CALL TO ORDER
Robin Halliday, President, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL
Board members present were Yvonne Bianchi, Dean Brett, Jerry Chambers, Dunham Gooding, Robin Halliday, Charles Self, and David Warren.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Discussion:
Patricia Decker discussed the motion passed by the board on October 26, 2005, authorizing up to $4,000 plus 10% for permits for the purpose of installing two signs for the Bellingham-Whatcom Public Facilities District at 216 Grand Avenue. Patricia mentioned that this authorization did not include the two signs originally intended to be put in the windows of the building. These signs were designed by Museum staff and will actually be placed on the corner brick walls of the building rather than inside on the windows, as the windows are too reflective. The cost for these two signs is estimated at $369. Bob Carmichael suggested approving the minutes of the October 26, 2005 as drafted and having the board consider the matter of the extra signs separately.

DAVID WARREN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 26, 2005 REGULAR BOARD MEETING, AS DRAFTED. JERRY CHAMBERS SECONDED.

Motion carried 7-0.

DAVID WARREN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE TWO ADDITIONAL SIGNS TO BE PLACED ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE BUILDING AT 216 GRAND AVENUE, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $369.00. DEAN BRETT SECONDED.

Motion carried 7-0.

AGENDA REVIEW
None.
BUSINESS

1. BWPFD Capital Project Updates – Presentation on Schematic Design of Art & Children’s Museum (ACM) by Olson Sundberg Kundig Allen Architects (OSKA). Jim Olson explained that during the Art & Children’s Museum Design competition, OSKA was looking at making the building a third icon – the Mount Baker Theatre and Old City Hall being the existing two icons, but instead of incorporating a tower, the Art & Children’s Museum incorporates a space. The Light Catcher defines space outside and inside the building, reflecting light into the courtyard. It is luminous during the day and night. It has several potential uses, such as projecting movies, sculpture and art presentations, and Children’s Museum programs. The Light Catcher helps the building “breathe” by contributing to natural ventilation. A balcony in the upstairs hallway allows one to look down and across at the two-story Hall of Light to the Light Catcher. The ACM entrance will be on Flora Street.

Jim Olson presented the updated floor plans.

John Kennedy described the materials for the Light Catcher as simple and elegant. OSKA is looking at three possibilities: glass block, polycarbonate, and translucent, laminated glass. Fabric or a layer of plastic would be put on the inside. Materials for the faces of the building are tilt-up, color-infused concrete, with steel trim on the outside and steel framework on the inside. The lobby and Hall of Light will have extra finishings. There will be a wood ceiling with slats for acoustic panels and floors will be concrete with color mixed in. The Courtyard will be gravel or concrete.

Jim Olson discussed the courtyard landscaping. It will have one large gingko tree, northwest plants, including ferns, and non-invasive water horsetails. The benches will be logs in appearance, one of which may be of petrified wood. There will be a water element along the base of the Light Catcher.

Stephen Yamada-Heidner discussed the building design. Structural components will be added for the roof terrace. There will be air conditioning in all collection areas and art galleries. The Hall of Light will be naturally ventilated, including fans to help the building “breathe”. The Children’s Museum will have some air conditioning but will not require gallery-level quality. The City is requesting a storm water detention vault. Stephen has met with sub consultants and Museum staff regarding the café, shop, admissions desk, audiovisual needs, and telecommunications needs. The building will be designed with a LEED equivalent silver rating with sustainability standards, resource use, landscaping and indoor air quality. A geotechnical study and a site survey are being conducted. There has been no meeting yet about lighting.

The cost estimation process is ongoing, including costs of the Light Catcher, detention system, mechanical, electrical, and market factors. Cost estimates will be discussed at the next board meeting.
Stephen Yamada-Heidner produced a Space Allocation Table with updated square footage as of the completion of the Schematic Design Phase, including the basement. Finally, he distributed a Project Schedule for the Bellingham Art & Children’s Museum.

Discussion
Both Charlie and Robin expressed concerns with “scope creeping”. She mentioned the private fundraising group’s deadline of the end of February. Jerry added that the square footage cost has increased. Dunham responded that some of the additional square footage is less expensive. For example, the Light Catcher was moved so the hallway would be wider, and this took some space from the courtyard. OSKA could have the cost estimates for a BWPFD board meeting on December 14, but would prefer the December 21 meeting date option.

Printed images from the Schematic Design Phase as presented at the board meeting today will be mailed to board members.

2. BWPFD Administration, Financial Reports and Fundraising Status. Robin announced that the Campaign for the Arts will be asking BWPFD board members to contribute. She would like 100% participation. Gaye Godfrey will answer the timing question. In answer to Dean’s question about the fundraising status, Gaye said the fundraising group is wrapping up board campaigns, and there should be 100% participation from the boards of the Mount Baker Theatre and Whatcom Museum Society.

3. City of Bellingham and Whatcom County Activities and Issues. Patricia Decker distributed “The Skinny” articles from the November 10 and 17, 2005 editions of the Bellingham Weekly. Patricia had spoken with Tim Johnson because his article on November 10 contained several errors. He made corrections in the edition on November 17.

Robin would like the BWPFD to get on the agenda with the County. She and David Warren would like to participate in a meeting.

Patricia distributed a letter from the Bellingham Parking Commission dated November 25, 2005. It was in response to the BWPFD’s letter to the commission dated September 14, 2005 regarding the change in parking permit process. Patricia explained that now board members can obtain a blank parking permit to use for unanticipated occasions and that they could also obtain one permit that would apply for several meetings.

Gaye Godfrey mentioned that Ryan Stiles has offered to put on “An Afternoon with Ryan Stiles with Bellingham then and now” at the Mount Baker Theatre. The show will be for 20 to 30 minutes followed by a reception. The Museum Board, Mount Baker Theatre board and others have been invited. The Campaign for the Arts would like to talk to the City and County Council members on a different occasion. Charlie mentioned that giving full disclosure will encourage interest in the project. Dean offered
to talk to Gaye about the property owners who are interested in development in the area.

Patricia mentioned the presentation about the BWPFD that she gave on November 28 to the new members of the Rotary Club of Bellingham. She showed them the funding pie chart, area information, waterfront context and context of the Art & Children’s Museum. It was well received by Rotary members.

5. Public Awareness & Communication. Patricia reported that the Art & Children’s Museum Building Committee of November 15, 2005 was videotaped. The recording will be aired on Bellingham TV 10. Patricia and Alison will let BWPFD board members know when it will show.

Other rotary clubs may be interested in a BWPFD presentation. Robin suggested making a list of the groups to which the BWPFD could present. Patricia recommended this be reviewed at a Communications Committee meeting, encouraging all board members to contribute ideas.

The December BWPFD board meeting could take place on December 14 or 21. Board consensus was that it should take place on December 21.

ADJOURNMENT
Robin Halliday adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison M. Henshaw, Administrative Assistant.