

# **ANACORTES ARTS COMMISSION**

*Chairperson Rita James  
Kathleen Faulkner  
Dik Haddox  
Marius Hibbard*

*Fred Abelman  
Zac Elander  
Maria Petrish  
Dave Cortelyou*

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October 11, 2006

**Members Present:** Rita James, Dik Haddox, Zac Elander, Dave Cortelyou and Marius Hibbard.

**Staff Present:** Gary Robinson & Mary Snyder.

**Others Present:** Wallie Funk, Steve Babbitt, Bill Mitchell, Saul Spiro & Carroll Meek.

The meeting was *called to order* at approximately 4:02 by Rita James.

**Minutes:** September minutes were approved as submitted.

**Public Comments:** Citizen Bill Mitchell stated his opinions of the proposed 30' bronze sculpture chose to be placed at the port.

**Correspondence/Communications:**

- **Art Summit** – Marius stated that he attended a meeting and circulated material from such. The intent is for Skagit County art communities to share information and the Anacortes Art Commission has been asked if they would like to become a member. The group meets approximately every 2 months.
- **Arts Festival** – Rita reported that the Anacortes Arts Festival would like to attend the regular meeting next month to propose partnering for public art. It was requested that this become an agenda item for next month.
- **Callahan Inquiry** – Rita stated that she has received a request from a graduate student interested in photographing the Callahan piece. Rita has forwarded this letter to Fred Abelman.
- **Sister City Art Council** – Rita read a letter from Duane Clark from the Sister City Association asking if there would be interest in working with the Peninsula Art Council. Rita will respond to them with a letter stating interest.

**Old Business:**

- **Wilson Hotel** – Rita explained that the commission was asked to facilitate the jury process for the mural to be placed on the side of the Wilson Hotel. The jury was unanimous in it's selection of artist Lisa Leidgren. The selected art consists of 15,110 (representing the city population) dots that compose the face of Anna Curtis.

**A motion was made to make a recommendation to Beacon Development and the Housing Authority on Lisa Liedgren as the artist for the replacement mural on the Wilson Hotel. Motion was seconded and approved by all.**

Bill Mitchell stated that he felt that because he had done so much public art in Anacortes, he was at somewhat of a disadvantage in the process used. Rita assured all that the process was based entirely on what was proposed and the jury was fair and equitable. The jurors were commended on the process.

- **Port Project** – Dave and Gary attended a Port Commission meeting where a recommendation of the selected sculpture was presented. The jury was unanimous in their selection of a 30' bronze sculpture by Gerard Tsutakawa. The port will proceed with this project and it was requested that thank you letters be sent to jurors for their role.
- **Leo Osborne Sculpture** – Rita stated that she has submitted a request for lodging funds to assist in the acquisition of the “Windsong” sculpture to be placed at Guemes Channel Kiwanis Waterfront Park.
- **Installation of Tommy Thompson Parkway Art** – Carl Dellutri has the pieces nearly ready for installation. Gary is still awaiting a call from Bill Wooding (owner of the warehouse) to confirm placement. Two pieces resulted from the Art Festival this year, one from the working artist area and the other from the children’s area.
- **Saul Spiro & Carroll Meek Collection** – Saul gave a brief personal history and how they became involved in the art community. With no family members interested in inheriting their collection, they would like to bequest such to the community if housing of the collection could be accommodated. They would like to see their collection stay together and to be shared with a broader base. Saul’s nephew has some interest in filming a narrative of the work and Dik stated the importance of Saul’s explanation of his work. It was stated that this would be a very gracious and generous gift that would benefit Anacortes and a challenge worth looking into. It was agreed that the commission would meet next month at 1:00, November 8, at Saul & Carol’s residence to view the collection prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting.

**New Business:**

- Rita advised all that commission appointments are expiring in December. The upcoming terms will be staggered and all should be thinking of how to deal with this. There are also possibly three members who will not be continuing and all were asked to bring possible suggestions for new members to the next meeting. Avenues for seeking new members were discussed which included the newspaper, emails and letters to art organizations. Zac stated that passion, creativity and the ability to follow through with a given task are important qualities. Bill Mitchell voice interest in joining the group and he was instructed to submit a letter of interest and resume.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:00.

The *next regular meeting* will be held on *Wednesday, November 8, 2006 – 4:00 PM*, at City Hall Council Chambers.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mary Snyder

Approved: 11/08/2006