



Meeting Minutes

Arts Commission

City Hall
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Olympia, WA 98501

Contact: Stephanie
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Thursday, August 8, 2019

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Grisham called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

1.A ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Chair Timothy Grisham, Vice Chair Frederick Dobler, Commissioner Jim Burlingame, Commissioner Diana Fairbanks, Commissioner Stacy Hicks, Commissioner Kevin McManus and Commissioner Katherine Williams

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Kathryn Dorgan and Commissioner Kathy Murray

OTHERS PRESENT

Arts Program Manager/Staff Liaison Stephanie Johnson
Arts Program Specialist Angel Nava

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Johnson asked to add a public art update to Arts Program Support Reports.

The agenda was approved as amended.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[19-0691](#) Approval of July 11, 2019 Arts Commission minutes

The minutes were approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioners shared information about past and upcoming arts events.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

[19-0702](#) Percival Peoples' Prize Recommendation to City Council

Ms. Nava provided an overview of the results of the 2019 Plinth Prize Peoples' Choice vote. With the addition of online voting, it turned out to be a record breaking participation year with 1,600 votes (2.5x more than the 631 received in 2018). During the voting window of June 22-July 31:

- 1,363 ballots were received online, 237 via paper ballots
- 57% or 920 people saw sculptures in person
- 53% (845) of voters were from Olympia Zip Codes
- 925 comments about the work

Honorable mention went to **Work** by Nathan Robles, with 189 votes, and **Bear Listening in a Story Place** by Nancy Thorne-Chambers with 218 votes. With 330 votes, **The Giant and I** by Nathan Robles took first place as determined by public vote.

Vice Chair Dobler moved, seconded by Commissioner McManus, to recommend to City Council the purchase of "The Giant and I" for \$9,750. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

[19-0704](#) Review of Grants to Arts Organizations application

Ms. Johnson shared draft copies of the 2020 Grants to Arts Organizations application, noting only minimal changes to the Project Review and Approval section (noting Commissioner review would take place at the November 14 meeting). She asked Commissioners to consider requesting that applicants who have received funds wait one calendar year before applying again. This is not an uncommon practice, and would allow for more and diverse projects to be funded over the course of the project. Commissioners discussed making the change, and agreed to do so for 2020, reserving the right to change the process again next year if needed.

The 2019 Grants to Arts Organizations application was reviewed and changes made.

[19-0697](#) Finalizing of design details for West Bay Art Crossing

Ms. Johnson shared a packet of finalizing details from the West Bay Project artists Lin McJunkin and Milo White. She noted a few considerations that had come up this first time through the process. Regarding lighting the sculptures: as specified, the artists have planned for wiring the sculpture and installing LED lamps within. If power were available, the City would provide connection under the separate installation contract. As there is no power at part of the site, the City will provide the solar power system needed to light the sculpture from the installation budget. Regarding landscaping: The artists will provide the large rocks they anticipate in the planting plan, and the City will provide the plants the artists will specify in their planting plan following consultation with the City's on-call landscape architect.

Vice Chair Dobler abstained due to personal difference with the asymmetry of the design.

Commissioner McManus moved, seconded by Commissioner Hicks, to

approve the final/structural design details for the West Bay Art Crossing.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Chair Grisham, Commissioner Burlingame, Commissioner Fairbanks, Commissioner Hicks, Commissioner McManus and Commissioner Williams

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Dorgan and Commissioner Murray

Abstained: 1 - Vice Chair Dobler

7. **REPORTS**

[19-0692](#) Policy and Program Recommendations to City Council

The report was received.

[19-0694](#) Arts Program Support

Reports:

- Ms. Nava provided review of the 2019 Spring Arts Walk from survey results of artists, businesses and event-goers.
- Traffic Box report will be provided at the September 12 meeting.
- City Hall Exhibition applications due September 4.
- Ms. Johnson shared completion of the West Bay poetry wall sealing, **Kujira I** and Friendly Grove seating maintenance. She is moving forward with community meetings for the Eastside St. Art Crossing project.

The report was received.

[19-0695](#) 2019 ArCH Support

Chair Grisham reported out from the 5:00 p.m. work group meeting on the ArCH 2020 Summit. Several OAC Commissioners met with members of the Olympia Heritage Commission to start planning for next year's event. The work group put together a draft structure for the summit, which they intend to propose at the next joint meeting.

The report was received.

8. **OTHER TOPICS - None**

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.