

**City of Auburn Arts Commission, City Hall Annex, One Main, Conference Room 1
Tuesday, August 2, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

Present: Nancy Colson, Charlotte Gollnick, Patricia Judd, Colleen Maloney, DeNae McGee, Trudi Moses, Dan Norman, Ronie Schwend Cary Davidson, Jan Jensen, Donna Smart Arts Coordinator Maija McKnight Arts and Events Manager Julie Krueger Excused: Heather Longhurst

I. Call to Order, Approval of Minutes, Introductions and Approval of Minutes:

Chair McGee called the meeting to order at 4 29 pm Commissioner Jensen moved to approve the May 2016 meeting minutes Commissioner Schwend seconded the motion. All approved Motion approved.

II. Auburn Arts and Culture Center

Maija McKnight announced that the purchase and sale of the Old Post Office/Former Public Health Building located at 100 Auburn Avenue has been finalized as of August 2, 2016 The building was purchased from King County The City of Auburn received a \$200,000 grant through 4Culture/King County Building for Culture initiative towards the purchase and renovation of this property in order to serve as an Arts and Culture Center

The Commission viewed an updated website and viewed a promotional video Additionally a draft outreach plan was shared. The City has contracted with PARC Resources to help develop a schematic design of the interior to accommodate the new use Part of the input of the building use will be developed through the series of community meetings and open houses, but a general framework of potential uses for interior spaces was shared by staff It was noted that the September Arts Commission meeting will occur within the space and be a discussion by the commissioners to talk about potential uses, audiences and programming Discussion continued

III. Public Art 2016-17

Staff McKnight provided an overview of the summer community public art projects that are in progress. The Pianos on Parade (5th Annual) is occurring and the Pianos were placed in 5 locations throughout the City and will be returned to storage on August 25, 2016. Benchmarks (2nd Annual), another community public art program that includes 18 benches created by local non-profit and service organizations are placed throughout the City until the first week of October The benches from last year were re-sited and four new benches from Soropomist Club, Pacific Ballroom Dance, The Auburn Food Bank, and Auburn Valley Humane Society joined the others

With the opening of the new Community Center, a new gallery was created that will be programed alongside the Gallery at City Hall and the Cheryl Sallee Gallery at the Auburn Senior Center The remainder of this year has been scheduled with local artists, but will be an open call for participation within the gallery program for 2017

A redesign of the B-Street Plaza is occurring, and part of the change is the removal and re-siting of the public artwork in the space Created by Garth Edwards, the B-Street Plaza public art includes multiple parts 1) story pole 2) kiosk 3) tree grates 4) tree holders 5) cement bollards The site specific artwork will be separated into two areas with the first three listed components remaining in the location and the tree holders and bollards removed, temporarily stored and then reinstalled on the redevelopment of Les Gove Park along the Auburn Way corridor Working with a landscape architecture firm, the design of this new entranceway into the park will feature this artwork and provide high visibility The tree holders, which now have a figure on each side of the tree will likely be divided to have the 16 figures total stand next to 16 trees

(rather than two figures on eight trees) The artist was consulted on this transition and the movement of figures and bollards approved

The City's Public Art program is funded through a percent for art ordinance as well as an annual capital facilities allocation of \$30,000 that is accrued annually. The annual funding amount has not been spent in the past years, instead the commission had previously deemed to allow the funding to accrue until there is a good project that would greatly benefit from the addition of public art. As a discussion item at previous meetings, the two locations that have been raised

The first possible sites includes Les Gove Park and the redevelopment of the site adjacent to Auburn Way for the possibility to commission a monumental artwork that could serve as a gateway artwork and have high visibility to the thousands of vehicular traffic that uses Auburn Way/Highway 164. Daryl Faber, Director of Parks, Arts and Recreation attended a previous Arts Commission meeting and presented the overall plan and vision of the redesign of this important arm of the park.

The second site that has been discussed at prior meetings has been the possibility of working with the School District in order to commission an exterior public artwork on the Auburn High School Campus, on the 4th Avenue side that now serves as the main entrance to the Auburn Performing Arts Center. Staff McKnight noted that she had an initial conversation with the staff member at ArtsWa, Washington State Arts Commission that oversees the statewide percent for art program, in which public schools are part of. The school will be going through the process to commission and create a public work, but location will be determined as part of the committee work. Commissioner McGee noted that commissioning an artwork that is on School District property may present logistical issues.

Discussion continued. Commissioner Schwend motioned to recommend Les Gove Park as the location for the next public art project. Commissioner Jensen seconded the motion. All approved. Motion approved. Staff noted that the recommendation would be taken to Mayor, and if approved a public art committee would be formed in order to work to define scope, identify goals, create a call-to-artists, and select an artist for the project. An estimated timeline for this would be to have the artist to be selected and start working with the landscape architecture team in early 2017 with the completion date of Fall/Winter 2017.

IV. Updates/Upcoming Events

Staff McKnight noted that the granting to arts organizations and groups application will need to be posted in order to accommodate the fall schedule of Arts Commission meetings and be reviewed and funding granted at the October 2016 meeting. An updated version of the Arts Project Support Grant was distributed and commissioners asked to review and discuss any potential changes. Commissioner Smart noted that other jurisdictions that have granting often times have smaller grants available that aren't on the once-a-year timeline. This allows for the potential support of worthy projects that don't necessarily have a year timeline and/or the knowledge of the existence of the funding. Commissioner Smart proposed that there be a small amount of the grant money reserved to have available to smaller requests throughout the year and that this can be noted in the current grant requirement outline. Discussion continued and the desire to have available funds for smaller scale granting was desired. Staff will develop a process and implement for 2017. Commissioner Maloney noted a sentence in the guidelines could be clarified in the document as we don't want to discourage outside artists from offering opportunities to Auburn citizens, staff will clarify this area of the document prior to distribution.

Julie Krueger provided an overview of the upcoming August Fest on Saturday, August 13, 11 – 8pm in Les Gove Park.

Commissioner Schwend, Gollnick and Judd provided an update on the Auburn Valley Creative Arts and a potential new temporary location within the old Rottle's building. The membership met the week prior and a survey is being distributed to the AVCA membership to determine the interest in opening a temporary storefront gallery location.

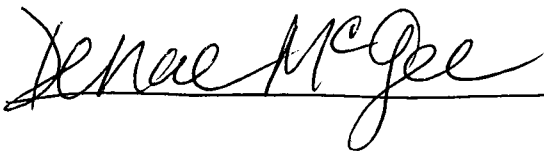
Commissioner Smart is the new Arts Commission representative to the Sister City Board and will be part of the upcoming visit to the newest Sister City in Mola di Bari, Italy. Staff noted that in prior exchanges an artwork was purchased by the Sister City and that staff have previously provided recommendations for local artists.

Commissioner Maloney noted that the new Auburn Community and Events Center opening was a wonderful event, and shared that in attendance was a group of artists that she knows from Seattle who were very complimentary of the Arts Commission and all the arts programming that Auburn offers.

V. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm

Respectfully submitted, Maija McKnight

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