



CITY OF KIRKLAND
City Manager's Office
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MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager

From: Ellen Miller-Wolfe, Economic Development Manager
Chris Dodd, Facilities Services Manager

Date: September 28, 2015

Subject: Metal Artist Recommendation for City Hall Interior Renovation

RECOMMENDATION

For Council to adopt the recommendation of the City Hall Art Committee and Cultural Arts Commission to retain Bruce Anderson to design and fabricate art for the lobby and vestibule of City Hall consistent with the concept he has presented to the latter groups. The recommendation will be approved through adoption of the consent calendar.

BACKGROUND AND SELECTION PROCESS

When the budget for the 1% for Art related to the City Hall Renovation project was determined at \$70,000, staff retained Perri Howard at VMG to oversee the art curation for a total of \$6,500 and formed a City Hall Art Committee of six, comprised of Cultural Arts Commission (CAC) members and City Hall staff representing several departments that will be located in the City Hall space. The Committee met several times in July and August to determine the types of art and art piece locations at City Hall. There was consensus among Committee members and also the City Hall Steering Committee and Cultural Arts Commission that photographic and metal art should be incorporated in the renovated space.

Following a call for artists and Committee and CAC consideration of several photographers who submitted images, Maria Olga Meneses was retained for the photographic art, and is currently in residence at the Arete project for six weeks, shooting Kirkland images for that portion of the installations. City Council will approve the photographs following Committee and Commission deliberation.

A call for metal artists to design and install artwork for the newly renovated Kirkland City Hall resulted in eight proposals. Metal Arts were preferred over other media based upon the large collection of paintings and two-dimensional fine artworks already held by the City of Kirkland. Metal arts will provide a significant element to the City Hall entry experience, activate the newly-designed vestibule and be observable from the exterior of the building which otherwise

will not be changed. Four of the chosen artists were each compensated \$1,000 for their proposal and presentation to the Committee. Presenters were asked to respond to the following values:

- Transparency in government operations
- Citizen involvement
- Scenes and settings in Kirkland
- Wayfinding elements
- Reflect the types of work by City employees and City Council in the building and other locations throughout the city.

The four finalists included Brandon Zebold, Celeste Cooning, Carla Grahn, and Bruce Andersen. Artists were provided with building plans and schematics, an orientation session, and a tour of City Hall. For the proposal presentation, artists were asked to include a model, material samples, budget, and description of concept. The Committee met on September 21, 2015 to make their selection based upon a consensus-based process.

Bruce Andersen was the Committee's unanimous selection. Bruce & Shannon Andersen formed their partnership in 1995, Andersen Studios LLC., located in the Skagit Valley. The team employs a collaborative approach to site responsive installations. Shannon combines a specialized background in universal design and mixed media, while Bruce holds a strong technical background in fabrication and installation. The practice integrates innovative mediums, with natural light, shadow, landscape and the built environment to create compelling interactive installations. Their projects incorporate sustainable methods, with traditional fabrication techniques, responsive to the environmental texture and unique identity of their surroundings.

For the Kirkland City Hall project, Bruce proposes a "forest" of tree forms cut from perforated stainless steel sheeting (Attachment A). The artwork represents transparency in government, and Kirkland as a place of growth. This proposal was selected based on many factors including:

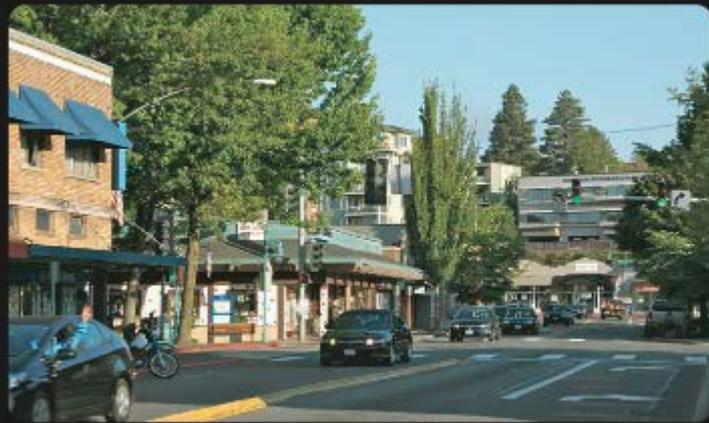
- The artist's personal connection to Kirkland (he grew up here and his mother is a current resident).
- A proposal that fully activates the lobby experience.
- An innovative way of working with metal screening to provide visual impact as well as an interesting play between light and shadows.
- A design that is scalable and replicable should additional project funds become available.

