



Kirkland Cultural Arts Commission (KCAC) Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2020 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting – Zoom

Present: Dana Nunnelly (Chair), Michelle Lustgarten, Ryan James, Tere Thompson, Tracy MacLean, Dawn Laurant, Kim Radcliffe, Lani Brockman, Barbie Collins Young, Jim Lopez (staff), Chris Hendrickson (staff)

Absent: Savannah Klein

Guests: Kirkland City Councilmember Kelli Curtis, Centro Cultural Mexicano Executive Director Carlos Jimenez, Centro Cultural Mexicano Director Angie Hinojos Yusuf

Welcome and call to order

Chairperson Nunnelly called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. Minutes from February 2020 were approved based on a motion by Commissioner Lustgarten with a second from Commissioner Thompson. The vote was unanimous.

Presentation on the COVID-19 themed sculptures created by Centro Cultural Mexicano

Director Yusuf presented on behalf of Centro Cultural Mexicano.

Director Yusuf and Executive Director Jimenez operate the Mexican Cultural Center in downtown Redmond. The organization's mission is to "inspire inclusive participation by the community in all aspects of education, culture, and society by providing opportunities to create a positive future." They have proposed to temporarily "gift" four unique sculptures to the City of Kirkland for public display.

The four pieces are a series created with funding from the King County COVID-19 Community Response Fund and two grants from 4Culture. The sculptures are 8 feet tall and sit on 4-foot by 4-foot bases. The material is 3/4-inch plywood with acrylic paint and a coat of sealer. The sculptures are one sided, with the back side painted a solid color. Each base incorporates a simple message, and features various logos including 4Culture, Centro Cultural Mexicano and King County.

The themes are Life, Care, Hope and Wisdom.

The bases are specifically designed to support the height and weight of the sculptures, and to allow people to sit. They've had a series down in the Westlake area of Seattle for about 18 months and they've weathered well in a high-traffic area.

Park Lane Discussion

General discussion ensued about the potential placement of the four **Centro Cultural Mexicano** sculptures on Park Lane, as the plinths are currently vacant with the recent removal of Ed McCarthy's sculptures. The display would be temporary, for an approximate duration of two months. The idea is to put them in a highly trafficked area to spark conversation and bring the community together. Each figure is wearing a mask, making the pieces very cohesive and in alignment with ongoing City messaging promoting and encouraging mask wearing in the community.

Consensus was achieved that the Park Lane Committee could champion the project and work out the logistics of how and where to place them.

A motion was made by Commissioner Thompson to work with artists Angie Hinojos Yusuf and Carlos Jimenez to have the four pieces placed on Park Lane on four plinths. Chairperson Nunnelly clarified that the motion combined the acceptance of the art, which will be on loan to the City, with the location. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Radcliffe.

During discussion on the motion, Commissioner Lustgarten suggested that the four interior plinths be utilized for the art. The motion was not formally amended to stipulate that the four interior plinths be used, but Commissioner Lustgarten's comment is noted in the record here.

ACTION: the vote on Commissioner Thompson's motion was affirmative and unanimous.

General discussion continued about Park Lane and the RFP currently in progress by the Park Lane Committee, which is Commissioner James and Commissioner Thompson.

ITEM OF NOTE: Lani was added to the committee to replace former Chairperson Belval.

132nd Square Park

Brief discussion ensued about 132nd Square Park. 132nd Square Park is at 90 percent design and the CIP team is moving forward with the intention of incorporating the art into the design of the project. The 132nd Square Park subcommittee will move the project forward and is working with engineer Brian Baker to have an onsite meeting.

Juanita Beach Bathhouse – Chairperson Nunnelly

The Juanita Beach Bathhouse art needs one final image for the historic photo element of the project.

Neighborhood Greenways – Chairperson Nunnelly and Commissioners Radcliffe and Collins Young

Neighborhood Greenways project has been rescheduled but is moving forward. The artist has been selected and hopes to hold a community art sparking event sometime in the fall. The "art sparking" event is meant gather feedback and generate ideas from members of the North and South Rose Hill communities and other Greenways stakeholders about what the art might look like and how it will be incorporated into the project. It will take place virtually.

Fire Station 24 – Commissioner James

The artists are working on minor modifications to remove the paw prints and clarify the numbers.

KCAC elections – Chair and Co-Chair

ACTION: Commissioner MacLean made a motion to elect a chair and cochair and proceed with the vote immediately. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Radcliffe. Unanimous vote.

Commissioner Laurant nominated Chairperson Nunnelly as chair; the nomination was seconded by Commissioner Radcliffe.

Commissioner James nominated Commissioner Thompson for Vice Chair; the nomination was seconded by Commissioner Brockman.

Commissioner Lustgarten nominated Commissioner MacLean for Vice Chair; the nomination was seconded by Commissioner Radcliffe.

Brief discussion ensued. Commissioner Thompson questioned whether or not the Vice Chair position is needed during this unprecedented pandemic period. Chairperson Nunnelly clarified that the Vice Chair's role is mission critical, providing an important continuity of operations when a Chairperson terms out or moves on. It's also an added layer to ensure that meetings can be facilitated even if the Chair is not available.

ACTION: Chairperson Nunnelly elected Chair by unanimous vote.

ACTION: Commissioner MacLean elected Vice Chair based on a majority vote of six to three

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

A line item needs to be added in the KCAC budget for ongoing signage, including interpretive signage and other signage to identify art, artists and provide other information.

Meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Chris Hendrickson

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 16, 2020