



MINUTES

November 2, 2015

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

City of Edmonds Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department

PRESENT:

Beverly Shaw Starkovich	Kyla Blair, Student Rep	STAFF	AUDIENCE
Kevin Conefrey		Frances Chapin	
Samantha Saether			
Joanne Otness			

Excused: Suzy Maloney, Lois Rathvon, Marni Muir

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM by Kevin Conefrey, Chair

INTRODUCTIONS –

AGENDA –

MINUTES –Approval of 10/5/15 minutes deferred to December meeting.

REPORTS -

A. Creative Programs

1. **Library Public Art Call for Artists** – Commissioners reviewed draft Call to Artists and discussed important elements to include regarding opening up the entry and making it welcoming, a place that draws you in. Stressed the multiple functions of the site, the Library as a “third place” for the community, other events and uses of the mid-century modern building and plaza. Landscaping and lighting also important and artist should work with City staff as those concepts are developed.
2. **Annual Report for 2015** – Commissioners discussed presenting the annual review to City Council earlier in the year (January or February) and using it as an opportunity to also report on implementation of the Community Cultural Plan. Commissioners listed highlights to include in the 2015 report such as: Cultural Plan work groups progress, 30th WOTS, 4th Ave interim art selection, 125th anniversary history book, On the Fence expanded, representation in planning efforts, increased Tourism Promotion awards, loan to new Cascadia Art Museum, student representative.
3. **Cultural Plan Implementation Work Groups** – Saether reported that the Communications committee, a core group, met in October. Outreach to smaller venues and events is going well and postings have increased. The discussion focused on strategies to increase use of the calendar by people looking for events in Edmonds and this will be a priority for the Economic Development Department, EAC and others both through advertising and encouraging links on other websites. Otness reported on the Arts Education meeting at the end of October, including comments emailed by Rathvon. The AE work group had previously decided that the first action item was to schedule two or three meetings a year for a roundtable forum of people involved in Arts Education. Otness pointed out that the forum is an opportunity for networking and communication but people bring very different agendas to the table. Discussion focused on distinctions between programs in schools, programs schools attend at other sites (e.g. ECA), programs associated with schools after school, and non-school programs. Advocacy was discussed as one interest the committee has, creating opportunities to inform the community about the value of arts education and what is being done

elsewhere (Arts Ed Washington as a resource). Conefrey suggested that it might be useful to involve the community members who volunteer in the schools and provide an opportunity for them to share information about what has worked in terms of volunteers helping with art in the schools. Programs and Events will be meeting in November. A question raised at the July meeting is what concrete accomplishments can be made by the work group.

4. **WOTS Wrap up and Contest** – Otness talked about leadership on the steering committee as she transitions out of an active role except to help with the conference weekend. Kim Votry will chair the committee for 2016 as a new commissioner becomes engaged. Commissioners discussed options for the 2016 contest theme and reached a consensus that the “what I know now” theme recommended by the steering committee would be general enough to have broad appeal. Chapin gave a quick overview of the financials showing a slight increase in net revenue but pointing out that the expenses for a keynote were lower in 2015 since there were two local plenaries instead and one was sponsored.
5. **Support for Kidstock at ECA** – Chapin referred to the request from ECA and asked Commissioners to confirm the level of support for Kidstock 2016 since \$750 has already been allocated for Axis Dance in 2016. Shaw moved and Otness seconded that \$1,000 be provided to ECA for support of performers at Kidstock in addition to the \$750 already approved for Axis. Approved.
6. **Exhibits** – Shaw reported on Library exhibits and encouraged Commissioners to share ideas for artists if they see work they think would be a good fit since EAC takes applications but also invites artists. Blair mentioned the difficulty of arranging Youth Display Case exhibits. Chapin suggested Commissioners consider alternative models for scheduling the case.

B. Capital Projects

1. **4th Avenue Interim Art Update** – Chapin provided a brief update that the lights although delayed are due to arrive this week. Possibilities for installation are being explored however the weather is not optimal.
2. **Dayton Street Plaza** – The project has gone out to bid.

C. Funding & Administration

1. **Commissioner Interviews** – Chapin reported on the application process and asked Commissioners for volunteers to interview applicants after Dec 3 when applications are due. Saether and Otness will participate in the interviews along with Conefrey or Maloney.

STAFF REPORT – Chapin reported that the Subarea Study for Highway 99 will be in process next year. She also updated Commissioners that the new Diversity Commissioners have now been appointed. She reminded EAC that nominations for Chair and Vice Chair are generally made at the December meeting and Conefrey and Otness will discuss and make recommendations.

OTHER BUSINESS –

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Meeting Adjourned at 7:39 PM