

**City of Auburn Arts Commission, City Hall Annex, One Main, Conference Room 2
Tuesday, March 3, 2015 Meeting Minutes**

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

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

Chair Greg Watson called the meeting to order at 4:28 pm. Commissioner Jensen moved to approve the February 2015 meeting minutes. Commissioner Gollnick seconded the motion. All approved. Motion approved.

2. Performing Arts 2015-16 Season

Jim Westhusing, Teen Coordinator provided an overview of Auburn's Summer Youth Theater programming. He provided an overview on the Auburn Community Teen Players, a new theater program designed to bridge the gap between the youth camps and Auburn Community Players live theater. Auburn Community Teen Players will be performing Legally Blonde the Musical in August, 2015. Westhusing also provided a summary of the Ave Kids programming that will occur throughout the 15/16 Performing Arts Season.

Jim Kleinbeck, Theater Coordinator, provided an overview performances at the Auburn Avenue Theater for the 15/16 Performing Arts Season. The performances include a variety of types and styles and have new talent and past favorites. Highlights of the season include the wide variety of tribute artists that will be performing, the popular Comedy at the Ave series and the Ave Kids Series.

Maija McKnight, Arts Coordinator noted the Auburn Performing Arts Center will open after its renovation in October 2015, but the parking lot will not be open until November. The first Bravo performance in the newly renovated PAC will be the Red, White and Blue Holiday Concert in December. Also planned for the 2015-16 season is Cirque Ziva: Chinese Acrobats, Glenn Miller Orchestra, Stunt Dog Experience, Broadway's Next Hit Musical, and Riders in the Sky. The contracts for the performances and programs are currently being completed with marketing materials created and ready to distribute in August.

Julie Krueger, Arts and Events Manager distributed a handout of a comparison 2010 through 2014 attendance and revenue figures. Discussion continued.

IV. Updates/Announcements/Upcoming Events

Maija McKnight provided an update on upcoming efforts for public art maintenance including Tobu Bo and the Sun Circle. Also noted, that with the building of the community center, meetings with Virginia Paquette have begun for the public artwork that will be included in the new building. Councilmember Wagner noted a potential new mural site located at the Auburn Airport and distributed photos of the building.

Commissioner Colleen Maloney provided the Commission with an update on the C3: Cornerstone of Creative Capacity Project a collaborative research project of Arts Ed Washington and her meeting with the Auburn School Superintendent.

McKnight shared that there would be a National Poetry Month program featuring Auburn's Past and Current Poet Laureate Dick Brugger and Marjorie Rommel respectively as well as the Washington State Poet Laureate, Elizabeth Austen. This program will occur at the Auburn Avenue Theater on Thursday, April 30, 7 pm. Council member Rich Wagner inquired to the potential for further distribution of the Compilation of Poems by Dick Brugger.

McKnight also noted upcoming programs including the Global Reading Challenge on Thursday, March 5 in partnership with the Library and School District, an artist's reception for the Auburn School District Art Faculty on Tuesday, March 17, 5-7pm, and various upcoming art classes and workshops. Also noted

was the Downtown Sculpture Gallery walking tour on Saturday, April 18, 4 pm, and the Auburn Art and Wine walk on Friday, May 8, 5 -9pm.

Commissioner Laura Westergard noted that the Auburn Downtown Association is partnering with the Auburn Parent Teacher Association to host a downtown kids artwork that will showcase the artwork that was part of the National Reflections Art program and features youth artwork that responds to the question "The World Would be a Better Place If..." The artwalk will take place on April 15, 5:30 – 8pm in Downtown Auburn.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm

Respectfully submitted, Maija McKnight