



Meeting Minutes

Arts Commission

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Contact: Stephanie
Johnson
360.709.2678

Thursday, July 9, 2026

6:00 PM

Room 112

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dorgan called the meeting to order at 6pm.

1.A ROLL CALL

Andrea Wilbur Sigo and Flo Sigo were also in attendance.

Present: 7 - Chair Kathryn Dorgan, Vice Chair Katherine Ransom, Commissioner Coral Garey, Commissioner Elizabeth Lord, Commissioner Mara Orenstein, Commissioner Andrew Repcik and Commissioner Lauren Thompson

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Sergio Garcia and Commissioner Jay Spivak

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Dorgan asked for changes to the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[26-0515](#) Approval of May 14, 2026 Arts Commission Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [5.14.26 OAC Minutes](#)

Chair Dorgan called for changes to the minutes. Hearing none, the minutes were approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioners shared information about past and upcoming arts events.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

[26-0512](#) Approval of the Marj Yung Park Public Art Concept Design

Attachments: [Concept Plan Presentation](#)
[Marj Yung Park Art Location Map](#)

Ms. Johnson provided an overview to the Marj Yung Park project, formerly known as Kaiser Woods. She shared a map of the walking and biking trails planned for the property, and identified the locations for the five carved cedar planks that comprise the public art component of the project.

Andrea Wilbur Sigo shared information about planned designs for each of the five panels, developed with the contributions of middle school youth from the Squaxin Island Tribe, including her grandchildren. The stories include: How the Honey Bee Got their Stinger, Grandfather Octopus, Native Butterfly Legend, Why the Salmon Return, and Dukabal and Grandmother Frog. Each 5' x 18" x 3" panel will be relief carved on the face, and adzed and painted on the reverse with weaving designs, as was done to the Unity sculpture in the Art Crossing project, also completed by Ms. Sigo.

Commissioners and staff agreed the text of the legends should be available to park users, and discussed ways to make that happen. There was also discussion about how close the sculptures would be to the trails - whether they were intended for interaction or if they were meant more as "easter eggs" to see in passing. Staff noted that Ms. Sigo would be consulted on the placement of the sculpture foundations and would make a determination at that time.

Commissioner Thompson moved to recommend to City Council the Marj Yung Park Public Art Concept Design as proposed by Andrea Wilbur Sigo, seconded by Commissioner Garey. The motion was approved.

[26-0511](#) Recommended Designs for 10 Traffic Box Wraps

Ms. Johnson shared the top 10 Traffic Box images selected by public vote with 1428 respondents. She shared both the top 10 and an honorable mention - an image that was selected but did not meet the technical requirements for large scale printing. Image number 11 has taken their place.

Commissioner Lord moved to forward the recommendation to City Council of 10 designs for the Traffic Box Wrap Public Art Project as determined by public vote, seconded by Commissioner Orenstein. The motion was approved.

[26-0514](#) Calls for Art Application Review

Attachments: [2026 Municipal Art Plan](#)

Ms. Johnson shared upcoming Art Crossing projects to provide context as she will be returning in September for a motion to recommend the Calls for Art to the Community Livability and Public Safety (CLPS) Committee. In the meantime, she will be checking in

with neighbors in the areas near Harrison/Division and Henderson/Eskridge to complete the Calls for Art. She is still waiting confirmation on an NEA grant the project is short-listed for. If not approved, only the Harrison/Division project will move forward.

She also shared the Murals in Parks Call for Art and Commissioners edited line by line. That document will also return in September for recommendation to the CLPS Committee.

Information only. No action requested.

7. REPORTS

Reports included a wrap up report by Artist in Residence Bobby Williams and his drumming workshops at Haven House. Due to his specific mix of drumming and community building (focusing on teamwork, trust and communication), Commissioners agreed to have him return for the third planned workshop for 2026 at Billy Frank Jr. Place in September.

Ms. Johnson provided an Armory update and Plinth Project update, and noted that sculpture had been installed at Kettle View and Mission Creek parks and the Art Crossing #3 replacement sculpture had been completed. She shared that fall Arts Walk registration had begun and that it was also Plinth voting month. Commissioner Dorgan and Vice-Chair Ransom reported out from their annual meeting of the Chairs and shared their experience with the ongoing Board and Commission review process.

8. OTHER TOPICS

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32pm.

Upcoming

Accommodations