

*Minutes of the
City of Gig Harbor Arts Commission
February 10, 2004*

I. Call to Order/Roll Call:

Commission member, Lita Dawn Stanton, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. and roll call was taken.

Present: Commission Members present: Lita Dawn Stanton, Guy Hoppen, Robin Peterson, Betty Willis, Donna Trent and Cindy Storrar. Nancy Weaver and Marion Ekberg could not attend. Staff members Molly Towslee and Maureen Whitaker were present to record the proceedings. Chris Erlich came later in the meeting.

A motion was made to amend the agenda to move banners to the end of the meeting in case the review of grant applications took longer than anticipated.

MOTION: To amend the agenda and move discussion on the banners to the end of the meeting.
Trent / Willis – unanimously approved.

II. Approval of the Minutes:

The members read the minutes of the meetings of the January meeting.

MOTION: Approval of the January 13, 2004 meeting minutes as presented.
Peterson / Trent – unanimously approved.

Betty Willis asked if the letters to the teachers for the banner program had been sent out. Molly explained that no letters were not sent, as Julie was waiting for direction from the Commission on what to be able to tell the teachers which artwork had been chosen.

It was decided that when the banner issues had been resolved, a letter could be sent.

III. Old Business:

1. Amendments to the GHAC Membership Requirements and Bylaws. Lita Dawn explained that at the meeting last evening, the City Council had approved the changes to the Bylaws and reviewed the amendments to the ordinance in regards to membership requirements for the Gig Harbor Arts Commission. The discussion from Council was that they preferred that the membership did not evolve into a group of persons who live outside the city limits, and suggested that members could serve more than two consecutive terms if no one else applied to serve. Another change is that a majority of the membership either lives or work within the city limits at the time of appointment and throughout the term of office. There was also discussion about

reducing the number of members, but Lita Dawn said that she convinced them that it was desirable to have the higher number to help when there are absences.

The members discussed who lived and who worked within the city limits and what the definition of "work" would entail. If an artist shows their work at a gallery, it would not be considered working in city limits, but if they come to staff the gallery certain times, it would be. This is to be construed as liberally as possible, per the City Administrator.

The make-up of the group to date is five that qualify and four that do not. The majority of the membership does live or work within the city. Cindy Storrar, who lives in town, said that she did not wish to serve another term. The vacancy would have to be filled by someone who lives or works within city limits.

Guy Hoppen also voiced a desire to be replaced unless someone does not apply that would qualify.

Molly explained that the Council stated that they would rather let a position remain vacant than to fill it with someone who does not qualify or to reduce the number of commission members. The members discussed people that could be contacted who might be interested in serving and who live or work within the city.

Molly will let the members know at the next meeting whether the amendments to the ordinance are approved by Council.

Chris Erlich passed out a handout on procedures for handling the wall space at the Civic Center. She asked that the members review the information and discuss comments at the next meeting.

Donna Trent asked about a "Hanging Committee" to help out with the Peninsula Art League show scheduled in two weeks. Lita Dawn said that she would call and offer assistance.

IV. New Business:

1. Grant Application Review. Lita Dawn passed out a matrix to review the sixteen grant applications arranged by organization. Committee members discussed the amount that was agreed to disperse for grants (\$10,000). The applicants are:

- *Annie* - The Performance Circle / Paradise Theatre
- *A Magic Carpet Ride -- Production of Aladdin* - GHSPA Encore!Theater
- CCI Thai Drama & Dance Troupe - World Aid
- Community Symphony Orchestra Pilot Program - Olympic Performing Arts Society
- Gig Harbor Quilt Festival – 2004 - Gig Harbor Quilt Festival
- Gig Harbor Scandinavian Nordic Festival - G.H. Scandinavian Nordic Association
- Gig Harbor Writers' Conference - Peninsula Writers' Association
- In Touch With Art: Teaching Children to Paint - Deborah Cannon-Cushing
- Missoula Children's Theatre - Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church
- Nordic Vibrations II – Linda Caspersen-Andresen
- PAL Open Juried Art Exhibition 2004 -Peninsula Art League
- Peninsula Community Chorus Spring Concert - Peninsula Community Chorus

- Photograph Scanning Project - Gig Harbor Peninsula Historical Society
- 7th Annual NJB Student Recognition Recital - Peninsula United Music Association
- The Hand That Rocks the Cradle - Cheryl Hanna-Truscott
- Yontararak Family Performance -Thai Christian Foundation

The members first discussed which applications did not meet the criteria to help narrow the review process. The grant application submitted by the Gig Harbor Quilt Festival was a substitute form, therefore making it an incomplete application. The project In Touch With Art: Teaching Children to Paint was determined not to be clearly defined enough to qualify. The three applications from Chapel Hill were discussed at length. Two of the applications, Yontararak Family Performance and the CCI Thai Drama & Dance Troupe were geared towards a limited audience, whereas, the Missoula Children's Theatre was a more far-reaching program. The group determined that the Missoula Children's Theatre met the criteria, and the other two did not.

