Date: February 2, 2012
To: Chair Steve Albers and members of the Board of Trustees
From: Carol Sheehan, Graphics Production Supervisor
cc: Mary Getchell, Marketing & Community Relations Director
Subject: University Place Art Donation

Recommendation to Accept Art Donation for University Place Pierce County Library

Local artist Agnus McLin recently proposed the donation of art to the University Place Pierce County Library. She is an accomplished contemporary batik artist. The donated piece titled “Shaman” is a batik assemblage, 32”w x 40”h x 4”d and is encased in a Plexiglas box frame to protect it.

At Mary Getchell’s direction, I formed a committee in accordance with the Public Art Procedure of Board Policy 2.9. The committee was comprised of three people: a representative of the community or Friends group, Sigrid Coppola; a local art professional, Donna Trent; and a Pierce County Library System representative, Carol Sheehan.

We met on Friday, February 27, 2012 to review the proposed art donation. We discussed the charge of the policy that states, “to create environments throughout the system that are aesthetically pleasing and intellectually stimulating, and are comprised of high quality art that engages the public, reflects the Library’s vision and the community it serves and shall be reflective of the high standards and artistic excellence of this existing broad and balanced offerings of the Library.”

The committee determined the piece is of high quality and fits well with the Pacific Northwest/natural feel that is present in the University Place Library architecture. This art has met all the criteria of the Board Policy. Our committee recommends that the Board accepts the proposal for this piece of art to be placed at the University Place Library.

The committee determined the area of placement and, if the artwork is accepted, will work with the staff at University Place Library and Facilities Maintenance Department to hang the piece in the Reading Lounge area of the library. Attached are two photos of the art and a statement from the artist about the piece.

Thank you for your consideration.
Proposal to Accept Art Donation for placement at
University Place Pierce County Library
January 27, 2012

Local artist Agnus McLin recently proposed the donation of art to the University Place Library. The piece titled “Shaman” is a batik assemblage, 32” w x 40” h x 4” d. The piece is encased in a plexiglass box frame to protect it.

A committee was formed in accordance with the Public Art Procedure of Board Policy 2.9 and was comprised of three people, a representative of the community or Friends group, Sigrid Coppola, a local art professional, Donna Trent and a Pierce County Library System representative, Carol Sheehan.

We met on Friday, Feb. 27, 2012 to determine whether to send this proposal along to the Board of Trustees for approval. We discussed the charge of the policy that states, “to create environments throughout the system that are aesthetically pleasing and intellectually stimulating, and are comprised of high quality art that engages the public, reflects the Library’s vision and the community it serves and shall be reflective of the high standards and artistic excellence of this existing broad and balanced offerings of the Library.”

The committee determined that this art met all the criteria of the Board Policy and we voted to ask to the Board to accept this proposal for this piece of art to be placed at the University Place Library.

The committee also determined two areas of placement and, if the artwork is accepted, will work with the staff at University Place Library and Facilities Maintenance to hang the piece.

Attached are 2 photos of the art and a statement from the artist about the piece.
"Ceremony"
Art and Ritual

--------------: Batik Assemblages

The finished assemblages have motifs drawn from ritual or ceremonial themes. My works are not meant to be anthropologically correct but are interpretations of these concepts and visual impressions of those themes. I have been impressed by the hidden magical qualities of ritual or ceremonial works and I have attempted through various combinations of color, fabric, and imagery to present those same characteristics in my work. I first batiked the fabric or applied dye in a direct spray. I then cut and coil the batik fabric into bundles bringing to mind fetish objects that possess a vague hint of human figuration.

I was born in Canada and graduated as a Psychiatric Nurse before coming to the United States to get a advanced degree as a Occupational Therapist. Along the way I discovered the world of art and the Occupational Therapy fell away to the art world. I learned to batik by trial and error in the early 1950 and pushed the batik process in many directions over next 30 years. I have taught batik at both University of Puget Sound and Pacific Lutheran University. My contemporary Batiks have been included in major Northwest shows, including the Northwest Annual, Seattle Art Museum, Frye Art Museum and the Tacoma Art Museum.

Agnes McLin