

BELLEVUE ARTS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES

May 5, 2015  
4:30 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall  
Room 1E -109

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chairperson Jackson, Commissioners Lewis, Madan, Malkin, Wolfteich

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Commissioner Manfredi

STAFF PRESENT: Mary Pat Byrne, Scott MacDonald, Department of Planning and Community Development

OTHERS PRESENT: Asako Tateishi, Ringtaro Tateishi, Anne Stewart, Japan Creative Arts

RECORDING SECRETARY: Gerry Lindsay

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 p.m. by Chairperson Jackson who presided. All Commissioners were present with the exception of Commissioners Ludeña and Manfredi, both of whom were excused.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

A. Approval of Agenda

**A motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Madan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Malkin and it carried unanimously.**

B. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Malkin called attention to the first paragraph on page 4 and clarified that the Horizon Heights neighborhood summer gathering is sometimes held in Lattawood Park and sometimes it is held elsewhere. Additionally, Horizon Heights does not conduct the annual Easter egg hunt, which is something the neighbors do on their own.

Commissioner Madan pointed out in the same paragraph that "Cougar Heights" should be changed to "Cougar Hills."

Commissioner Wolfteich noted that he had not attended the meeting and should not be shown as having been present.

**A motion to approve the April 7, 2015, minutes as amended was made by Commissioner Malkin. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Madan and it carried unanimously.**

### 3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Asako Tateishi, president of Japan Creative Arts, thanked the Commission for funding the Bellevue World Taiko Festival in 2014. She explained that an issue has come up regarding the venue for the 2015 festival which has triggered the need to find a new place and date.

Ms. Anne Stewart, a board member of Japan Creative Arts, read a translated version of a statement by Asako Tateishi, the organization's president. Ms. Stewart said Japan Creative Arts was honored to have received special project funds in 2014 to hold the first Bellevue World Taiko Festival. The tickets were completely sold out for the two-day event, and both workshops were also full. In all, 1200 people were involved in the festival, including attendees, workshop participants, high school and middle school musicians, and volunteers. Mayor Balducci attended with her family and offered the welcome speech. In order to build towards the goal of Bellevue as a city known for taiko, the School of Taiko would like to invite a professional taiko performer from Japan to collaborate with local music students. In 2014 the guest performers from Japan performed with Bellevue High School and Chinook Middle School students and with local professional taiko players. The hope for this year's event is to collaborate with a local high school. Coordinating the schedule of the guest performers from Japan and a local venue has raised some challenges. The event location will be either Bellevue High School or Newport High School performing arts center. If the festival must be held before the end of 2015, the high school students will not be able to join in. The Commission was asked to make an exception to the "by year end" restriction in the Special Projects funding guideline so that the Bellevue World Taiko Festival can be held in January 2016 to accommodate scheduling.

Arts Specialist Mary Pat Byrne explained that the funds used for Special Projects revert to the General Fund at the end of the year. However, it is possible under certain circumstances to ask for an exception. She said if directed by the Commission she would seek to be allowed to carry over the funds into January 2016.

Commissioner Lewis said it sounded to her as though the event will not come together at all unless the exception is made. She said the 2014 event was very impressive.

Commissioner Madan asked if there could end up being two festivals in 2016, one in January and another in October. Ms. Stewart said the event will only be held once per year, and the school schedule argues in favor of having the event in January.

Chair Jackson noted her full support for having the high school students involved in the festival. The festival would be less without them.

There was full consensus in favor of seeking an exception to the year-end provision.

### 4. ACTION ITEMS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### A. Eastlink Public Art Hospital Station

This discussion item was postponed.

#### B. Meydenbauer Bay Park

Ms. Byrne reported that in April, the artist selection panel chaired by Commissioner Madan met twice to review 42 applications received by artists. Nine artists were selected to be interviewed. The panel ultimately chose three artists, one for each of the three identified opportunities.

Commissioner Madan said applications were received from as far north as British Columbia and as far south as Bend, Oregon. The panel met first to review the applications and narrow the list down. The panelists looked at the key themes and opportunities for each site and worked to match them to the abilities of the applicants. Ultimately, the panel selected Adam McIsaac for the ravine area, Stuart Nakamura for the promenade and pier site, and Laura Brodax for the beach house site.

The Commissioners were shown photos of previous artworks by the selected artists.

Commissioner Madan briefly talked about the merits of each artist selected and the impressions that they had for each opportunity.

A motion to endorse the panel's recommendations as presented regarding artists selected for Meydenbauer Bay Park and to advise staff to proceed with contracting was made by Commissioner Madan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lewis and it carried unanimously.

#### C. Commission Elections

There was a brief discussion among the Commissioners with regard to the length of time the Chair serves and the duties of the Chair and Vice-Chair.

A motion to elect Commissioner Manfredi to serve as Chair and Commissioner Malkin to serve as Vice-Chair was made by Commissioner Lewis. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Madan and it carried unanimously.

#### 5. COMMISSION QUICK BUSINESS - None

#### 6. REPORTS

##### A. Commissioner's Committee and Lead Reports - None

##### B. Project Updates from Staff

###### i. Monthly Project Update Report

Arts Program Coordinator Scott MacDonald reported that the landscape portion of the Newport Hills project has been installed. The landscaping is extensive and expands the impact of the art along the street.

###### ii. PACE Update

Ms. Byrne noted that after much study and deliberation the Council on May 4 voted unanimously to offer a \$20 million investment in the Tateuchi Center. The offer comes with conditions. The next step will be to sit down with PACE's leadership to talk about the terms in principle. The legal experts will then work out the details. The expectation is it will take about two months to come to agreement on the principles and a few months more to come to agreement on the details. A decision by the Council on how to fund the investment does not have to be made until 2019. PACE has indicated it will have the funds raised by September 2016. Construction will take about 27 months, then several months will be needed to stage and tune the building. They estimate the doors could open in the fall of 2019.

Commissioner Malkin asked how much PACE still needs to raise and Ms. Byrne said that with the City's investment, about \$118 million remains to be raised. This will build the building and take it through its first year of operation.

Chair Jackson noted that PACE has added eight people to its board in line with the need to raise funds. Ms. Byrne said for the past year or so PACE has been working quietly behind the scenes. In the coming months it will be interesting to see if they get more publicly active and if announcements are made about additional funds raised.

Commissioner Wolfeich asked if presentations to small groups will continue moving forward. Ms. Byrne said there have not been discussions about continuing in that vein but it seems it would be to everyone's benefit to do so.

iii. Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month Art Display

Ms. Byrne said the display was the idea of architect Jerry Lee, head of Mulvanny/G2 Architects. Mr. Lee and Ms. Byrne visited several galleries to borrow art to put on display at City Hall. The works have been loaned by both artists and galleries. There will be a closing event on May 28 at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Malkin suggested highlighting the display using the STQRY app.

7. CORRESPONDENCE / INFORMATION

A. Written Correspondence - As Noted

B. Information

i. Future Agenda Items

Ms. Byrne reported that the Mayor intends to have the Commission vacancy filled by the Commission's June meeting.

ii. Committees - As Noted

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Jackson adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.