



Meeting Minutes

Arts Commission

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Contact: Stephanie
Johnson
360.709.2678

Thursday, January 21, 2016

4:00 PM

Harbor House on Percival Landing

Special Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 4:08pm.

1.A ROLL CALL

Present: 8 - Chair Marygrace Jennings, Vice Chair Stacy Hicks, Commissioner Susan Aurand, Commissioner Britta Echtle, Commissioner Diana Fairbanks, Commissioner Ron Hinton, Commissioner Kathy Murray, and Commissioner Katie Nelson

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Rick Perry

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Suzanne Simons, Mayor Cheryl Selby, Councilmember Clark Gilman

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

[15-1198](#) Poet Laureate

Attachments: [Poet Laureate Referral](#)

Suzanne Simons, faculty at The Evergreen State College, made a presentation on **Considerations for Establishing an Olympia Poet Laureate**. Using Tacoma, WA, Fresno, CA and Reno, NV as case studies, Ms. Simons shared a variety of perspectives and directions that a Poet Laureate designation could take. From traditional poet to spoken word and "activist," poetry reading to social justice projects, the range of possibilities is wide. Ms. Simons also covered nominations, statement of purpose, applications process, and activities conducted once selected.

Commissioners appreciated the thorough overview and participated in a lengthy

discussion about what type of model would be the best fit for Olympia. Staff will take that input and provide a draft staff report and Call to Artists for the next Arts Commission meeting to prepare a response to the Council referral.

The discussion was continued to the Arts Commission due back on 2/11/2016

8. OTHER TOPICS

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36pm.

Upcoming

Accommodations