On September 28, 2015 the Cultural Arts Commission met and voted unanimously to support the Committee recommendation and make a final recommendation to City Council to approve the design and retain Bruce Anderson to further develop and fabricate the metal pieces (Attachment B).

The selection of Bruce Andersen was unanimous. Going forward with Council approval, the City of Kirkland will contract with Bruce Anderson for \$30,000, \$10,000 for design and the remainder for fabrication.

Kirkland City Hall Entry Artwork

Bruce Andersen
Andersen Studios LLC

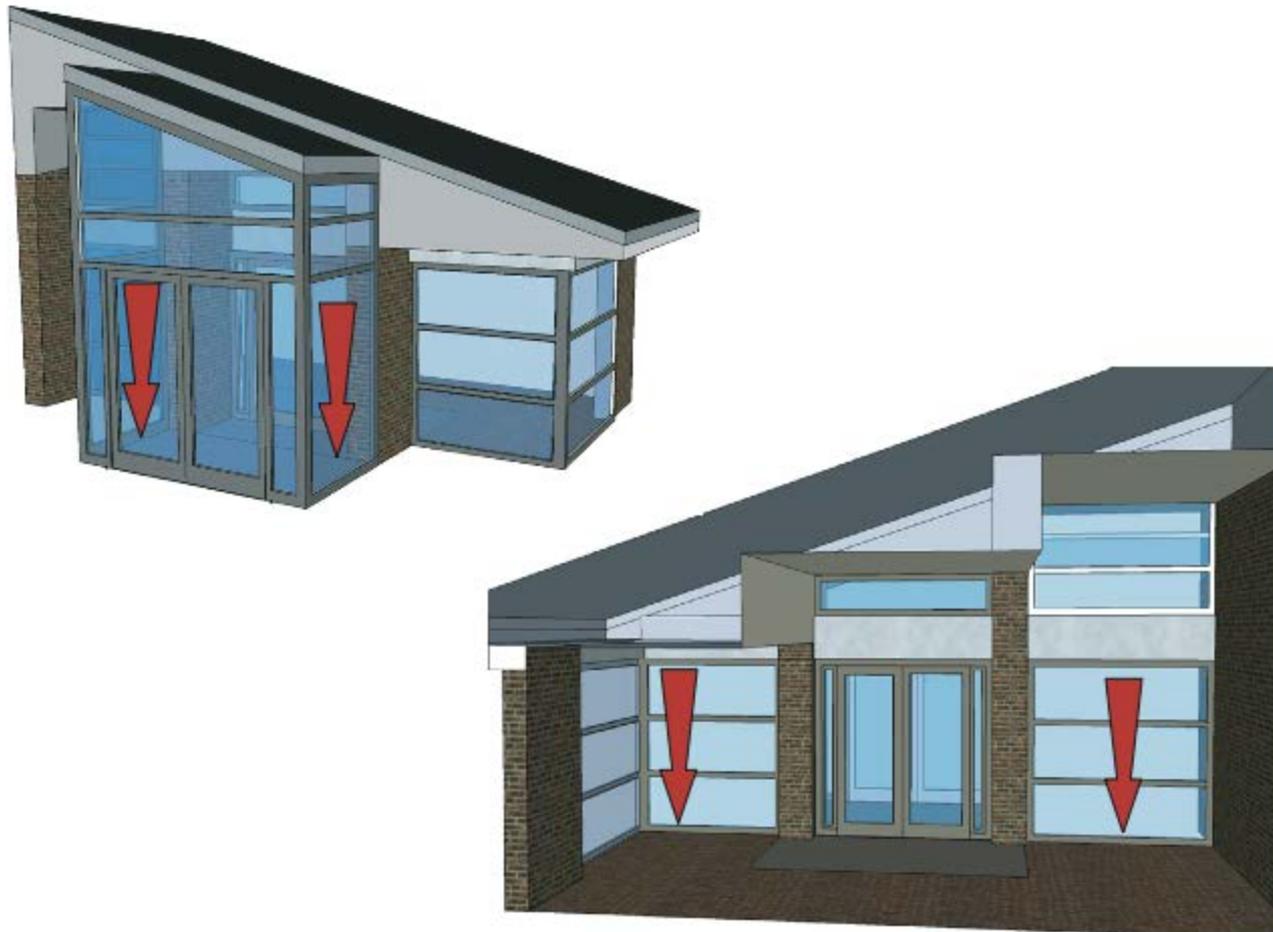






Rick Schlamp

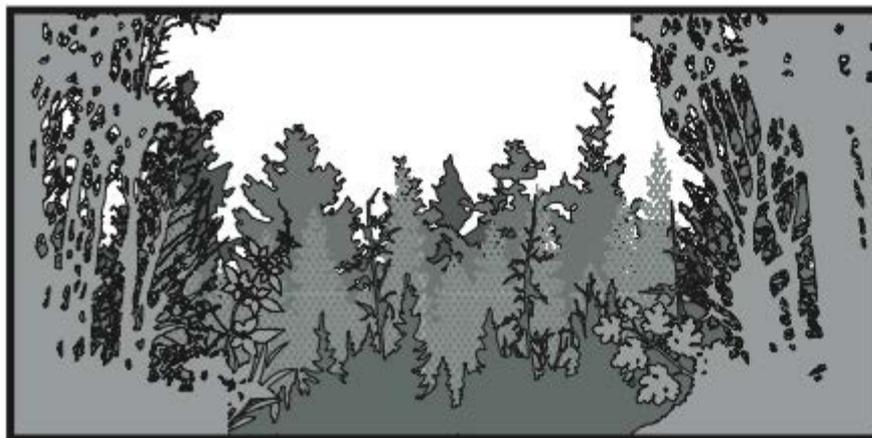
Possible Artwork Locations



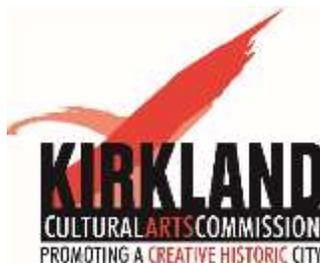
Silhouette Atrium



Cut perforated, textured & solid stainless steel



Layered to
create depth



**Cultural Arts Commission Special Meeting Minutes
September 28, 2015 4:00pm-5:00pm
Kirkland City Hall – Rose Hill Room**

Present: Dawn Laurant (chair), Ryan James (vice-chair), Michelle Lustgarten, Gaerda Zeiler, Carol Belval, Emily Gjersson, Linda Paros Ellen Miller-Wolfe (staff), Philly Hoshko (staff).

Absent: Christine Exline, Erin Zangari, Marianna Hanefeld, Dana Nunnelly, Alexandra Dorsett

Guests: Perri Howard, VMG and Chris Dodd, Facilities Services Manager

Call to Order/Welcome:

Meeting came to order at 4:18pm

Approval of City Hall 1% for Art Metal Artist:

Perri introduced the call for artist and the Metal Artist Selection Process.

Over the past two months, artist/finalists were reviewed and selected by the project steering committee. Four finalists were chosen from a list of eight applicants. The four finalists included Brandon Zebold, Celeste Cooning, Carla Grahn, and Bruce Andersen. Artists were provided with building plans and schematics, an orientation session, and a tour of city hall. For the proposal presentation, artists were asked to include a model, material samples, budget, and description of concept. The Steering committee met on September 21, 2015 to make their selection via a consensus-based process.

