



Meeting Minutes

Arts Commission

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Contact: Stephanie
Johnson
360.709.2678

Thursday, April 14, 2016

6:00 PM

Room 207

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jennings called the meeting to order.

1.A ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Chair Marygrace Jennings, Vice Chair Stacy Hicks, Commissioner Susan Aurand, Commissioner Britta Echtle, Commissioner Diana Fairbanks, Commissioner Ron Hinton, and Commissioner Rick Perry

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Kathy Murray, and Commissioner Katie Nelson

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[16-0446](#) Approval of March 10, 2016 Arts Commission Minutes

Commissioner Hinton noticed a typo on page 2 of the minutes "than" rather than "that."

The minutes were approved as amended.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Larissa Burk introduced herself. She said she started work in July with the Office of the Superintendant of Public Instruction and is interested in the arts.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioners shared information about past and upcoming events.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

[16-0337](#) Creative District

Community Planning & Development Senior Planner Amy Buckler shared the Downtown Strategy process and public involvement to date. In presenting the character areas that define different aspects of the downtown, Ms. Buckler observed it

makes sense for a future Creative District to follow the outlines of one or more of the character areas, such as the Entertainment and Artisan/Tech areas. Citing the extensive public process that has shaped the planning, the Commission agreed these efforts should work together. Ms. Buckler invited Commissioners to attend the Downtown Strategy Urban Design workshop on May 23.

The report was received.

15-1198 Poet Laureate Program Recommendation

Commissioners agreed the final draft of the Poet Laureate Referral Staff Report was ready to move to the General Government Committee.

The recommendation was discussed and continued to the General Government Committee meeting May 18, 2016.

[16-0450](#) Percival Plinth Project Sculptures 2016

Ms. Johnson shared the recommended sculptures (including alternates) with the Commission. While pleased with the recommendation, Commissioners wondered if extending the opportunity to artists living in Oregon and Idaho as well would increase the pool of applicants so that over time more pedestals can be utilized.

Commissioner Perry moved, seconded by Commissioner Aurand, to approve the recommended sculptures for Council consideration at the April 26, 2016 meeting under File 16-0549. The motion was approved.

7. REPORTS

[16-0447](#) Commission Items

1.8 Artspace/Arts Center Support - Olympia Artspace Alliance is talking with developers about how to move the project forward.

1.12 Commission Retreat/Work Session - Commissioners agreed to make the August meeting a dinner retreat. Chair Jennings called for Commissioners to consider topics.

1.13 City Planning Efforts - No report.

2.b Public Art Assessment- Condition report binders were distributed: East, Commissioner Aurand/ SE, Commissioner Fairbanks/ TOC, Commissioner Hinton/ West, Commissioner Perry/ Downtown, Chair Jennings.

2.c Arts & Heritage Day at the Capitol - Hold the date: February 8, 2017.

The report was received.

[16-0448](#) Community Events & Outreach Committee

1.2 Poet Laureate - Forwarded to General Government Committee May 18.

1.3 Downtown Music Festival - No report.

1.5 Encourage Art in Vacant Storefronts - No report.

1.10 Explore Creative District - See "Business Items."

1.11 Neighborhood Arts Support - No report.

1.15 Encourage Early Arts Education Opportunities - Ms. Johnson will draft a proposal for the May meeting.

2.a Arts Walk 52 & 53 - New social media posts include Councilmember Gilman and cover artist Jenn Kliese. In addition, an e-vite for the event was also sent out via the City's Facebook page.

The report was received.

[16-0449](#) Art in Public Places Committee

1.1 2016 Municipal Art Plan to City Council - Done.

1.4 Music Out Loud - Ms. Johnson shared the mosaic bids came in much higher than she thought. Commissioners continued to be interested in moving forward. Ms. Johnson stated she would bring the item to her Department Director for next steps.

1.6 Harrison/Black Lake Tree Guards - No report.

1.7 City Gateways - Commissioners met with representatives from the Planning Commission and have formed a sub-committee to move the project forward.

1.9 Guidelines for Temporary Display of Art at City Hall & Programming - Commissioner Fairbanks noted the Art in Public Places Committee made minimal revisions to the document, and it is ready to move forward.

1.14 Visual Enhancement of Downtown - No report.

2.d Traffic Box Mural Wrap Public Art Project - Project is considered to be a success; staff is directed to move forward on the Eastside project.

2.e Percival Plinth Project - Recommended sculptures will go to Council on April 26.

The report was received.

8. OTHER TOPICS

Chair Jennings asked Commissioners Hinton and Fairbanks to retain their positions as committee chairs. Both agreed. Commissioners mused that reevaluating committee structure may be a good topic for the retreat.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.