



MINUTES

December 1, 2014

The Edmonds Arts Commission: dedicated to the arts, an integral part of community life.

City of Edmonds Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department

PRESENT:

Samantha Saether

Kevin Conefrey

STAFF

AUDIENCE

Lois Rathvon

Beverly Shaw Starkovich

Frances Chapin

Joanne Otness

Suzy Maloney, Marni Muir – excused

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM by Samantha Saether, Vice Chair

INTRODUCTIONS –

AGENDA -

MINUTES – Nov 3, 2014– Conefrey MOVED approval, Otness SECONDED, MOTION Approved.

REPORTS -

A. Creative Programs

1. **WOTS** – Otness reported that the next Steering Committee meeting will be Dec 8 and she encouraged interested Commissioners to attend since this is her last year as Chair and another Commissioner will need to take over that function for 2016. She mentioned that the brochure size will be further reduced for next year and the ECA is not available use. A summary of evaluations for presenters shows that 90% were rated good to excellent. Chapin reported that the financials show net revenue of about \$17,000 for WOTS and noted that this is important for supporting other Arts Commission programs including public art.
2. **Community Calendar** – Saether reported on the newly launched Visit Edmonds website which includes the calendar. A number of volunteers have been trained and a second training will take place this week for entering event information. It is important to encourage participation in providing information for the calendar. Saether noted that the current Economic Development Department seems to have a stronger focus on tourism. That department is the contact for event information and questions about the calendar. Commissioners noted that the full calendar of events is not obvious on the opening page and wondered if there could be a link that says Calendar.
3. **Community Cultural Plan** – Chapin reviewed the updated work plan for implementation of the Community Cultural Plan (CCP) strategies that she worked on with consultant Bach following the discussion at the last EAC meeting. She asked Commissioners to review the document and get back to her with comments or suggestions. She will start working on setting meeting dates in January. Bach will attend the January EAC meeting to discuss further the implementation process and the role of Commissioners. The goal is to have a joint meeting of all the work groups in July 2015 to report on progress with implementing strategies.

B. Capital Projects

1. **Potential Public Art Projects** – Chapin reviewed projects that have been discussed recently, including the Library, 4th Avenue, gateways, and flower basket poles. She asked Commissioners to think about priorities for public art in the next 2-5 years in preparation for a more indepth discussion at the February meeting or at the retreat.
2. **228th St. Project** – Chapin reviewed the project and the proposed railing. Railing concept has been approved but final design needs to be created. EAC will contract for the design. The railing will be an add alternate in the bid documents but if the bids for this exceed the budget then EAC may consider providing funding. Commissioners noted the importance of the site, adjacent to the International District artwork already in place.

C. Funding & Administration

1. **Potential Grant Opportunities** - Chapin updated Commissioners that the Art Place grant and the NEA Our Town grant are both under consideration for submitting applications for 2016. Both of these grants emphasize “placemaking” and include focus on art events and public art elements and both require community partnerships. Chapin suggested that Commissioners review the online information about these grants and contact her with any ideas or interest in participating in upcoming discussions.
2. **Nominations** – Chapin reviewed the nomination process for EAC Chair and Vice. The past Chair and one other generally contact Commissioners and officials will be elected at the January meeting.

STAFF REPORT – Chapin shared information about the Cultural Access statewide legislation that will be considered by the State legislature this year.

OTHER BUSINESS – A question was raised about “branding” for the City and the relationship between general branding and the efforts of the BID to brand downtown retail. Discussion followed and Chapin suggested that the topic might be included on the retreat agenda in the spring.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS –

Meeting Adjourned at 7:29 PM