

City of St. Helens
Arts & Cultural Commission

Wednesday, March 24, 2010, 6:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting, City Hall – Downstairs Conference Room

Members Present

Cathy Lambert, Chair
Kannikar Petersen
Pam Powell
Anne Parrott
Jarred Kearsley
Will Gillis

Councilors in Attendance

None.

Staff Present

Kim Bauer, Minutes Secretary

Members Absent

Amy Williams, Vice Chair

Staff Absent

John Walter, Library Director

Guests

Joe Lewis
RJ Brown
Ken Gates
Alicia, SHHS student
Sarah, SHHS student

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Lambert.

VISITORS TO THE COMMISSION

Three visitors to the commission were introduced: Joe Lewis, Ken “Jeremiah Bullfrog” Gates, RJ “Henry Knighton” Brown, and Alicia and Sarah, St. Helens High School students. Commissioners introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Petersen noted a correction in the discussion about talking with Michael Curry again to site the Loowit sculpture. Commissioner Parrott made a **motion** to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2010, meeting as corrected. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Powell, and approved unanimously.

REVIEW OF FISCAL REPORTS

The fiscal report for February 2010 was reviewed, with no discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Splash Park. Joe Lewis addressed the commission regarding this project. On behalf of the supporting partners of the project (the Ford Family Foundation, St. Helens Foundation, City of St. Helens and Columbia County) and the volunteers working on the project), he is looking for approval and support from the Arts Commission. They are in the fundraising stage, planning to sell engraved bricks and look for grant funding. He shared drawings of the project and answered questions about the design and materials.

Commissioners liked the design and plans; their only concerns were for the safety of the finished

projects. The proximity of traffic was also of concern. Four cast stone benches will be placed at the North-South-East-West compass points around the circular center. There was discussion of the existing USGS disc, which is required to be there. The eastern bench will be placed near it, protecting users from falling over it. Commissioner Powell asked who would be responsible for final sign-off on safety. Lewis thought that since the County and City are involved, he expects they will handle the safety approvals. <http://www.splashitup.org>.

Henry M. Knighton Days. Ken Gates (Jeremiah Bullfrog) and RJ Brown (Henry M. Knighton) presented plans for Henry M. Knighton Days, scheduled for June 4-6. It is a joint project of the South Columbia County Chamber of Commerce and the Historical Society of Columbia County, designed to entertain and educate adults and children about life in St. Helens in the 1850s. Native American displays, storytelling, a blacksmith, steam ships, demonstrations, music, vendors, and historical reenactments of the life and times of the times will be part of the event. County area schools will be taking part as will the Portland Historical Society. Also planned are possible presentations at the schools.

They are interested in having the commission involved, perhaps by identifying local area artists who might want to take part, either by demonstrating their art or just selling it. Commissioners offered a variety of suggestions. Lambert suggested that the commission sponsor Pioneer Days from the Young Audiences organization in Portland. <http://www.ya-or.org/>.

Lambert will pursue the possibility of getting Young Audiences to participate. Gates will come to the next meeting to give the commissioners an update and see what they have decided about their participation.

OLD BUSINESS

Art Project Updates

Gallery Corridor/Banner Project. Commissioner Petersen shared her concerns about the placement of the poles and banners; particularly the wording in the RFP. She'd like to see the commission take the existing information about sites out or clarify it. She also suggested that sites for the banners be determined, initially, by the commissioners, using use more specific parameters for selecting sites, including: the surrounding area, safety, lighting, visibility, and visual impact.

Commissioner Kearsley said the height and clearance of the pole and banners needs to be considered as well. Several possible concerns were expressed.

Petersen also expressed concern that City Ordinance requires notification of property owners within 300 ft. of such a project and that without more specific sites or areas in mind that could mean notifying several hundreds of property owners.

Powell said she agreed with Petersen's ideas and thought they were good. She asked if Petersen would be willing to consider possible sites and map them out for the commission to consider at the next meeting. Petersen agreed.

Rapture of Scrupture. Commissioner Powell agreed to put together an advertisement to promote

the event.

OTHER BUSINESS

Columbia County Rider Transit Station. Commissioner Petersen presented information to the Commission about the general scope of the project. The Columbia County Rider plans to attend the next meeting of the Arts Commission to discuss the proposed benches at the station.

Splash Park. Commissioner Powell made a **motion** to endorse the general concept of the Splash Park to be located in the plaza square in downtown St. Helens. Commissioner Parrott seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is rescheduled to **Wednesday, May 26, at 6:30 p.m.** at City Council Chambers, City Hall, 265 Strand Street, St. Helens (Plaza entrance).

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Lambert at 8:15 p.m.



Submitted by:
Crystal Farnsworth
Commission Secretary

Approved by the Commission _____ 8/25/2010 _____

Accepted by the City Council _____ 9/1/2010 _____

2010 Arts & Cultural Commission Attendance Record

P = Present A = Absent

Date	Kearsley	Lambert	Parrott	Peterson	Powell	Williams	Vacant
January 27 regular meeting	P	P	P	NA	P	A	NA
February 22 regular meeting*	P	P	P	P	P	P	NA
Date	Kearsley	Lambert	Parrott	Peterson	Powell	Williams	Gillis
March 24 regular meeting	P	P	P	P	P	A	P
April 28 regular meeting							
May 26, regular meeting							
June 23 regular meeting							
July 28 regular meeting							
August 25 regular meeting							
September 22 regular meeting							
October 27 regular meeting							
November 18 regular meeting**							
December 16 regular meeting***							

*date change from February 24

*date change from November 24

***date change from December 22