



Meeting Minutes

Arts Commission

City Hall
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Olympia, WA 98501

Contact: Stephanie
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Thursday, January 9, 2025

6:00 PM

Room 112

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dorgan called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

1.A ROLL CALL

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Christen Greene and Commissioner Tracy Schreiber

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Garey noted a typo in the Approval of Minutes text - should read December 12, 2024.

The agenda was approved as amended.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[25-0003](#) Approval of December 12, 2024 Arts Commission Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [OAC 12.12.24 Minutes](#)

The minutes were approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioners shared information about past and upcoming arts events.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

[25-0004](#) Approval of the Welcome Figure Final Design

Attachments: [Approved Welcome Figure concept design](#)

Andrea Wilbur Sigo shared final details of the Welcome Figure, including the name: Həʔapus sqwəbay" (Ha-push Squay-bay) "Mother of Restoration." She also shared technical drawings and specifications with regards to installation and maintenance, itemization of the project budget, timeline and name plaque.

Commissioner Spivak moved, seconded by Commissioner Garey, to recommend approval of the Welcome Figure final design and forward to City Council for consideration and action. The motion was approved.

[25-0005](#) Review and Feedback on Arts Walk 2025 Cover Art

Arts Program Specialist Jessica Strauss-Tomy presented Arts Walk cover art pieces by Lynette Charters and Mikaela Shafer. While the review was intended for concepts, both artists presented finished artworks. Commissioners appreciated the design and artwork of both pieces. They engaged in discussion around Ms. Charters' piece, as her proposal during the jury process was to create *a Matilda* - a construct that "publicizes the contributions of important but overlooked women in history," with a subject specifically from Olympia. Commissioners identified challenges with the subject featured in the proposed piece as their achievements were already widely acclaimed and they were known primarily for recent contributions to a neighboring community. In addition the subject had recently passed away and it was unknown if the family had been contacted about the use of their image in the artwork for the Arts Walk cover. Commissioners requested that staff engage with the artist to address these concerns and either find a resolution or propose creating an alternative piece. Artwork will be presented at the February meeting for further review.

The discussion was completed.

[25-0006](#) New Arts Commissioner Recommendation

Attachments: [OAC Review 2025](#)

[Applications](#)

Commissioners were presented with tallies submitted to staff earlier in the week. Commissioners reviewed the top four and agreed to present their top three as recommendation to the Community Livability and Public Safety Committee for interview.

Commissioner Garey moved, seconded by Commissioner Ransom, to forward the Commission review sheet to the CLIPS Committee, highlighting their top three recommendations. The motion was approved.

[25-0007](#) 2025-2026 Arts Commission Work Plan and Municipal Art Plan

Arts Program Manager Stephanie Johnson presented the budget sheet for the 2025-2026 Municipal Art Plan for Commissioner review and feedback.

The discussion was completed.

7. REPORTS

Ms. Johnson reported on an initial design development sketch for "Forest Curtain" by John Fleming as part of the Yelm Highway Community Park Design process. Commissioners provided feedback which Ms. Johnson will share with Park Planning staff.

8. OTHER TOPICS - None**9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.