

City of St. Helens
Arts & Cultural Commission

Wednesday, December 16, 2009, 6:15 p.m.
Regular Meeting, City Hall – Downstairs Conference Room

<p><u>Members Present</u> Anne Parrott Cathy Lambert, Chair Pam Powell</p> <p><u>Councilors in Attendance</u> Randy Peterson</p> <p><u>Staff Present</u> John Walter, Library Director Kim Bauer, Minutes Secretary</p>	<p><u>Members Absent</u> Amy Williams, Vice Chair Jarred Kearsley</p> <p><u>Staff Absent</u> None</p> <p><u>Guests</u> None</p>
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CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:25 p.m. by Chair Lambert.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Lambert made a **motion** to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2009, meeting as submitted. It was seconded by Commissioner Parrott, and approved unanimously.

VISITORS TO THE COMMISSION

There were no visitors to the meeting.

REVIEW OF FISCAL REPORTS AND BUDGET

The fiscal reports for September, October and November 2009 were reviewed. The same questions still remain about what portion of this is available for the commission's use. (It was determined later in this meeting that \$5,000 of the remaining \$13,440, was set aside by City Council specifically for the Michael Curry project. If that project is not completed and paid for by June 30, 2010, the \$5,000 reverts to the General Fund. The balance of the \$13,440 was generated by the .5% for arts; if it is not used by the end of this fiscal year, it will roll over for use next year. Once the .5% funds are credited to the commission, they stay with the commission. The balance of the fund for Public Art Expense, as of the end of November 2009, is \$8,440.)

OLD BUSINESS

Art Project Updates

Gallery Corridor project. Poles and banners are ready, brackets need to be designed and fabricated. Parrott sent photos of possible brackets to Commissioner Kearsley. Bracket material will be determined when the design is final. Staff Liaison Walter said Public Works Director Dale Goodman has reminded him that the brackets need to be engineered and inspected to City specifications since it is a public project.

There was discussion about the City's recent adoption of a placement policy. It was determined that this applied more directly to donations of art made to the city. This project doesn't require that process.

Columbia River Community Hospital. Topic is on hold until further information is available.

Five-year plan update

Topic is on hold until time allows.

Membership

Mayor Peterson said an application was received at City Hall today from Kannikar Peterson for a position on the Arts Commission. Commissioners will be sent Peterson's application and she will be invited to attend the next meeting.

Commissioner Powell suggested an article be placed in local papers to find new members for the commission. She asked the secretary to forward the request through proper channels to Amber Dennis to create a press release.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers

Powell made a **motion** to keep the current slate of officers: Cathy Lambert, Chair, and Amy Williams, Vice Chair. The motion was seconded by Parrott and approved unanimously.

Portland Taiko

Lambert has been in contact with this group of Japanese drummers. They will be doing a two-week residency and assembly at McBride and she would like the commission to sponsor an evening performance for the public, while the group is in St. Helens. Powell asked about the cost; Lambert will talk with them further.

Bike Racks

The bike rack project will be held over to a later meeting.

Banners

Lambert suggested that the commission issue another RFP in January for banners for the Gallery Corridor project. Commissioners were in agreement but concerned about the availability of funds. A quick review of the budget confirmed that existing funds would likely cover the both phases of the banner project, as well as the Taiko performance. It was also noted that costs for fabricating the brackets and installing four banners could be carried over into the next fiscal year if necessary.

Powell made a **motion** to release the banner request for proposals again in January. The motion was seconded by Parrott and approved unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Powell noted that she had responded to a request for information for the current (not yet published) issue of the **Gazette**, by providing information on the Scripture contest in July. She got no response. She was also asked to judge the Halloween coloring contest and then not

contacted again. She would like to see information released to the local papers and included in the Gazette about Scrupture. Commissioners asked the secretary to forward the requests to Chad Olsen.

The **Directional Sign Committee's** volcano project was discussed. Specifically, the Arts Commission feels they should have been included in the approval process for the final structure design. The committee did approach the commission some months ago about plans for signs and it was determined that their input was not necessary as plans (at that time) included only signs. The project has since changed and now includes what can be considered a piece of art (the **volcano**). Commissioners have several concerns about the project, including the design and safety.

This and similar situations prompt their interest in conveying the importance of their required participation in such decisions. The Commission's by-laws state that all art work planned for the city will be vetted through them before it reaches City Council for approval.

They are interested in viewing the plans for two current projects: the volcano and the splash pad that's planned for the plaza. (They agreed that they have no final say over the splash pad as it is on county property, but they were promised by a representative of the planning group that they would see final plans before building began.) Peterson asked Community Development Director Skip Baker to come into the meeting to share the plans for the volcano project.

Baker explained that the City had been challenged by a citizen a couple of years ago to make use of easily available funds. Ultimately, the City received a \$15,000 grant to do directional signs from Highway 30 to Olde Towne. The Directional Sign Committee began work, intending to place several signs along Highway 30 leading into Olde Towne. As the triangle of property at the intersection of St. Helens and Columbia Blvd. was available, the committee decided to erect a 6 ft. volcano and a silhouette of the Old Courthouse on the property, as well as signs directing visitors into Olde Towne.

Baker shared drawings of the project. K&C Landscape was awarded the job; additional input was provided by Dave from Lofted Lair and artist Jeremy Furnish. The project has recently started building.

There was discussion at this point about the idea of partnering with the Directional Sign Committee to share poles, with a banner at the top and a directional sign located lower on the same pole. There was also mention of using the same type poles the commission has already purchased for the banner project, to keep the look consistent. They feel the fluted poles apparently being considered by the Directional Sign Committee would be best used in the Olde Towne area, specifically, to set it off from the other areas of town.

Powell made a **motion** to have Peterson and Walter work with Baker to facilitate use of the same poles for signs and banners in the St. Helens/Columbia triangle project. Parrott seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, December 17, 2009, 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 7:21 p.m.



Submitted by:
Kim Bauer
Minutes Secretary

Approved by the Commission _____ 1-27-10 _____

Accepted by the City Council _____ 3-3-10 _____

2009 Arts & Cultural Commission Attendance Record

P = Present A = Absent

Date	Lambert	Powell	Williams	Heaton	Parrott	Maggi	Vacant
1/28/09 regular meeting	P	P	P	A	P	A	
2/25/09 regular meeting	No quorum – no meeting						
3/25/09 regular meeting	P	P	A	A	P	A	
4/22/09 regular meeting	P	P	P	P	P	A	
Date	Lambert	Powell	Williams	Heaton	Parrott	Vacant	Vacant
5/21/09 regular meeting**	P	P	P	A	P		
Date	Lambert	Powell	Williams	Heaton	Parrott	Kearsley	Vacant
6/24/09 regular meeting	P	P	P	A	P	P	
7/22/09 regular meeting	A	P	A	A	P	P	
8/26/09 regular meeting	No quorum – no meeting						
Date	Lambert	Powell	Williams	Vacant	Parrott	Kearsley	Vacant
9/23/09 regular meeting	P	P	P		A	A	
10/28/09 regular meeting	P	A	A		P	P	
11/19/09 regular meeting*	Meeting cancelled.						
12/16/09 regular meeting***	P	P	A		P	A	

*meeting rescheduled from November 25 to accommodate holiday schedule

**meeting rescheduled from May 27

***meeting rescheduled from December 23 to December 17 to December 16