

**City of Auburn Arts Commission
Auburn Valley Creative Arts Gallery
Tuesday, April 4, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

Present: Nancy Colson, Charlotte Gollnick, Jan Jensen, Kelley Kuhlman, Heather Longhurst, Dan Norman, Donna Smart; City Council Member: Rich Wagner; Staff: Arts & Events Manager: Julie Krueger; Arts Coordinator: Allison Hyde; Arts Assistant: Mary Ellen Bowers; Excused: Cary Davidson, Patricia Judd, Trudi Moses, Amy Sie, Greg Watson; Guests: Ronie Schwend, Board President of Auburn Valley Creative Arts, and Charron Marie Mollette, Member of Auburn Valley Creative Arts

I. Call to Order, Introductions:

Chair Gollnick called the meeting to order at 4:38 pm. After a brief welcome, Chair Gollnick asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 7, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Jensen moved to approve the minutes of the March 2017 Arts Commission meeting; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Smart. Chair Gollnick called the vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

II. Presentation on Auburn Valley Creative Arts

Arts Coordinator Allison Hyde thanked Ronie Schwend for hosting our meeting at the Auburn Valley Creative Arts Gallery and introduced former Arts Commissioner Schwend to the group. Schwend gave a brief presentation on the history and programming of the organization, which is an arts non-profit organization that has been in existence for eight years and has over 40 members. The gallery location, open Thursday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., has been open for eight months and is gaining attendance and energy. The organization has hosted many events including: poetry book signings, a fundraising fashion show, a Valentine's Day Tea as well as a number of excellent art classes and workshops for the community. AVCA is hoping to host more events and perhaps more opportunities for children. After Schwend's presentation, Charron Marie Mollette, a talented poet and new member of AVCA, read one of her poems to the group.

III. White River Valley Museum Re-grant Request

Arts Coordinator Hyde presented a letter from the White River Valley Museum requesting a proposed shift in the use of 2017 re-grant funding that was previously approved. Museum Director Patricia Cosgrove described by email that after 10 years of hosting the Small Works exhibition, there has been a decline in attendance and sales with the exhibition. The museum proposed to redirect the awarded re-grant funding to support a new exhibition titled Salish Modern, a curated invitational show featuring modern Salish art. In addition to the exhibition, the museum plans to offer a variety of programming including: a panel discussion, a film showing, and several artist led workshops. Commissioner Longhurst remarked on the importance of innovation and that changing things up is good for the energy of an arts and cultural organization like the White River Valley Museum. Commissioner Colson agreed and noted the importance of this exhibition and the way it will combine art, culture, and history. Commissioner Jensen agreed on the proposed "new energy" and that perhaps such an exhibition could involve a partnership with the Muckleshoot tribe. Moved by Jensen, seconded by Longhurst to approve funds being redirected as presented under the condition that the Arts Commission receive a more detailed budget outlining the allocation of funds. Motion approved.

IV. Seattle Opera Re-grant

Arts Coordinator Hyde presented a request from the Seattle Opera regarding their 2017 previously approved re-grant program, "Cinderella in Spain." After months of efforts from the Seattle Opera's education program staff, only one performance was completed of the originally proposed 14 performances at Auburn elementary schools. Seattle Opera staff reached out to City of Auburn art staff concerned about how best to accomplish or re-tool originally programming ideas. Hyde presented options from the Seattle Opera to either: serve a limited number of remaining schools with assistance from the Arts Commission to seek entry into the schools, or to host one larger performance at the Auburn Ave. Theater and invite Auburn elementary school students to attend. Commissioner Jensen remarked the unfortunate circumstance of how the importance of arts programming is dropping in schools, and how the Seattle Opera had not followed through adequately on their project. Discussion continued regarding where the remaining funds would be used if not for this program and the possibility of reserving funds throughout the year for smaller grants and/or having alternates selected in case a situation like this

happens in the future. After thoughtful discussion, the Arts Commission determined that by only executing performances at only 1 out of 14 schools, the Seattle Opera had not completed the intent of their originally approved grant application and the alternately proposed options were not adequate. Moved by Colson, seconded by Gollnick to approve awarding the Seattle Opera \$100 (slightly greater than 1/14th of the intended impact) instead of the original \$1,000. Motion approved.

V. Updates and Upcoming Events

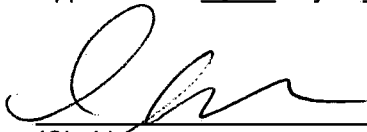
Hyde shared updates on current and upcoming news including:

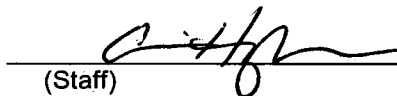
- The call to artists for Auburn's Iconic Public Artwork that will be commissioned for the former Big Daddy site at Les Gove Park opens on April 6 through 4Culture
- Artist Trust will be hosting a grant-writing workshop in Auburn on April 13. Arts Commissioners were encouraged to attend or spread the word to those who could benefit from the free workshop.
- The upcoming "Poets on the Ave," led by the Northwest Renaissance Poets and Auburn's Poet Laureate Marjorie Rommel will be held at the Auburn Avenue Theater on April 28.
- There are two current calls to artists accepting applications: the 2017-18 Downtown Sculpture Gallery and the summer ArtRageous zone teaching opportunities.
- Arts & Events Manager Julie Krueger announced the upcoming BRAVO Performing Arts will present San Jose Taiko at the Auburn Performing Arts Center on April 8 and the AveKids Spring Break Theater Camp will present James & the Giant Peach at the Auburn Ave. Theater on April 21-23.
- Staff has been working to write grants for the Arts & Culture Center and recently interviewed with 4Culture for the Arts Facilities grant. It was suggested that a list of possible grants could be brought to the Arts Commission to see if anyone had possible connections to granting agencies.
- A short discussion took place regarding the former art installation of Greg Bartol's Penguins near Game Farm Park and the possibility of featuring another artwork at that site in the future.
- Commissioner Jensen shared thoughts regarding the summer Hops and Crops festival, it was recommended he share his thoughts with those who coordinate the events at the White River Valley Museum.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:36 pm

Respectfully submitted, Allison Hyde

Approved the 2 day of MAY, 2017.


(Chair)


(Staff)