

BREMERTON ARTS COMMISSION

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes of January 8, 2025

(Approved)

Hybrid Meeting: In person at Sheridan Park Community Center w/ virtual option.

Commissioner's Present: Cynthia Davis-Engelgau, Lynn Horton, Susan Blackburn, Michael Laughlin (remote), Asia Renee (remote).

Staff Present: AJ Williams

Public Present: Tia Hudson, Kate Calixterio

Absent: Emerald Lessley

I. Meeting Called to Order at 5:36p.m. by Chair- Lynn Horton

II. Approval of Minutes: A motion was made to approve the minutes with revisions for the December 11, 2024, meeting. (Cynthia Davis Engelgau/ Susan Blackburn seconded). (#1EL/#2CE).

III. Public Comment: Kate Calixterio introduced herself to the Arts Commissioners during the meeting, accompanied by her husband, Robert, and their children, Remy and Cora. She recently registered for the Arts Registry and attended the meeting to learn more about upcoming events and opportunities for involvement within the City of Bremerton. As a local watercolor artist, Kate expressed interest in engaging with the local arts commission or arts council.

IV. Business:

Art Submissions: No art submissions currently.

Open Public Meeting Act Training: AJ provided a PDF sourced from the Washington State Attorney General's website. Michael presented a video for training purposes.

Creative District Update: Lynn announced that new window displays would be installed in the coming days. She emphasized Bremerton's unique culture as a way to distinguish it from other communities, suggesting the integration of cultural elements into art to attract visitors. Proposed initiatives include developing a comprehensive guide for organizing public events and festivals and streamlining the process for hosting events at Quincy Square.

The logo development process encountered delays due to setbacks with the original designer. The Creative District is now collaborating with Erin Stewart, with completion expected by the end of the month.

VI. Sub Communities Reports

Master Plan: The current Public Art Master Plan is outdated, at 20 years old. Lynn proposed renaming it to reflect a broader focus on various art forms, such as performing arts, literary arts, and culinary arts. Suggested titles include the "Bremerton Arts Master Plan." Key updates include:

- Renaming neighborhood centers with updated details to reflect current status.
- Including Quincy Square with specific guidelines and strategies.

- Adding a section on existing public and private murals, encouraging private mural projects.
- Modernizing the art submission process to accommodate electronic formats.
- Clarifying procedures for decommissioning art per ordinance.

The goal is to finalize these updates and present the revised plan to City Council in June.

Literary Arts: No report at this time.

Support and Grants: A rubric was presented to all members for review. Suggestions included increasing the spacing between questions and revising the "Evaluator's Notes" section. AJ will update the rubric and distribute it to members.

V. Staff Reports/Updates:

Poet Laureate: Cyn reported there were three candidates, but one was disqualified and another withdrew. AJ will recommend the remaining candidate to the mayor for an interview this month. A discussion was held on incorporating AI safeguards to ensure that submitted works are original and free from AI assistance.

Purchase Prize Award for CVG: The event is scheduled for Thursday, January 9, 2025, and Friday, January 10, 2025, from 10 AM to 2 PM at the CVG Studio. Blind judging will occur, with the top three selections per group prioritized. Special attention will be given to artists who contributed to the Fall for the Arts event.

Art Wrap Update: No updates were available regarding art wraps.

Art Panels: Six panels from the Open Art Gallery on the Washington Avenue wall have been photographed and submitted for vinyl wrapping.

Goals and Accomplishments: This discussion was deferred to the next meeting.

VI. Chair Report: None

VII. Commissioner Reports, Comments and Questions:

- Commissioner Susan informed the group about her new window display at the corner of 4th and Pacific.
- Commissioner Michael shared details of an upcoming event at Olympic College with Wayzgoose Kitsap January 17, 2025 5 PM-7 PM. Winter 2025 Gallery Show for Art & Mental Health.
- AJ distributed flyers inviting members to attend the Quincy Square groundbreaking ceremony, scheduled for January 20, 2025, at 2:30 PM.

VIII. Announcements: None

IX. Adjournment: 6:38 PM by Chair Lynn Horton