



The City Of Gig Harbor Arts Commission

Minutes of the Gig Harbor Arts Commission Meeting, Tuesday June 13, 2006

Call to Order/Roll

The meeting was called to order by Chair Betty Willis at 7:10 PM

Present: Betty Willis, Renee Crist, Mary Rae Lund, Kit Kuhn, Carolyn Arnold, Sally Dutton, Karla Epperson, Bob Sullivan and Del Woock. Staff Maureen Whitaker was called away due to a family emergency. Minutes were taken by Mary Rae Lund.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The members read the minutes of the May 9, 2006 meeting.

MOTION: Approval of the May 9, 2006, meeting minutes as presented.
Lund/Crist – unanimously approved.

Old Business

1. **“Drawing You In” Program:** The grant request in the amount of \$1,000 to PAL was approved by the GHAC at the last meeting. Betty Willis requested it be increased by \$100 to cover the cost of easels made by Harry Sundberg. GHAC would retain ownership of the easels.

MOTION: Motion to increase PAL grant amount from \$1,000 to \$1,100.
Lund/Crist – unanimously approved.

Kit Kuhn asked if there was anyway that the easels could be used other than summer. The Commission agreed that the easels could be used if the need arose.

2. **Skansie Medallion at the Rotary Pavilion:** The damage to the new medallion was repaired during the Maritime Gig and looked good. The Commissioners thought that damage could have been caused due to imperfection caused by an air bubble in the concrete. It was noted that there is a maintenance clause in the artist’s contract. Kit raised concern about the lip of the medallion getting damaged. Renee Crist said that she will look into the contract and the artist’s responsibility for repairs. Kit suggested the medallion lip be smoothed down. Karla Epperson suggested we ask Public Works/Operations to look at the installation with regard to public safety and make a recommendation to the artist to improve the way the piece sits in the floor. Betty suggested that the discussion be turned over to the city attorney Carol Morris. Bob Sullivan further suggested that the Commission’s concerns be written in a letter to the attorney with a copy to the Public Works/Operations after a conversation with the attorney. Betty volunteered to have a conversation with the city attorney. She will include the head of Public Works Dave Brereton (Director of Operations) in this conversation. Betty asked Renee to attend if possible. Renee recommended that with future artists, the Commission look more strongly at their experience and references.

3. City Art Commemorating the Bridge Opening: Location – the old cement factory will be a Pierce County park eventually (it will take years), including the water collection basin. There was discussion that Pierce County is very open to the GHAC having a piece of art there, possibly in collaboration with Pierce County Arts Commission. Betty will research whether we already have a past agreement with the Pierce County Arts Commission or Parks. It would be good to get involved in the planning as soon as that phase begins. The GHAC has been invited to participate in the Pierce County Parks meetings.

4. Public Art: Betty asked that more thought be put in on the subject of art commemorating the two bridges. Several local artists may be approaching the GHAC soon. It was suggested that the “call” be put out before this happens. The Cushman Trailhead Park still needs art. There was a suggestion of the possibility of an art piece commemorating the bridge there also. Bob suggested that we get started trying to form the partnership with Pierce County for the bridge park site and use the Cushman Trailhead Park for other art. Renee suggested that GHAC make special funds through the grant process available for a bridge art focus to collect different ideas, plans, get more people involved in creating bridge art or events to celebrate the opening of the new bridge. Betty suggested tabling the discussion of public art until the next meeting. Kit will talk to Public Works about functional art at Cushman Trailhead Park and report to the GHAC at the next meeting and determine what is most needed there. Betty will invite Mayor Hunter and Councilmember Ekberg to the August meeting and advise them what the Commission would like to propose for the art at Cushman Trailhead Park.

4. Asian Pacific Cultural Arts Center: There will be a reception at the Civic Center on September 14th from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. for three Asian artists and interpreter. Paintings will be hung in the Civic Center from September 12 – 21. Lita Dawn Stanton will help hang the art. Mary Rae Lund and Del Woock also volunteered to help. The Public Use Agreement has been signed by Betty for the conference room for collecting art and staging. The lobby will be used for the reception. The use fees were waived. Bob will be standing in for Betty who will be gone as of August 22nd. Betty will arrange to meet with Michelle Rogers, a Gateway reporter in July to discuss the prospect of an article appearing in the Gateway September 6. Patsy O’Connell, Asian Pacific Cultural Arts Center representative and Commissioner Carolyn Arnold Scott will also participate in the meeting. A press release will be prepared for this interview. Bob has a template for a press release. Carolyn Scott Arnold will prepare press release and pass it on to Laureen Lund.

5. GHAC Website: Kay Truitt handles the city’s website. She and Maureen are in the process of updating the information. Betty suggested that this expense be added to the GHAC budget. Renee recommended that the Commission not do this and said that it is not a good use of time and money. Typically the only items uploaded to the website are grant applications and minutes. Bob said that he has spoken with someone at Microsoft who may be able to help us with some web site linking for no charge. Betty stated that she was concerned that because we are part of the city who has a contract with HarborNet. We are not free to collaborate with Microsoft. It was suggested to wait to find out what the Microsoft representative has to say. If it looks good, the Commission can present it to city officials.

6. Extension of Territory: June 28th at 10:30 a.m. Betty, Karla and Mary Rae will meet at the Civic Center to discuss extension of territory to draft letter to the Mayor and City Council.

7. Review of Information Document Developed by Sally Dutton: The information document provides a format for collecting information on these ideas to forward on to the GHAC. The document will be on the GHAC website and the completed forms will be sent to Betty Willis via an alias email address. Suggestions were made for editing the draft document. Sally will make the changes and email the new draft to Betty. It was suggested to make a statement about the project locations needing to be held inside city limits.

New Business

GHAC Historian – Del Woock and Mary Rae Lund will serve as the GHAC Historians. They will put together an organized record of GHAC's past in hard copy and also stored electronically. The information will include approved projects as well as the artwork at the Civic Center.

GHAC minutes are located on the city's website.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

July 11, 2006 at 7:00 P.M.

ADJOURN:

MOTION: Move to adjourn at 8:45 P.M. – Kuhn/Crist – unanimously approved.

Respectively submitted:

Mary Rae Lund