



Meeting Minutes

Arts Commission

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Contact: Stephanie
Johnson
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Thursday, November 13, 2025

6:00 PM

Online or via telephone

Register to attend:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_H0GeF245RUeLHuol3BBkvA

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dorgan called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

1.A ROLL CALL

Natalie Coblentz, Chair of Capital City Pride, was also in attendance.

Present: 7 - Chair Kathryn Dorgan, Vice Chair Jacie Hoag, Commissioner Jim Burlingame, Commissioner Sergio Garcia, Commissioner Coral Garey, Commissioner Katherine Ransom and Commissioner Jay Spivak

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Christen Greene and Commissioner Andrew Repcik

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Dorgan asked for changes to the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[25-0947](#) Approval of September 11, 2025 Arts Commission Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [9.11.25 OAC Minutes](#)

Chair Dorgan asked for changes to the minutes. Hearing none, the minutes were approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner shared information about past and upcoming art events.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

[25-0948](#) Update on Capital City Pride

Natalie Coblentz from Capital City Pride provided an overview of the organization's three day event in June and monthly events that not only celebrate the Queer community, but also hire and train artists in audio/tech, design branding, events and artistic growth. A couple of upcoming events include Queersgiving and New Year's Eve celebration involving 16 different artists and 5 different techs featuring drag dinner, comedy, music, burlesque and dancing.

Information only. No action requested.

[25-0966](#) Fall Arts Walk Report

Attachments: [Arts Walk website](#)

Ms. Johnson filled in for Jessica Strauss Tomy, Arts Program Specialist, noting over 100 participating locations at the fall event, and approximately 30,000 visitors. There was a good response in post-event surveys, which she will share at the December meeting.

Information only. No action requested.

[25-0950](#) Artist Spaces & Places Discussion

Commissioners talked about artists spaces and places, understanding that cultural centers can be a key to artist livelihoods. Aside from the coming Armory for renting space, learning, teaching and networking, an inventory of downtown venues might also be part of the Olympia Downtown Creative District scope. Links to reservation sites with regional parks departments, schools, colleges and libraries can be added to the resource page on the City's public art site. The concept of the Arts Commission as convener or connector was explored as a way to help artists new to the community make connections. In the spirit of helping artists and arts organizations succeed, Ms. Johnson noted that a common thread among organizations that have recently met with the Arts Commission was a need for volunteers. She noted the ARCH Digest might be helpful in making those connections. Commissioners are invited to bring information about rental spaces and/or related information to the December meeting.

Information only. No action requested.

[25-0949](#) Arts Commission Leadership Positions for 2026

Attachments: [Advisory Body Guidebook](#)

Vice-Chair Jacie Hoag announced that she would not be seeking appointment as Chair in 2026 and was stepping down from the Arts Commission immediately to focus on other priorities.

As it has been the tradition for the Vice-Chair to step into the Chair position, Chair Dorgan indicated she is willing to continue as Chair another year. Commissioners were invited to reach out to Chair Dorgan or Ms. Johnson, if they were interested in filling either of the leadership roles. A decision will be made at the December meeting.

Information only. No action requested.

7. REPORTS

Ms. Johnson asked for an Arts Commission representative on the 2026 Plinth Project jury - Commissioner Ransom stepped forward. Ms. Johnson also provided updates on the Poet Laureate and Artist in Residence projects.

8. OTHER TOPICS

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm.

Upcoming

Accommodations