

## Culture and Heritage Advisory Council – Meeting Minutes

### Metro Parks Tacoma Headquarters

Wednesday March 16, 2016

#### I. Roll Call and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Chair Zach Powers at 5:35pm.

Present: Laura Bradley, Katy Evans, Andrea Michelbach, Kristen Murphy, Maria Pascualy, Angela Jossy, Commissioner Aaron Pointer, Zach Powers

Staff: Melissa McGinnis,

Guests: Britt Board, Silong Chhun, Carol Goforth, Amy McBride, Rebecca Solverson, Peter Stanley

Absent: Dick Dorsett, Heather Joy

#### II. Review and Acceptance of February 2016 Minutes

Kristen made a motion to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Laura and approved unanimously.

Zach welcomed new members and potential new members then provided a basic overview of how the Advisory Council functions. He also noted that hard copies of the minutes will no longer be distributed at the beginning of each meeting. The minutes are sent out electronically with the agenda each month. Zach asked members to please read them before the meeting and bring any corrections to meeting.

#### III. Old Business

##### a. Art Plan Update

- i. Amy reported on final version of the Metro Parks Public Art Work Plan and explained the guiding principles of the policy and plan. She also distributed copies of a typical Public Art Project Scope of Work form which will be used to begin all upcoming public art projects. The next project with a public art component will be People's Community Center with the Eastside Community Center coming soon.
- ii. Rebecca as well as the individual members serving on the existing Art Steering Committees reported on their progress thus far.
  1. Waterfront Phase One – Rebecca showed examples Adam Kuby's work in other locations as well as plans for the Point Defiance project. Adam is from Portland, Oregon. As per the final process outlined in the Public Art Work Plan, Adam held an open house at MPT headquarters on March 14<sup>th</sup> for people to come and review his plans.
  2. Point Defiance Aquarium – Benjamin Bell and Gaston Nogues from Las Angeles were chosen for the project. Rebecca showed examples of some of their other works. Angela reported that the artists are now even more excited about the project after their visit to Point Defiance and talking with the staff and steering committee about possible ideas.
  3. Oak Tree Park – Clark Wiegman of Seattle was chosen for this project. Rebecca showed examples of his other works. Maria reported that the steering committee interviewed four artists out of the 37 who

submitted proposals. Clark was chosen partially for his commitment to community engagement, interest in the art work reflecting the character of South Tacoma, and his interested in mentoring other artists and working with children.

- iii. Katy noted that all of the artists chosen thus far are white men. Is there going to be an attempt to ensure a level of diversity in artists chosen for MPT projects? Amy replied that efforts will be made to ensure a diversity of applicants for the projects.
  - 1. Kristen noted that the artist chosen for the art project at the STAR Center was female. Lisa Kinoshita.
  - 2. Aaron commented that the Park Board's new policy on diversity should help encourage a wide range of artists.
- iv. Amy encouraged Advisory Council members to attend the March 28<sup>th</sup> Park Board Meeting at 6:00pm. The Park Board will be voting that night on approval of the final policy and plan. Council members are encouraged to voice their support for the plan.
- v. Peter asked how are the "Call to Artists" distributed. Amy works with the City of Tacoma's art database and Metro Parks to ensure a wide distribution.

#### **IV. New Business**

##### **a. Historic Preservation/Heritage Programs Overview**

- i. Melissa showed a brief presentation on the types of Heritage related activities occur at Metro Parks.
  - 1. To implement the goal – Foster Appreciation of Culture and Heritage – there are three primary areas:
    - a. Preserve and Protect
      - i. Conservation and Restoration of historic structures
      - ii. Preserving the records and stories of Tacoma's past with archives and research libraries
      - iii. Preserving and cataloging historic images and ephemera
      - iv. Conservation and preservation of art work
    - b. Promote Public Appreciation
      - i. Interpretive signs in the parks
      - ii. Lectures and tours
      - iii. Online access to historical information and coming soon – online access to information about all the items on the Historic and Cultural Assets Inventory similar to Fort Nisqually's website.
    - c. Showcase heritage through programming
      - i. Fort Nisqually is the MPT facility responsible for the great majority of heritage programming with tours, events, camps, exhibits, and demonstrations of period arts and crafts.
- ii. Katy asked about Fort Nisqually partnering with the WW Seymour Botanical Conservatory. The fort and the conservatory have partnered on some small botanical/horticultural programs and events but there is room for growth in this area.

- b. 2016 Work Plan and Advisory Council Goal Setting
  - i. Zach made a motion to table this topic until the April meeting due to the time. The motion was seconded by Angela and passed unanimously.
  
- c. Introduction of applicants to the Advisory Council
  - i. Zach welcomed Britt, Silong, Carol, and Peter to the Advisory Council and asked each person to tell the Council a little more about themselves and why they want to serve on the Council.
  - ii. The applicants were then dismissed while the standing council reviewed their qualifications and discussed their applications.
  - iii. Zach made a motion to recommend all four for membership on the Council. The motion was seconded by Katy and approved unanimously.
  - iv. Melissa will prepare a resolution to officially appoint the four new members at the April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Park Board.

**V. Board and Staff Liaison Report**

- a. Aaron noted that the Park Board recently approved the \$295,000 contract for the artists chosen for the Point Defiance Aquarium project and the Capital Improvement Committee recommended the approval of the contract with the City of Tacoma for Amy McBride's support managing the Public Art Program.

**VI. Good of the Order**

- a. Angela announced that it is the 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Art Bus. Nancy Guppy will be the guest host for the March 17<sup>th</sup> event. Tickets are going fast!
- b. Laura announced that the Spring Sing at B Sharp to support the Puget Sound Revels is taking place right after this meeting and all are welcome.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10pm.