Covington: Unmatched quality of life

MINUTES
CITY OF COVINGTON
ARTS COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, November 8, 2012  Council Chambers, City Hall
16720 SE 271st Street, Suite 100, Covington

CALL TO ORDER
Sandy Bisordi, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT

CITY STAFF PRESENT
Pat Patterson

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA AND MEETING MINUTES
Jonathan moved to approve agenda; seconded by Lesli – all approved.
Ed moved to approve the consent agenda; seconded by Jonathan – all approved.

CITIZEN/STAFF COMMENTS
No citizens in attendance.

CONTINUED BUSINESS
- Recap of the joint meeting with City Council, held October 23rd. Consensus of those who were in attendance was that the meeting went well and that the council members are enthusiastic about public art projects. When the idea of a theme was presented, council members mentioned that there was a branding project in the works and that it might influence any theme. Keeping in mind that we have undeveloped park space available for a non-permanent art project, the group discussed approaching public art as a two tier project, with temporary art as the first tier, and a more permanent installation as the second tier. Pat asked if we thought we should have a retreat where we could tackle the project with more time than allowed at the monthly meetings. The group tentatively agreed to January 5th for this purpose and agreed to finalize time, location and other details at the December meeting.

- Student Art Month: Sandy presented a draft of the letter that she and Rudi Sullivan would like to send out via e-mail in the next week or two. The letter will be going to at least one, often two, point people for each school – either a teacher, docent or PTA representative, and Sandy and Rudi have already compiled that list. We tentatively scheduled the
reception for Thursday, February 28th in council chambers (as there are now recreation classes being held in the community room in the evenings). Sandy mentioned that they are asking for the student art to be delivered to City Hall by February 6th, which, while seeming early, takes into account that the schools are on break February 18-22. The group also agreed that the art should go up in the businesses in town the weekend of February 23-24. Sandy will finalize the letter and get it to Pat for distribution.

- Display Artist: So far Pat has just 4 entries, with a 5th probable. With two months traditionally set aside for the historical society and domestic violence awareness, we need 10 artists. If that many entries don’t come in, there are other possibilities: art from the recreation class participants, city employees, etc. We’ll review entries at the 12/13 meeting.

- Art Statement: Lesli presented the following for an art statement to be posted at the reception desk near the latest purchase of city art:

  The City of Covington seeks to further knowledge of the visual arts and to nurture artists by collecting, preserving, exhibiting and interpreting works of art of the highest quality. To fulfill its mission, the City will continue to develop its collection through purchase and gifts, complementing its impact through exhibitions, publications, and programs developed for a wide range of audiences promoting art as a medium to achieve an unmatched quality of life for the citizens of Covington.

  The group unanimously approved the statement, which Pat will have prepared for display.

NEW BUSINESS

- 2013 Covington Days/Art Show: Pat reported that the organizing committee has been meeting for about 5 weeks and this week a group from the Lions Club attended. Apparently, there is some dissention about venue, with part of the group wanting to stay at Cedar Heights Middle School and part wanting to change to the Kohl’s parking lot. Since the latter venue presents issues as far as the art show location, the group discussed how to deal with this eventuality. A motion was made by Ed to explore alternatives, as follows: Whereas the relocation of Covington Days Festival to the business core of Covington potentially leaves the art show without an adequate venue, then be it resolved that the Arts Commission shall explore and determine an optimal venue and date for the art show. The motion was seconded by Sandy and approved by all. Gini and Lesli agreed to form a committee to seek and report on possibilities.

  Gini suggested that at future art shows we exhibit, at the very least, the last purchased piece of city-owned art.

CITIZEN/COMMISSIONER/STAFF COMMENTS

- Pat reported on Holly Days and stated that the Emerald City Ringers have been signed as entertainment. He asked the groups’ opinion on having the karaoke guy who works Covington Days lead the caroling as the Kentlake High School group that normally does this would be unavailable. The consensus was that this was a great idea.
FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS
None

GROUP MEMORY
Group Memory was approved by all Commission members.

ADJOURN
Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.