

Cultural Council Meeting Minutes

June 17, 2009

Present: Kathy Feek, GG Getz, Margit Moore, Jeff Parks, Amy Whittenburg, Bhaj Townsend, Gwen Zierdt, Becca Singer, Bob Larson, Ellen Miller-Wolfe (staff), Julie Huffman (staff)

Absent: Leah Kliger, Tom Gant, Cathy Heffron,

Guests: Kirkland Choral Society

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Meeting minutes from May and April approved as quorum not present at last month's meeting. Leah and Becca's terms renewed as recommended as well.

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Arts Organization Guest

Jessica Martin, Allison Butler, and Caroline Hamby were present from the Kirkland Choral Society. Members gave an overview of the organization. KCS would like support from the Cultural Council to build audiences, help with marketing and networking, and working with the Kirkland Reporter. They would like to be more involved in the schools as well, to involve youth. KCS will be at a Kirkland Uncorked booth this year.

Budget

Staff reviewed the budget—very few changes since May. To review, Council has \$1375 left of the 4Culture money (\$500 gone to SIFF, \$1875 gone to KAST), and \$2411.75 left of the City's funds (\$125 spent on rental of Woman's Club for community conversation, \$463 spent on DVD brochures, and \$2000 earmarked for community collaboration).

OLD BUSINESS

Vision 20/20 Strategic Plan

Ellen and Julie discussed with Jerry the idea of presenting goals and a vision to the City Council to review rather than asking that the entire strategic plan to be adopted. Also, at the retreat, we will focus the recommendations and prioritize them. Staff also discussed with him the concerns expressed by the Heritage Society and the feedback from Kirkland Choral Society.

Kathy and Margit have been working on a vision statement that they can send out prior to the retreat.

Staff Ellen Miller Wolfe reported that there will be a beginning conversation about a Kirkland foundation at a brown bag luncheon that is being scheduled. We are involving other cities who have created and maintain foundations to present models for us to learn from.

Cultural Council Retreat

Retreat will be at the house in McAuliffe Park from 4-8 on July 15th. Food will be provided. We are hoping to prioritize recommendations from the strategic plan at the retreat. Amy, Jeff and Leah met a facilitator, Shunpike, who they are looking at to facilitate the retreat. Group discussed value of having a facilitator, as well as cost to the Council. KCC has not previously determined a level above which a vote has to be taken to approve spending. The group decided that they would like to set a cap on the amount of spending allowed for the facilitation. Motion to use outside facilitator for retreat. Motion to allow \$350 cap for facilitation of retreat. Both passed.

Art in Private Development

The Cultural Council subcommittee met with Andy Loos again to review his latest proposal for the art in the plaza. CiviK was present at the meeting. The subcommittee did not support the proposal citing the desirability of a more irregular piece and seating limitations as some of their concerns. Andy is going back to the artist to bring the subcommittee a new option. A new subcommittee meeting will be scheduled to review the latest proposal.

Senior Art Show

Cathy connected with the senior art show at Merrill Gardens put on by the Senior Council and offered assistance. She was not available to assist with the event itself so Kathy assisted.

Kirkland Uncorked

Kathy reported on Kirkland Uncorked. She would like to assist with funding for sculptors but it may not be appropriate to fund this with City money this year. Next year she would like to discuss ways to fund them. Leah has arranged for performance art supported by 4Culture. At this point we have not allocated any 4Culture funding (provided to the city on a biannual basis) to this event, which we have in the past. We will need to reallocate this funding

Artist Brochure Grant

Ellen reported that the City received \$7,000 to develop a tourism brochure for Kirkland Arts. Discussion arose around a kiosk downtown. Staff believes it to be limited to print media, but will provide additional information at a later date.

NEW BUSINESS

Leave of Absence

Tom Gant has been unable to attend due to new job that is in Tacoma. He has requested a 6 month leave of absence. Motion to grant 6 month leave of absence. Approved.

Staffing Issues

Staff discussed constraints on their time. Staff will focus on infrastructure support (minutes, scheduling, agendas) and will need to rely on KCC members to attend meetings, network, and chair subcommittees.

Adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Julie Huffman