



# Meeting Minutes

## Arts Commission

City Hall  
601 4th Avenue E  
Olympia, WA 98501

Contact: Stephanie  
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**Thursday, September 12, 2019**

**6:00 PM**

**Council Chambers**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Grisham called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**1.A ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 8 - Chair Timothy Grisham, Vice Chair Frederick Dobler, Commissioner Jim Burlingame, Commissioner Kathryn Dorgan, Commissioner Diana Fairbanks, Commissioner Stacy Hicks, Commissioner Kathy Murray and Commissioner Kevin McManus

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Katherine Williams

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

[19-0793](#) Approval of August 8, 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**

[19-0787](#) Airbound Arts Meet & Greet

Airbound Arts Boardmember Rumi Minowa shared information about their circus and aerial training studio located between Rhythm & Rye and the Oly Taproom. Their organization has been together for a few years, teaching classes, workshops, and hosting a second Saturday variety show. They are working up to hiring a paid staff member, and are interested in building community awareness of their programs.

The information was provided.

[19-0786](#) City Hall Exhibitions

Ms. Johnson shared the recommendation of the jury committee, composed of Commissioner Dorgan, and City staff Pam Fant and Amber Coleman. The recommendation was to offer the November 2019 - April 2020 exhibition to Charles Eklund, and the May - October 2020 exhibition to Roberta Dougherty and Jennifer Allen (of Senior Services for South Sound). Because the works proposed for the second exhibition are not enough to fill the space, Ms. Johnson will offer the opportunity for either party to add works to fill the space. If neither are able to do so, Ms. Johnson will offer the extra space to another artist/organization. Commissioners also discussed ways to promote the opportunity or change the application, to encourage more applicants.

**Commissioner McManus moved, seconded by Commissioner Fairbanks, to approve the recommendation of the jury for two exhibitions of artwork in City Hall over the next twelve months. The motion passed unanimously.**

[19-0802](#) Approval of changes to the Grants to Arts Organizations (GAO) application

Ms. Johnson shared proposed changes to the Grants to Arts Organizations application, designed to help make the opportunity more available to cultural organizations in the community. The greatest change would be in the title: Grants to Arts & Culture Organizations. Commissioners reviewed each proposed change, and made edits and recommendations.

**Commissioner Dorgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Hicks, to approve changes to the GAO application to make the opportunity more available to cultural communities. The motion passed unanimously.**

[19-0792](#) Plan for October Arts Commission retreat

Commissioners discussed possible agenda items for the October 10 retreat, to be finalized by Chair Grisham and Vice-Chair Dobler at their October agenda-setting meeting:

- Discuss 2020 Chair and Vice-Chair appointments
- Discuss 2020 Work Plan
- Receive selected grant recipient reports. Ms. Johnson to invite Animal Fire Theater, Hummingbird Studio and the Olympia Artspace Alliance.
- Discuss Arts Walk and Third Thursdays
- Discuss ArCH to date
- Creative District update with Marygrace
- Poet Laureate update

**The discussion was completed.**

## 7. REPORTS

[19-0788](#) Policy and Program Recommendations to City Council

The Artist-in-Residence Work Group - Commissioners Dorgan, Murray and Williams, shared considerations from their 5:00 p.m. meeting:

- They are interested in exploring an artist-in-residence program that works with at-risk citizens.
- The intent would be to use art as a healing component to support a full life for all citizens.
- Artists of all disciplines would be invited to propose a program for at-risk citizens, and would be provided a list of pre-approved locations.
- Commissioners requested Colin DeForrest, the City's Homeless Response Coordinator, to attend the November Arts Commission meeting.
- Commissioners will research similar programs for their next meeting.

**The report was received.**

[19-0789](#)      Arts Program Support

Ms. Johnson reported reinstallation of "The Call of Duty" has been delayed due to the discovery of rebar as internal armature within the sculpture. Concerns about future corrosion of mild steel and aluminum require the removal of the rebar before reinstallation.

She also reported the traffic wrap fabricator is now under contract and installation should happen within the next few months.

Finally, Ms. Johnson reported she attended summer picnics for the Eastside and Indian Creek Neighborhood Associations to gather input for the Eastside St. Art Crossing Call for Art. Additionally, she provided a project update to the Coalition of Neighborhood Associations on September 9.

**The report was received.**

[19-0791](#)      2019 ArCH Support

**No report.**

**8.      OTHER TOPICS**

**9.      ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.