

*Minutes of the  
City of Gig Harbor Arts Commission*

April 12, 2005  
7:00 P.M.

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:**

Lita Dawn Stanton called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. and roll call was taken.

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Betty Willis, Lita Dawn Stanton, Kit Kuhn, Karla Epperson, Renee Christ, Chris Erlich, Betty Willis, Robin Peterson, Del Woock, and Mary Rae Lund were present. Nancy Weaver was excused. Staff member Maureen Whitaker was present to record the proceedings.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The members read the minutes of the March 8, 2005 meeting minutes.

**MOTION:** Approval of the March 8, 2005 meeting minutes.  
Erlich/Willis – unanimously approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Thankful Farewell to Past Commissioners: Robin Peterson was presented a certificate of appreciation for her years of service. Marion Ekberg and Christopher Mathie were not present to receive their certificates. Maureen Whitaker would mail their certificates to them.
2. Welcoming of New Commission Appointments – Introduction and Background: The new Commissioners were welcomed. Commission Chair Lita Dawn Stanton asked for introductions from the new member with a little background on themselves. The incumbents also provided their background for the new members.
3. Request for Proposals (RFP) for Rotary Pavilion: There was discussion about the second Request for Proposals for the Skansie Park Rotary Pavilion which closed on April 16, 2005. There was additional background and discussion of the process for the benefit of the new members. The dollar amount for the second request was revised from \$2,000 to \$5,000. Kit Kuhn said that he thought that maybe part of the reason that the first RFP didn't get much interest was because of publicity. He added with Mary Rae Lund's connection with the Peninsula Art League could help foster more exposure in the future as well as some pressure from the Commission in regards to the Gateway and News Tribune newspapers. There was discussion about the dates that the Rotary Pavilion would be reserved for public events, therefore the installation of the art piece would need to be before June 28<sup>th</sup> or after September 6<sup>th</sup> or installed quickly during the week to avoid conflicts during this period. Maureen said that some of the artists that submitted proposals were interested in presenting their work at the next regular meeting. Renee Crist asked if other cities put out general calls for public art which she thought

could be more efficient. Lita Dawn gave an overview of the Arts Commission budget for 2005. Chris Erlich suggested the idea of going out for public art in a similar way that the art was selected for the Civic Center. Kit Kuhn suggested that the Commission may want to advertise for different types of art and gave some examples. Chris Erlich said that she had investigated Puyallup's program, which is based on Wenatchee's program. Chris said that it is essentially a changing art installation, usually about 15-20 pieces at a time each year. She gave an overview of how Puyallup's process works and stated that a call for artists goes out for a specified number of sites, the art work is temporarily installed and insured by the city and basically on loan from the artists for a year. During that year, the public votes on which art piece they want the city to acquire and it is then permanently placed. Chris said that she thought the Puyallup budget was quite low, \$2,000 - \$5,000. She also said that whatever art that Puyallup didn't purchase was available for sale to the public.

4. Banner Program: There was discussion about finalizing the spring banners. Lita Dawn said that she had sent around an email to all Commissioners some time ago and only heard back from one person. Some members said that they had never received this email. Renee suggested that when emails are sent from GHAC members to GHAC members that a courtesy email be sent back to the sender stating that the email has been received.

There was some discussion regarding the artwork of the fall banners and how "busy" they were. In an effort to rectify this problem, the group decided to take elements from the child's original artwork in order to create a more simplified banner that would be visually easier to see once hung on the light poles in the downtown area. Lita Dawn said that she would circulate the artwork again and suggested that a decision be made about whether to discontinue this project or move forward and get it printed. The Commission was in favor of moving forward and having the banners printed and hung.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Nomination of New Commission Chair: Lita Dawn nominated Renee Crist for the new Commission Chair. Lita Dawn said that she wished to nominate Renee because she has observed her thoughtful approach to issues on the table and stated that Renee has been a support in the open and functional discussions that have resulted in sound decisions for the Commission. Betty Willis and Chris both agreed. Lita Dawn welcomed anyone to put a nomination on the table and stated that she had been the Commission Chair since its inception and felt that it was time to pass the torch. Renee expressed interest in accepting this appointment.

**MOTION:** I would like to appoint Renee Crist as the new Chair of the Gig Harbor Arts Commission for a one-year term.  
Stanton/Erlich – unanimously approved.

There was a brief discussion of the duties of the Chair. Lita Dawn explained that the Chair runs and facilitates the meetings, sets the agenda and can vote and participate in the meetings. Lita Dawn stated that the members are welcome to suggest things for any upcoming agendas. There was discussion about electing a Vice Chair. Chris Erlich had been serving as Vice Chair and expressed interest in continuing.

**MOTION:** I nominate Chris Erlich as the Vice Chair of the Gig Harbor Arts Commission for a one-year term.  
Crist/Woock – unanimously approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Betty Willis inquired about the advertising process. She suggested that when something gets advertised in the paper, that there should be additional publicity rather than something only being posted in the legal section. There was discussion about how to better advertise Arts Commission business. Currently any items that are advertised in the Gateway are always posted on the City's website. There was a suggestion and all were in agreement that Mayor Wilbert should be given the information for any future RFP's.

There was also discussion about the locations of public art sites. Renee said that she would put together a list of public art sites for the next meeting.

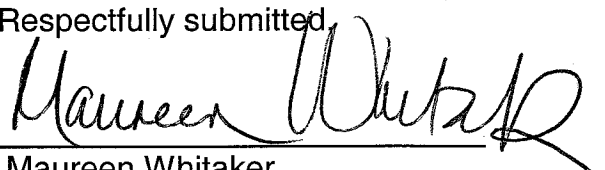
**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:**

May 3, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.

**ADJOURN:**

**MOTION:** Move to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.  
Erlich/Stanton – unanimously approved

Respectfully submitted,

  
Maureen Whitaker