

BELLEVUE ARTS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

December 4, 2011

KBCS 91.3fm Radio Station
Bellevue College, House 5
3000 Landerholm Circle
Bellevue, WA 98007

4:00 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Vice Chairperson Kiselev, Commissioners Finley, Jackson, Liljebblad, Smith, Tremblay

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Chair Ptacek

STAFF PRESENT: Mary Pat Byrne, Department of Planning and Community Development

OTHERS PRESENT: Patrick Whalen, KBCS 91.3fm Radio Station

RECORDING SECRETARY: Mary Pat Byrne

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:08 p.m. by Vice Chair Kiselev who presided. All Commissioners were present with the exception of Commissioner Tremblay, who arrived at 4:20 p.m., and Commissioner Ptacek, who was excused.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

A. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Finley. Second was by Commissioner Liljebblad and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the November 1, 2011, minutes as submitted was made by Commissioner Liljebblad. Second was by Commissioner Smith.

The motion carried unanimously.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - None.

4. ACTION ITEMS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Presentation – KBCS 91.3fm Radio Station

Steve Ramsey, KBCS 91.3fm General Manager, lead commissioners on a tour of the studio and explained how it functions. He explained that KBCS 91.3fm is the only volunteer-based listener

supported station using the Community Radio model in the Seattle metropolitan market, and the only public radio station operating in Bellevue. He said the FCC approved moving the station's antenna to Cougar Mountain, which will make the station signal able to reach an additional one million listeners. He estimates their current listenership at about 40,000 and growing.

B. 2012 Budget

Mary Pat Byrne, Arts Specialist, reported that City Council is considering a series of mid-biennium reductions to the city's operating fund to address a shortfall in revenues. The City Manager presented a package of reductions based on department and Leadership Team recommendations. Funding for arts groups is proposed for a 25% reduction. Commissioner Brad Smith addressed Council the evening before on behalf of the Commission to request that the funding not be reduced. There were no comments from Council.

C. 2012 Work Plan

Ms. Byrne referred to the Arts Program work plan included in the packet. One of the projects scheduled for 2012, a Neighborhood Public Art Project in Surrey Downs Park, will remain on hold for the time being while the design for the B segment along 112th is developed. Currently it is not known whether there will continue to be access to the park from 112th. If there is no access then the park would change from a regional to a neighborhood park and its master plan would need to be re-developed.

Commissioner Trudi Jackson said the Surrey Downs neighborhood would prefer art work referring to the neighborhood.

Commissioner Kiselev said the park is a neighborhood park now. She said there is a concern about the park drawing drug activity, noting that it has done so in the past. She said if the park is cozy, then it could draw that activity. If it is more open, neighbors would feel safer using the park.

Commissioner Smith asked when the allocations process will take place. If the funding is reduced how should the Commission deal with that? That conversation should happen before the Guidelines go out. For instance, it has been suggested that Special Projects be cut.

Commissioner Finley pointed out that the Commission has adjusted amounts between EAP and Special Projects in the past and could do so this year.

Commissioner Kiselev said news of the reduction could discourage applicants from smaller organizations or with smaller projects from applying.

Commissioner Genevieve Tremblay said there are invisible groups in the community. Even if they apply and are not funded, a relationship is established. This is part of the value of the Special Projects program.

Commissioner Finley suggested calling for both EAP and Special Projects applications and waiting to decide on how to allocate the funds until the applications have been evaluated by the committee.

Commissioner Kiselev said there should be full disclosure on what funds are available and groups should be encouraged to apply and tell us their real need.

Commissioner Kris Liljeblad said applicants still need to have a sense of how much to apply for.

5. COMMISSION BUSINESS

Commissioner Finley moved to change the date of the January 2012 Commission regular meeting from January 3rd to January 17. Commissioner Liljeblad seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

6. REPORTS

A. Commissioner's Committee and Lead Reports

i. Sculpture Exhibition Committee

Ms. Byrne said the Bellwether committee has selected a theme for 2012: "Bellwether 2012: reGeneration." The theme is intended to carry the sustainability theme of 2008 and 2010 forward, and add a human dimension in recognition of the changes that the Bellevue community has gone through in the last several years.

Commissioner Tremblay said she likes the generational nuance and that the theme can be taken in many ways.

Commissioner Smith said the committee was visited by Megan Garner, an art teacher from Interlake, who is interested in partnering with the exhibition's teen project. The committee was impressed by her enthusiasm and looks forward to working with her.

Commissioner Jackson said the school district is trying to use problem-based learning, and the more real-world challenges are offered, the more they will embrace them.

B. Staff Reports

i. Project Status Update – as noted.

7. CORRESPONDENCE, INFORMATION AND UPCOMING EVENTS

A. Written Correspondence – As Noted

B. Information – As Noted

1. Projects Timeline December through April
2. Upcoming Agenda Items
3. Commission Committee Chairs and Leads for 2011-2012
4. Calendar
5. Public Art Program budget update (provided at meeting)

8. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS – as noted

9. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Kiselev adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.