

*Minutes of the
City of Gig Harbor Arts Commission
June 8, 2004*

I. Call to Order/Roll Call:

Commission Chair, Lita Dawn Stanton, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and roll call was taken.

Present: Commission Members present: Betty Willis, Nancy Weaver, Christopher Mathie, Renee Crist, Donna Trent, Robin Peterson, Chris Fiala Erlich and Lita Dawn Stanton. Marion Ekberg was excused. Staff member Maureen Whitaker was present to record the proceedings.

II. Approval of the Minutes:

The members read the minutes of the May 11, 2004 meeting.

MOTION: Approval of the May 11, 2004 meeting minutes as presented.
Crist/ Mathie – unanimously approved.

III. Old Business:

1. Banners. Lita Dawn discussed the bid that she had received from Sound Graphics. Christopher discussed the prices that he had gotten from Kinko's and Copy It. There was discussion about the prices that included questions about the type of printing and material that should be used for durability. There was further discussion about the use of aluminum, vinyl and Tyvek and the range of related prices. Christopher was going to check with Soundview Graphics for prices using three colors and the longevity of silk screen. Later in the meeting, the commission members discussed the option of doing the artwork themselves over a weekend at either Lita Dawn's dock or Christopher's studio. Christopher was going to check with Tacoma Tent regarding availability and prices of a heavy canvas material in blue and red and check on the paint that could be used. There was much discussion about celebrating the kids art on poles at the Civic Center or another location and having pictures of the children whom drew the art for the banners. Maureen was asked to find out if the commission could have a monthly fund balance to keep track of expenditures. (This request can be facilitated according to Finance Director Dave Rodenbach.)

2. Procedure for displaying artwork at the Civic Center. There was clarification from City Administrator Mark Hoppen regarding how the non-profit status works. Mark stated that only not-for-profit or government entities can use the Civic Center building per City Council policy. He further stated that generally, it is against

state law to use public resources for private purposes. Rather than try to draw a clear line between one private purpose and another private purpose, and have a multitude of private organizations use the walls (or display cases or room space), the City Council limits use of the public facility to those groups that have a community-focused purpose as a reason for existence (as opposed to a profit motive).

Insurance requirements were discussed. Donna stated that only a certificate of liability insurance is required for a non-profit show. Betty added that her experience with the insurance requirements by the city was \$1,000,000. Lita Dawn discussed the idea of opening the first show displaying commission members' artwork, which would not require any insurance requirements, as it would be a city function. Everyone thought that this would be a great way to promote the Gig Harbor Arts Commission and the opportunities for public art form.

Lita Dawn opened discussion regarding the Civic Center Gallery draft that Chris Erlich prepared. Lita Dawn liked the idea of going national. Donna asked how the GHAC could do 8-10 shows per year as it is a tremendous amount of work that takes many months of planning. Renee suggested the idea of using traveling shows. She was familiar with KODAK shows. Nancy suggested historical shows as an option. There was discussion about turnkey shows. Chris talked about Humanities of Washington and the Smithsonian Travel shows. These shows cost in the range of \$1,500. Lita Dawn asked Renee and Chris to check on pricing of these travelling shows. Donna and Christopher stated that local shows also cost money. The thought was to start first by offering the space. Robin offered to do the labels for the art pieces to maintain conformity. Donna spoke about an open call once a year and doing the show the following year, which would provide adequate time and publicity planning with Laureen Lund. Donna also spoke about not limiting the date of the work. The commission was in agreement after a brief discussion. There was discussion about hanging the artwork. Christopher and Chris were interested in learning how to hang the artwork using the current hanging system. Betty asked Maureen how many people showed up for the show. Maureen said that she would check with city staff who worked in the foyer area. Discussion went back to changing the number of shows to 2-4. Robin asked about needing a "call." Chris stated that she would do this. Renee suggested a student photography show as one possibility. Chris said that the students' photography shows had traditionally been at the Historical Society. The art teachers had chosen the art to be shown however framing had been an issue in the past. Robin suggested that we ask for plexi-clips for hanging the students' artwork. Donna suggested another alternative for an inexpensive method to hang the students' artwork that she had seen in the past that cost less than \$1 if the kids provided the glass. Lita Dawn thought that a stylized request with a meeting with the schools' art departments was an idea. Chris suggested that there could be students reading poetry, performing drama and singing in the foyer of the Civic Center. The commission members were in favor of this idea as it would be a great opportunity to use the Civic Center as it was intended.

3. Grants. Donna said that she liked the idea that Betty had about filling out the grant form as a group. Some commission members were not in favor of this due to

time constraints. Renee asked what hadn't worked in the past and we could make any changes right now rather than spend time going through each question. Renee offered to handle the acceptance and rejection letters for the next grant process. There was further discussion about future contacts and organizations. There was discussion about waiting until November to have such a meeting and Chris offered to do the grant workshop again this year. Renee suggested that the publicity be sent out two months in advance, publishing it 2-3 times in newsletters and mailing to all previous applicants. . Maureen volunteered to set up a database to facilitate this use.

IV. New Business:

1. Proposal for Public Art at Donkey Creek Park. Lita Dawn discussed a proposal for public art that was received from Dennis Browne for Native American art carvings. The commission reviewed Mr. Browne's proposal. Further discussion about the possibility of placing bronze public art at the Harborview Drive Street End at the mouth of the harbor as suggested by Mayor Wilbert.

2. 2005 Budget. There was a brief discussion about the city's deadline for the 2005 budget submittal. Lita Dawn asked that this be a primary topic for discussion at the next meeting. Maureen was to find out this deadline from Mark Hoppen. (This deadline is August 30, 2004.)

V. Public / Commission Member Comments.

There were no comments.

VII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Maureen Whitaker, Assistant City Clerk