Chris Erlich pointed out that the grant is marketed as a project grant and the Peninsula Community Chorus appears to be asking for operating support rather than for a specific event. The members discussed the application and decided to discuss it later in the review process.

The Community Symphony Orchestra Pilot Program is brand new and has a limited feasibility. Therefore, it does not meet the criteria.

Betty Willis asked if there was a concern that the Peninsula Art League was already receiving marketing support from the City of Gig Harbor. Members discussed this, as well as the duplication of funding in the budget. No one could identify any criteria against this in the Grant Guidelines, so the application was considered qualified.

The members continued to discuss The Hand that Rocks the Cradle application for matting and framing the pieces. It was decided that this is a unique project but may have a limited venue. The committee decided to grant limited funding due to the one showing in the harbor.

The next issue discussed is the funding of an organization year after year. The two theater organizations have been funded every year since the inception of the grant program. Chris said that she would not like to see an organization penalized for being successful. Robin agreed, adding that Encore was proposing something new and unique, and she would favor giving them a higher priority.

The members moved on to discuss the Nordic Vibrations II project. Betty Willis explained that this festival is not related to the Scandinavian Nordic Festival, and that it is an excellent program. Members discussed the duplication of performers and venue with the two Nordic applications. Lita Dawn asked that members of the Commission that are affiliated with any of the projects should identify themselves for the record.

Donna Trent and Lita Dawn explained that they are members of the Peninsula Art League, and Betty Willis explained that she is involved with the Scandinavian Nordic Festival.

The members went back to discuss the Peninsula Community Chorus Spring Concert and determined that the project budget does not reflect that the grant funding would be specific to the Spring Concert. It was decided to fund the project in a limited manner.

Lita Dawn encouraged the members to look at different venues that are being supported within the community and to perhaps choose one application from each craft. The group discussed the remaining applications at length and determined which applications were the strongest and at what amount they should be funded.

After these were identified, the members discussed what applications could be funded at a limited amount with the remainder of the money. The results are as follows:

\$ 750	<i>A Magic Carpet Ride - Production of Aladin</i> – Encore! Theater <i>Costuming and Performer Fees</i>
\$1500	Gig Harbor Scandinavian Nordic Festival – G.H. Scandinavian Nordic Association <i>Entertainment Fees and Support System</i>
\$1500	Gig Harbor Writers' Conference - Peninsula Writers' Association <i>Presenter Honorariums</i>
\$1000	Missoula Children's Theatre – Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church <i>Professional and Printing Fees</i>
\$1500	PAL Open Juried Art Exhibition 2004 – Peninsula Art League <i>Professional Fees</i>
\$ 450	Peninsula Community Chorus Spring Concert - Peninsula Community Chorus <i>Performer's Fees</i>
\$1400	Photograph Scanning Project – Gig Harbor Peninsula Historical Society <i>Scanner and Supplies</i>
\$1000	7th Annual Nancy Jane Bare Student Recognition Recital – Peninsula United Music Association <i>Professional Fees</i>
\$ 900	The Hand That Rocks the Cradle – Cheryl Hanna-Truscott <i>Matting and Framing</i>

The members asked that Dawn send a letter to the sponsors of these applicants who did not received funding to let them know why, and encourage them to apply during the next grant application period if they could meet the criteria.

II. **Banners.**

The members discussed placement of banners in areas such as Borgen Boulevard or Point Fosdick rather than the downtown area. This would limit the amount of banners that would be needed and would support other neighborhoods.

Molly explained that because the banners were not produced in 2003, the budget amount that was clearly delineated in the 2003 Parks Budget did not roll over into 2004. Molly said that the 2004 Budget has \$7500 earmarked for holiday decorations to include cedar garlands and *seasonal banners* throughout the winter holiday season. She did not know exactly how much of that total amount would be allowed for banners, but thought it was around \$5000. Molly emphasized that winter clearly was the holiday that this was intended, and so the banners would have a winter theme rather than the spring, summer or autumn décor. Lita Dawn said that this would take more discussion, as you can't hang banners over the holiday wreaths that are placed during the winter holidays.

Guy Hoppen asked how the banner program came about. Lita Dawn said that the Arts Commission took it over from Lauren Lund, but did not know where the original direction had come from.

Because the theme was winter there is sufficient time to further to research the cost, make a decision on placement, and to determine the number to produce.

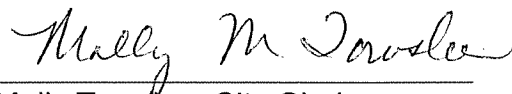
V. Public / Commission Member Comments.

There were no further comments.

VII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Molly Towslee, City Clerk