

City of Auburn Arts Commission, City Hall Annex, One Main, Conference Room 1
Tuesday, July 7, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Present: Nancy Colson, Charlotte Gollnick, Patricia Judd, DeNae McGee, Ronie Schwend, Greg Watson, Laura Westergard, Arts and Events Manager, Julie Krueger, Arts Coordinator, Maija McKnight, Arts and Events, Arts and Events Assistant Kelsey D'Andrade. Excused: Cary Davidson, Jan Jensen, Colleen Maloney, Dan Norman, Donna Smart

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

Chair Greg Watson called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm. Commissioner Schwend moved to approve the March meeting minutes. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All approved. Motion approved.

II. Public Art

People's Choice Purchase

Staff provided an overview of the process and rationale of the "People's Choice" voting as part of the Downtown Sculpture Gallery. Votes were collected online as well as in person at City Hall and at related events. The open voting allows the public to participate in the selection process, encourages the artists to promote Auburn and the art program, and allows the public art collection to grow by purchasing artwork that is well received. Staff noted in 2015/16 Downtown Sculpture Gallery program, the call to artists has been revised and the "People's Choice" will be changed to instead be a monetary award, and that the votes will be one aspect of the decision making process, but the purchase will be considered and recommended by the commission.

People's Choice Placement

A handout including a summary of the votes tallied as well as a detailed spreadsheet of votes was circulated for review. The sculpture with 413 votes out of a total of 686 votes was the Silverware Ostrich by Greg Bartol and Deborah Drillewich. The commission discussed this artwork and Nancy Colson moved to approve the purchase of the Silverware Ostrich for \$10,000, Laura Westergard seconded the motion. All approved. Motion approved.

Staff provided a handout that included photographs and information with three separate potential locations for permanent siting for the Silverware Ostrich. Discussion continued, and the commission seeks to explore other locations for potential placement. The discussion was tabled until the August meeting at which time commissioners are asked to provide potential alternative locations.

Other

Staff distributed a draft "guide" that is intended to provide to community groups that are interested in creating a mural. The "how to create a mural" document compiles best practices, potential funding sources as well as a material list and artist roster lists. We encourage community members to beautify their communities, and while we cannot fund all projects seek to empower communities to be able to create artwork.

Benchmarks and Pianos on Parade are two community art initiatives that will be starting in the month of July. Benches were displayed at the 4th of July festival and moved into locations throughout Auburn throughout the first weeks. Pianos are to be moved into locations on July 10 and will be on view through August 10, 2015.

III. ArtRageous Activities Review

ArtRageous activities are scheduled to occur at various festivals and events throughout the summer. Artists are hired through the art division and work closely with the special events lead to be able to offer huge audiences quality hands-on art experiences.

IV. Call to Artists

The call-to-artists for the 2016 gallery season has been posted on Café: Call for Entry online submission system. The application deadline is in October 7, 2015, and a link will be sent out to all commissioners to review online prior to a committee meeting on October 20, 2015. At the visual arts

committee meeting, the top ranking applications will be reviewed in-person and selections will be made to extend invitations to display at either the City Hall Gallery or Cheryl Sallee Gallery in 2016.

The Arts Commission re-grant application has also been posted online and distributed via email. The application deadline for this grant is October 19, 2015 and the applications will be reviewed at the November 3, 2015 Arts Commission meeting.

V. Updates/Upcoming Events

Staff noted that the BRAVO marketing materials are currently being designed and look forward to showcasing and discussing the season at an upcoming meeting.

The Downtown Sculpture Gallery for this season is coming to a close, and the deinstallation of sculptures will begin on Tuesday, August 4, 2015.

Staff shared comments forwarded by Commissioner Dan Norman who attended the open house for the release of the Espial publication at Green River College. Espial was awarded funding by the arts commission to help support the publication and include a community section in which they invited community members to submit their poems and artwork for consideration. The opening "release" part was held at Green River College and was coordinated by faculty. Discussion continued.

Staff shared information about the new teen theater program that is an expansion of prior offerings focused on adult and youth. This new teen program "bridges the gap" between the ages and provides an access point for all ages to learn the art of theater. Legally Blond the Musical, will be performed on August 7, 8 and 9, 2015 at the Auburn Avenue Theater.

Nancy Colson distributed the Auburn Symphony Orchestra season brochure and shared information about the Chamber concerts occurring at Mary Olson Farm throughout the summer.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:46 pm

Respectfully submitted, Maija McKnight