Bruce Andersen proposed a “forest” of tree forms cut from perforated stainless steel sheeting. The artwork represents transparency in government, and Kirkland as a place of growth. This proposal was selected based on many factors including:

The artist’s personal connection to Kirkland (he grew up here and his mother is a current resident). And the growth that Kirkland has undertaking. Kirkland as a growing, living place.

A proposal that fully activates the lobby experience.

An innovative way of working with metal screening to provide visual impact as well an interesting play between light and shadows.

A design that is scalable and replicable should additional project funds become available.

The selection of Bruce Andersen was unanimous. Going forward, the committee would like the project team to:

Consider changing the new (and existing?) glazing to a lighter tint to make the artwork more visible.

Consider changing the mullion pattern to a lighter shade.

Work with the artist to finalize placement of furnishings and other elements.

Consider the patterns in the artwork relative to other patterns to be selected for the furniture, rugs, and other elements in the lobby.

Commission asked about lighting that could feature the art in the lobby.

The Commission approved the recommendation of the committee to recommend Bruce Anderson to further develop and fabricate the metal pieces for City Hall. (Dawn moved, Gaerda seconded, unanimous).

Perri gave an update on the photographer for City Hall. She is moving in this week to Arete. Perri reviewed some of images she has already shot and gave some recommendation on more images exploring the relationship between people and place.

Meeting adjourned at 4:44 pm.

Minutes prepared by Philly Marsh