

**Sammamish Art Commission
Meeting
January 25, 2010
Sammamish City Hall
6:30 pm**

Attendance

Commissioners: Barbara Jirsa; Carol Ross, Deborah Akerstrom, Daphne Robinson, Molly Strange, Bala Subramanian, Rochelle Wyatt

Alternates:

Bharath Sankaranarayan

Not in attendance - Vinita K.; Jingyu Li;

Staff: Lyman Howard, Finance Director and Allison Gubata, Administrative Assistant

Note: Sara Brightman and Anna McCrae, Art Fair Co-Charis have been invited to participate in Commission meetings and the upcoming retreat for coordination and input.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Commission Chair Barbara Jirsa.

Introductions

Introductions were made welcoming newly appointed Commissioners and Alternates. Each gave a description of their first memory of a cultural experience as a child.

Regular meeting dates and times were agreed upon. Meetings will be the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. unless there is a holiday (i.e.: Jan. & Feb.) when the meetings will be held on the 4th Monday. Traditionally, there has been no meeting in August.

Minutes

Minutes from the November 16, 2010 were approved as printed.

Financial Report

Financial Report was presented by Lyman Howard. The budget for 2010 (biennial) each is \$20,800.

Daphne will serve as Commission treasurer and would like to receive a copy of the City financial report and receipts. Original receipts go to Finance and Daphne receives photo copies of the receipts. The City pays bills twice a month, coinciding with Council Meetings, as Council approves the expenditures before they are paid.

Retreat Planning

A retreat date was discussed and Sunday, Feb. 7th 11:00 – 2:30/3:00pm was agreed. The purpose of the retreat will be to direct the Commission's work plan for the year ahead. The building of a committee system – a structure within the Commission, focusing on a variety of cultural arts disciplines i.e.: children's activities, film etc. Decisions will be made to determine who will take the lead on each. Communication component will also need to be established to build on the Community Arts Calendar that Bala and Bharath have been working on. Interested community members will be sought to help fill out the committees, expanding the scope and reach of the arts in building community.

Discussion was held regarding areas of interest from the community viewpoint and the expertise on the Commission to help define the committee structure/framework. Bala agreed to collate the ideas sent to him prior to the retreat to give discussion a head start.

Simple Measures

A musical program by the group *Simple Measures* will be presented on April 20 at the Sammamish Presbyterian Church. There will be no admission charge for this intimate evening of music and conversation as it will be funded by the Commission. The space accommodates some 200 people. The program will involve a marketing push from the Commission and the City as well as the work *Simple Measures* does to generate audience.

Commons Gallery Exhibits

The Commission presents approximately five exhibits in the Commons Gallery of City Hall during the year. Each has an opening reception coordinated with City calendars for scheduling and optimum attendance.

The City will be displaying a collection of 20th century flags to hang from the gallery ceiling beginning June 17th. The Commission has an opportunity to design an exhibit to compliment the display.

A general exhibit calendar has been blocked out for the exhibitions so the dates can be cleared with the City. Content of the exhibits will be determined as the Commission moves forward with planning.

4Culture Grant Status

The sustained grant application was submitted in December. Award information will not be available until the end of March per Charlie Rathbun of 4Culture. Many thanks to Allison and Daphne for the hard work of coordinating the application along with the work of Carol Ross and Jamie McKay for information pertaining to the Art Fair.

Youth Involvement in Cultural Programs and Planning

Discussion was held regarding ways to encourage youth leadership and representation on the Commission. Allison will check with Lynne Handlos regarding some type of Youth Board participation.

Updates

- Barbara spoke to the Sammamish Kiwanis group in December and found a very receptive audience. A part of the group's mission is to serve children and they would like to partner with the Commission on a project. Such a partnership would expand the Commission's efforts and involve a different community segment.
- **Arts Day in Olympia** – WA State Arts Alliance is the lobbying arm of the arts for the State and once a year all arts organizations are encouraged go to Olympia to meet with their legislators regarding various arts issues. Barbara will be attending and invited anyone who is interested to join her.
- All were asked to keep track of volunteer hours spent on SAC endeavors. A sheet will be circulated at each of the Commission meetings to be submitted to the City.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.