

LaConner Arts Commission

LaConner Civic Garden Club

March 2, 2009

In attendance: Rebecca Chamberlain, Tracy Powell, Alex Kramer, Kelly Wynn, Pat Doran, John Doyle, Town Administrator, Star Arens, guest

Absent: Claire Eberle

Moved by Alex and 2nd by Tracy to approve the minutes of Feb. 2, 2008

Passed

Public Comment: None

Announcements: None

New Business: Sculpture Chair, Tracy Powell, reported on the committee meeting held in February. It was recommended that we revert back to opening the exhibit in the spring instead of in conjunction with the Art's Alive! event. We would extend the current exhibit, with the permission of the sculptors, to March 2010 and have an official public opening and tour of the new pieces. Some of the current pieces need to be cleaned as they are accumulating some "green" algae. He will contact the artists for permission to lightly clean them. It was decided that Public Works should not attempt it because some of the pieces are made of special materials and need to be handled carefully. It was moved and seconded that we try to partner with the Parks Commission for this opening and "officially" rename Gilkey Square with a ceremony leading to the sculpture guided tour. *Passed*

John Doyle announced that the Town had purchased three kiosks and one would probably go in Gilkey Square with interpretive panels on the history of the old swing bridge, the Gilkey family, etc.

Tracy announced that the Sculpture Committee voted to purchase Lloyd Whannell's piece entitled "Silent Words." He moved that we do that, seconded by Pat. *Passed* John will check on the finances and send the recommendation on to the Town Council for approval. Tracy noted that it is important for our Commission to validate our mission by purchasing excellent sculptures.

It was noted that some of the information regarding the permanent collection is incorrect on the web site. Lori will be contacted to fix it.

Art's Alive!

Pat reported that the Art's Alive Steering Committee met and discussed each facet of the event. There will be three levels of art: the Invitational Show at Maple Hall, chaired by, Cynthia Hoskins, the Emerging Artists show in lower Maple Center chaired by Greg Robinson, and the Open Show in upper Maple Center chaired by Pat. Other Open show committee members include Rebecca Chamberlain, Kelly Wynn, and Claire Eberle.

Since the Open Show space has been reduced by one entire floor, artists in that space will only be able to submit one piece of art. There were 127 artists who participated in that part of the show last year, and we are anticipating the same number in 2009. The Skagit County Historical Museum will be hosting a show for the event and will be inviting the Open Show artists to submit a piece with a "historical" theme. This is very open and could be anything from a painting of the Rainbow Bridge, the tulip fields, or portraits of old pioneers (which could be researched at the Museum). A letter will be going out by April to invite these artists and give them ample time to create a special piece.

Pat was concerned that the Student Show, which was at the Fruit & Produce Market last year, may not have a venue since that business has closed. In the event that they don't have space the Museum may be able to accommodate them in a special section of its exhibit.

Alex introduced Star Arens who will be the Student Representative after he graduates in the spring. Thank you Alex for all your hard work.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Doran, LAC Secretary
& Open Show Chair