeting Called to Order at 9:37

There were no changes or additions to the Agenda.

Minutes of September 14, 2017 were read. It was moved (Don Wodjenski) and seconded (Joann Quintana) that the Minutes be approved as written. Motion approved.

1. DISCUSSION:

a. Selection of LAC representatives to the Selection Committee for Seawall Park Furniture - since there is still uncertainty about Seawall Park Planning in general, and since it is unclear if the entire LAC or just one or two persons from LAC will be part of the Selection Committee, this issue was deferred.

b. Facilitate murals in Langley - Diane Divelbess told of a project at SWHS under the leadership of Susie Richards, in which a small group of students would like to paint a mural in Langley. They are proposing a theme of "social interest." Susie Richards has received the City RFP form, but was unable to make a presentation about the mural project at today's meeting. Don Wodjenski will meet with her in the near future.

c. Arts Tours in Langley - Joann Quintana is working on a walking tour brochure that would include not only public art sites but also business locations in Langley that exhibit art or feature objects of artistic interest. She is putting together a slide show presentation for Main Street. She will also draft a three-fold mock-up brochure for LAC to review.

d. Request for new city sculpture pedestals - Frank Rose distributed copies of LAC's proposed

requests for Langley's 2018 Budget. This proposal included three new sculpture pedestals at a cost of \$600 each for a total of \$1,800. In addition, for the replacement of the three sculptures on Second Street a total of \$3,420; for the creation/installation of a removable mural on the east side of the Langley Firehouse, \$5,000; for the Langley Public Arts Walking Tour Brochure, both hard copy and digital, \$1,500 from the City plus requesting \$2,000 from Main Street and the Chamber of Commerce (total cost \$3,500); and for the maintenance of public art owned by the City of Langley, \$1,000 in 2018 and annually thereafter. It was moved (Don Wodjenski) and seconded (Joann Quintana) that the LAC proposed budget requests for 2018 be approved. Motion approved.

e. Informational arts tours for LAC members - Joann Quintana mentioned that not everyone was equally familiar with the many art sites in the area - for example, Hank Nelson's "Cloudstone." Burt Beusch remarked that he had only recently seen "Cloudstone" and found it to be absolutely remarkable. Diane Divelbess said that in the past, LAC had car pooled to various sites not only on Whidbey Island but also in Seattle to visit studios of artists who had responded to Call to Artists requests. It became clear that whereas LAC members can easily organize a car pooling tour, other Langley citizens might wish to participate in small guided arts tours. These tours, especially if they involve the use of a small bus, will have to be self-funded since City "tourist dollars" are only available to bring outsiders to Langley. No action taken.

f. Review need for arts kiosk in Langley - Kelsey Loch reminded everyone that the City information board cannot be used to promote a private business or to promote one event over another. Joann Quintana said that she thought the posting of events at the Chamber of Commerce seemed adequate and Diane Divelbess noted that both The Commons and UBCC were locations displaying many current events. The need for an arts kiosk did not appear to be urgent and it was agreed to let it be "on the back burner" for now.

2. REPORTS:

a. Progress of the re-write of the Langley Public Arts Master Plan (LAMP) - Kelsey Loch had prepared a copy of LAMP that had been partially re-written at our LAC workshop on Thursday October 5, 2017 and had sent it out as an attached document to LAC members. However, many of us could not open the document. Frank Rose read Stacie Burgua's email requesting a delay in further action on it until next month and everyone agreed. However, there will be another LAMP re-writing workshop on Thursday October 27, 2017 at 9:30 AM in the Council Room at City Hall.

b. City insurance coverage for public art - Frank Rose reported that the City has a blanket insurance policy that will cover all city-owned permanent art but not temporary art. During the discussion that followed it was pointed out that if Langley wants to continue to be known as an "arts city," the least it could do would be to assure artists whose work is on temporary display that their works are insured against acts of vandalism, etc. Joann Quintana said that if all art works - both permanent and temporary - were to be listed, the insurance rates might be less. It was moved (Joann Quintana) and seconded (Don Wodjenski) that ALL public art in Langley be covered by the City of Langley's insurance policy. Motion approved.

c. Responses to the RFP for Hladky Park Handrail - Kelsey Loch said no responses had been received as yet.

d. Langley Community Center (now South Whidbey Community Center) update - Diane Divelbess reminded everyone that the SWSD had run a survey to determine the wishes of the public as to the future of the former Langley Middle School; there were well over 500 responses, with an overwhelming desire for the facility to become a community center. At the LAC meeting in September, the packet of information containing regulations, space available and a rental schedule prepared by Gail LaVassar had been distributed. But in spite of these efforts by the SWSD some people in the arts community still felt left out and have voiced their concerns and hard feelings. After receiving one long, critical letter from a citizen whose educational and professional credentials in arts management are extensive, Diane Divelbess said she wanted to bring to everyone's attention the fact that there is enormous talent in our community that may be largely unknown and therefore untapped. Don Wodjenski remarked that in today's world people who find themselves isolated need to reach out by going online.

3. NEW BUSINESS:

Joann Quintana said that the RFP for Seawall Park Planning now has to be adjusted to meet Washington State Guidelines for public parks.

For the Good of the Order:

Diane Divelbess said that a new program sponsored by the Whidbey Island Arts Council, called Island Bohemians, will have its initial event Sunday October 22, 2017 from 2:00-4:00 at the Greenbank Progressive Hall. It will be a "time to connect with other island creatives" according to the flyer.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:32.

Respectfully Submitted,
Diane Divelbess, Secretary

Next LAC meeting will be Thursday November 12, 2017 at 9:30 AM.