



**MINUTES
CITY OF COVINGTON
ARTS COMMISSION MEETING**

Thursday, February 11, 2016 **City Hall, Council Chambers**
16720 SE 271st Street, Suite 100, Covington

MAJOR DISCUSSIONS AND AGREEMENTS OF THE SUMMIT

CALL TO ORDER

Lesli Cohan called the meeting to order at 6:38 pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Gini Cook, Ed White, Lesli Cohan, Jennifer Harjehausen, and Tyler Bykonen. Motion was made and approved to excuse Leslie Spero for a family emergency.

CITY STAFF PRESENT

Pat Patterson, Recreation Manager

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the January minutes was made by Ed, seconded by Lesli and approved.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve the January minutes was made by Ed, seconded by Lesli and approved.

GUEST

New Parks & Recreation Director Ethan Newton introduced himself, listened to a brief explanation of what we've been working on, asked a few questions about our schedule and activities and basically pledged his support.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

- **Retreat Debrief:** The time spent working on a mission statement and defining our values and goals was considered a valuable first step in documenting our practices, a necessary part of the eventual revision of the Arts Policy, as well as establishing guidelines to help us focus our activities in the future. It was decided that Lesli would report to the City Council that this mission statement had been drafted, and ask if/how they wanted it presented to them.
- **Student Art Show:** Pat reported that we received 876 pieces of art from 9 participating schools (compared to 646 in 2015). We discussed the list of businesses and Ed, Lesli and Jennifer volunteered to contact those who are new to the program to determine if the

businesses are suitable and fully on-board. Pat will have the intern contact returning businesses. Inventory control was discussed. Pat had obtained colored stickers; each school will have its own color. Each piece will have a unique number (1 thru 876). Sorting will take place on the 19th in the Community Room. Ed was going to check into obtaining some volunteers to help put up the art.

- Carnivale Mask activity for Kids' Fest: Gini said she would send everyone a list of potential supplies so we could begin collecting them. Ed suggested we get together off-site before the event to create some samples. Ed said he could bring his generator to Kids' Fest so we would have electricity for glue guns.
- Commissioner Duties, with regard to the rotating art call: Gini presented some suggested language to be added to the call for artists that clarifies our intent with the show, as well as a potential checklist. Pat would add some 1st amendment language to the call and present it to Ethan. It was acknowledged that we might not have any art on the walls in April as we are trying to adjust our call and selection practices.

NEW BUSINESS

- Pat shared a communication from Victoria Throm about a 4 Culture program called Creative Justice, an "arts-based alternative to incarceration for young people in King County," wondering if it would be appropriate or possible to have a joint venture between the Arts Commission and Human Services. We discussed the possible inclusion of visual art from this group for one of the months in the rotating exhibit, and then also tossed around the idea of approaching a group that works with disabled folks.

CITIZEN/COMMISSIONER/STAFF COMMENTS

- The city is working on rebuilding the website and will be contracting with a photographer for the photos used, one of which is sure to be Sea Horse. When asked if the Commissioners would be willing to repair and repaint the base on which the sculpture sits there was a unanimous and enthusiastic "yes." Perhaps in June....
- Clarification (once more) on e-mailing: It's appropriate to e-mail the entire Commission, just don't respond to all because that's considered a meeting.
- Arts Commissioner Summit in Tukwila on February 24: Ed, Leslie and Lesli plan to attend. Pat told the organizers that our 3 most desired topics for discussion were percent for art programs, how to engage with other groups within your city, and fundraising for special projects.
- Noreen and Sara suggested we need minutes from the Retreat. Gini will put them together.
- The proclamation for Student Art Month would be given at the City Council meeting on 2/23.

FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

None

GROUP MEMORY

Group Memory was approved by all Commission members.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 9:15.