



MINUTES

August 4, 2014

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

City of Edmonds Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department

PRESENT:

Suzy Maloney

Marni Muir

STAFF

AUDIENCE

Samantha Saether

Kevin Conefrey

Frances Chapin

Darlene McLellan

Lois Rathvon

Joanne Otness

Excused for illness - Beverly Shaw Starkovich

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM by Suzy Maloney, Chair

INTRODUCTIONS – Darlene McLellan, EAFF President, member 4th Ave Interim Advisory Committee

AGENDA -

MINUTES – July 7, 2014– Otness MOVED, Conefrey SECONDED, Approved.

REPORTS

A. Creative Programs

1. **WOTS** – Otness reported that registration began July 28 and 185 registrations have been received to date. She asked Commissioners to sign up for volunteer duties during the conference weekend. The next committee meeting is in September and volunteer slots will be confirmed at the September EAC meeting.
2. **4th Avenue Cultural Corridor Interim Art Projects**– Chapin, McLellan, Saether and Otness presented the proposal for 4th Avenue Cultural Corridor Interim projects that was developed out of two meetings with the Stakeholders/ Advisory committee. The project is an outgrowth of the 2014 adopted Community Cultural Plan, Goal 1.4, with implementation convened by the Arts Commission and community partners including the Edmonds Arts Festival Foundation. Retaining the big concepts of the 2009 Plan, the interim or temporary art projects will highlight this unique corridor in downtown Edmonds as the major pedestrian connection between the vibrant activity center of Edmonds Center for the Arts and the downtown retail center surrounding Main Street. The unique character of this corridor is as a neighborhood, as a link for economic activity in the downtown, and as a regional asset for economic development and cultural history. Discussion followed about the EAC role, both as convener of the stakeholder/advisory committee and as facilitator for the design process. McLellan commented on the importance of having an artist involved in creating a cohesive design for the temporary art elements on the corridor. Commissioners discussed the process with one possibility being that EAC contract with two or three artists to develop integrated designs for the corridor elements, followed by a public meeting and a final recommendation to EAC and City Council by a selection committee including EAC, City Council, and Stakeholders Advisory Committee representatives. The goal would be to have some elements implemented during the good weather window which generally ends in mid-October. Commissioners were all in agreement that EAC should support moving this project forward. Saether Moved and Muir Seconded a motion to allocate a minimum of \$12,000 of budgeted 2014 public art funds for professional services for the design process for the 4th Avenue Cultural Corridor Interim Projects, MOTION Approved.

3. **Public Art** – Maloney presented a letter from a Seattle artist, Leon White, offering two sculptures for sale because he would like to see them sited in Edmonds. Discussion followed about priorities for the percent for art budget. Commissioners reached consensus that EAC is not interested in purchasing the sculptures. They suggested the artist might contact ECA since he suggested that as a possible location.

4. **CSO Cello Project** – Chapin passed on an inquiry from CSO to see if there were further ideas for how to proceed with the painted Cello project. Commissioners commented on the idea as being a good one but not the best fit for the Arts Commission to take on, and Saether noted that the primary need is for a project manager. Various suggestions included CSO contacting the Edmonds-Woodway High School Music Boosters to see if they might partner on this as a fundraising/educational project; contacting Rick Steves to see if there is a community program or sponsorship interest in helping with the project; contacting Kennelly Keys to see if they might be a sponsor; connecting with Denise Cole about integrating it with an Art Walk or talk to Tracy Fraker at Art Spot; talk with ECA about the educational function and the Chamber about volunteers.

B. Capital Projects

- I. **Cultural Heritage Tour** – Chapin informed the commission that the brochure will be completed by the end of August and the final grant report will be submitted.

C. Funding & Administration

- I. **Budget** - Chapin reviewed the preliminary budget. Discussion followed about public art allocations, the general fund transfer that was restored last year, and the 2015 request to fully restore the Arts Assistant position which was eliminated in 2013. Conefrey Moved and Otness Seconded, MOTION Approved.

STAFF REPORT – Chapin encouraged Commissioners to look at the short article on implementation of the Community Cultural Plan in the July Arts Bulletin e-newsletter. Discussion about convening interest groups to move forward implementation will take place at the September meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS – Chapin noted that this is the last meeting that student representative Courtney Gu will be attending since she is leaving soon to attend university in Pennsylvania. Chapin and Commissioners congratulated her and expressed their appreciation for her involvement with the Arts Commission.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS –

Meeting Adjourned at 8:17 PM