



# Meeting Minutes

## Arts Commission

City Hall  
601 4th Avenue E  
Olympia, WA 98501

Contact: Stephanie  
Johnson  
360.709.2678

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**Thursday, November 14, 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 Katherine Williams

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Kevin McManus

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chair Grisham noted scheduled speaker Colin DeForrest was unable to attend the meeting.

**The agenda was approved.**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

[19-1012](#) Approval of October 10, 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**

[19-1008](#) Discussion with Colin DeForest

**The discussion was postponed to a future meeting.**

[19-1007](#) Approve Arts Walk Cover Artists for 2020

Ms. Nava shared the recommendation of the Arts Walk 2020 cover jury, comprised of Vice-Chair Dobler, Faith Hagenhofer (Fall 2019 cover artist), and Olympia Family Theater Artistic Director Jen Ryle. Of 14 applications received, the jury recommended artists Laurel Henn for Spring, Chiyo Sanada for Fall, Lynette Charters for first alternate, and Gay M. Hoffman for second alternate.

**Commissioner Dorgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Hicks, to accept the recommendation of the jury for Arts Walk 2020 cover artists. The motion passed unanimously.**

19-1009      Review Traffic Box Wrap Proposals for 2020

Ms. Nava shared the 28 proposals received for the 2020 Traffic Box applications. Of these she identified three that did not meet the format requirements at all, which she recommended be disqualified, and two that had minor irregularities that were being resubmitted. Commissioners agreed with Ms. Nava's assessment and did not find any other disqualifying factors.

**Commissioner Fairbanks moved, seconded by Commissioner Williams, to approve traffic box proposals as presented to move forward for public vote. The motion was unanimously approved.**

19-1010      Review and recommendation of Grants to Arts & Culture Organizations applications

Commissioners reviewed the seven applications in advance of the meeting and brought their tally sheets for tabulation. Commissioners shared that the smaller pool of applicants (14 last year) made the evaluation more difficult especially as many of the proposals were performance-based (versus a mix of multiple arts disciplines). Commissioner Dorgan did not provide a number for Creative Theater Experience (CTE), as she is Artistic Director of the organization. Following tabulation and discussion, Commissioners proposed fully funding the top four (averaged) proposals: Olympia Symphony Orchestra (\$5,000), Washington Center for the Performing Arts (\$5,000), Northwest Playrights Alliance (\$4,951), and Ballet Northwest (\$3,500), for a total of \$18,451 of \$20,000 available. The next request on the list was for \$4,000, and Commissioners determined that the remaining \$1,549 would not be enough to advance their proposal.

Commissioner Hicks recommended only the top 3 proposals move forward for Council consideration.

**Commissioner Fairbanks moved, seconded by Commissioner Dorgan, to forward a recommendation for City Council consideration to fully fund the top 4 proposals. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:**            7 - Chair Grisham, Vice Chair Dobler, Commissioner Burlingame, Commissioner Dorgan, Commissioner Fairbanks, Commissioner Murray and Commissioner Williams

**Nay:** 1 - Commissioner Hicks

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner McManus

[19-1011](#) Eastside Street Art Crossing Application Recommendation

Ms. Johnson shared the final draft of the Eastside St. Art Crossing Call for Art. She asked Commissioners to specifically review the Project Area Description section, created through meetings with the Eastside Neighborhood Association and Indian Creek Neighborhood Association, and the timeline. She also asked for a representative of the Commission for the jury. Commissioner Hicks will serve to represent the Commission, with Vice-Chair Dobler serving as her backup.

**Commissioner Dorgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Williams, to forward the Eastside St. Art Crossing Call for Art to General Government Committee for consideration. The motion passed unanimously.**

[19-1043](#) Election of Officers for 2020

Chair Grisham and Vice-Chair Dobler indicated their willingness to serve an additional year in their current capacities. Both noted they feel they are still learning in the positions and wish to continue.

**Commissioner Hicks moved, seconded by Commissioner Williams, to approve continued officer terms thorough 2020. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Commissioner Burlingame, Commissioner Dorgan, Commissioner Fairbanks, Commissioner Hicks, Commissioner Murray and Commissioner Williams

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner McManus

**Abstained:** 2 - Chair Grisham and Vice Chair Dobler

## **7. REPORTS**

[19-1006](#) Policy and Program Recommendations to City Council

Regarding Work Plan Item 1.4, Commissioner Dorgan reported on the status of the 2019 initiative to add art, music and PE to Olympia elementary schools. She also noted the Performing Arts Initiative (PAI), provides art docents, transportation and funding for visual and performing arts education. Her conversations with district representatives revealed that students in low-income housing can't take advantage of arts enrichment programs due to transportation or financial constraints, and that might be an area the Commission could pursue. Commissioners directed staff to invite Bob Hodges from the Olympia School district to a future meeting.

Regarding Work Plan Item 1.1, Municipal Art Plan, Ms. Johnson provided an updated

budget worksheet with actual costs for 2019. She noted projects not funded by construction dollars need to fit within the annual \$1 per capita funds.

**The reports were received.**

[19-1005](#)       Arts Program Support

Ms. Johnson shared upcoming dates for Poet Laureate events and encouraged Commissioners to attend. She also noted photographers are needed to capture Poet Laureate activities for marketing and archiving. Commissioners Hicks, Williams and Murray expressed interest.

**The report was received.**

[19-1004](#)       2019 ArCH Support

Ms. Johnson shared information to date about Keystone (formerly ArCH 2020 Forum) planning. Commissioners are to email her with any and all workshop ideas.

**The report was received.**

**8.       OTHER TOPICS - None**

**9.       ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.