



MINUTES

February 4, 2013

The Edmonds Arts Commission: dedicated to the arts, an integral part of community life.
City of Edmonds Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department

PRESENT:

Lois Rathvon, Chair	Todd Timmcke	STAFF	AUDIENCE
Marni Muir	Courtney Gu, Student Representative	Frances Chapin	Mary Monfort
Samantha Saether			Dave Earling
			Janette Turner

ABSENT: Beverly Shaw-Starkovich excused for travel, Suzy Maloney excused for work, Joanne Otness excused for travel.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Lois Rathvon, Chair

INTRODUCTIONS – Janette Turner introduced herself, mentioning her affiliation with the Swedish Art Committee and EPIC. Rathvon welcomed the new student representative, Courtney Gu.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES – Presentation item VIII.I. moved to first item.

PRESENTATION – Mayor Earling introduced himself as a former conductor who really likes the arts. He then presented former Arts Commissioner Mary Monfort with a City of Edmonds paperweight, thanking her for her over ten years of involvement with the Arts Commission. Monfort commented that her work with the Commission included involvement with the writers’ conference first, followed by appointment for one partial term and reappointment for two full terms. Several Arts Commissioners and Chapin added their words of thanks, noting that Mary had been very active and successful in reaching out to the community during her tenure on the Commission, effectively recruiting sponsors and creating partnerships with other organizations. Her enthusiasm and perspective will be missed.

MINUTES – The January 7, 2013 minutes will be approved at the February meeting due to a lack of a quorum.

PROGRAM REPORTS

A. Youth Arts Education

B. Creative Programming: Programs

1. **WOTS Report** – Chapin reported that applications are being submitted by potential presenters, and staff is working on the keynote selection and Friday workshop presenters. The next meeting will be on Feb 11.
2. **Public Art** – Chapin outlined the current stage of the 5 Corners Roundabout Project and ideas about incorporating public art in the center of the circle. She explained that moving ahead with artwork for this project may delay the Senior Center project which doesn’t have a specific timeline. Commissioners noted that artwork should not be detailed in a way that would be an attraction for pedestrians and shouldn’t distract drivers. Saether made a MOTION and Timmcke SECONDED a motion that staff put together a call to artists for a modest project in the \$20-30K range and bring it to the March meeting for review. MOTION CARRIED. Chapin discussed the original design for the Dayton Street Plaza and proposed alterations to the artwork area in the landscaping as a result of new ADA requirements. The artwork area would be moved to a space adjacent to the main entry to the renovated park, close to the sidewalk in the landscaping. Since it will be a permanent installation it will require additional art funding of \$10 – 15k but the overall construction cost for the project will be reduced. Commissioners discussed

the benefit of having a more significant artwork installation visible from the sidewalk as people walk along Dayton and also acting as a gateway to the park. Chapin noted that she has had favorable discussion about this concept with the EAFF representative on the original design committee, Darlene McLellan, and \$5k of the funds EAFF donated are earmarked for art at the entry. Muir MOVED and Saether SECONDED a MOTION that the design modifications be approved. MOTION CARRIED.

3. **Best Book Poster Contest** – Saether and Otness will volunteer for picking up and dropping off the posters from the elementary schools, Gu will assist with mounting and hanging the posters. The judge will be selected at the next meeting. All Commissioners were requested to volunteer at the April 18 reception.

C. Creative Programming: Funding/Administration

1. **ECA Kidstock Event** – Chapin reported that the event which EAC helped sponsor was very successful and it was fun to see the lobby, rooms and gym all overflowing with kids, parents and grandparents. Over 2500 people attended the event from throughout the region, about 50% from South County area and the rest from Seattle or beyond. A post event survey was sent out with results showing that 85% of the respondents plan to attend next year. Commissioners concurred that this is an appropriate event for EAC sponsorship on an annual basis.
2. **Annual Report** – Chapin asked Commissioners to review the draft annual report and provide corrections and comments.
3. **Retreat Topics** – Rathvon requested that Commissioners contact Chapin with any specific ideas about what they would like to see covered in the upcoming retreat and asked them to review the current EAC strategic plan.

D. Advocacy & Community Involvement

1. **Chamber Art Awards** – Saether encouraged Commissioners to speak to others about submitting nominations and noted that Commissioners could submit nominations as well although the Chamber Arts Committee members cannot, nor can they be nominated.
2. **Arts Day** – Chapin reviewed the main issues that will be discussed on Arts Day in Olympia, including the funding for the Washington State Arts Commission.
3. **Arts Summit/Cultural Planning** – Plans for an Edmonds Arts Summit proposed by the Mayor are moving forward. Chapin outlined a general plan for a one day event that will bring together nonprofits, businesses and individuals who work in or support the arts in Edmonds, with the goal of increasing the regional visibility of Edmonds as an arts community. The timing of an Arts Summit fits in well with the City Strategic Planning Process and the Cultural Plan update scheduled for 2013-4. The event will be held at the ECA at the end of June.

E. Cultural Destination

1. **State Route 99 Enhancements; Main Street Project** – Chapin reported that the third sculpture will be installed along Main Street within two weeks and that the project is nearly complete.
2. **Cultural Heritage Tour** – Chapin presented Judith Caldwell's designs for the 12 panels and Commissioners reviewed the panels. Saether made a MOTION to approve the designs with minor modifications, Timmcke SECONDED and the MOTION CARRIED. Chapin will convey comments to the artist.

STAFF REPORT – Chapin informed the Commission that the Snohomish County Tourism grant was awarded for \$11,000 for wayfinding signage with a City match including \$10,000 from Lodging Tax.

OTHER BUSINESS – None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – None.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 PM