

Minutes of the  
City of Gig Harbor Arts Commission  
September 13, 2005  
7:00 P.M.

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:**

Lita Dawn Stanton chaired the meeting in Renee Crist's absence and called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Roll was taken.

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Lita Dawn Stanton, Betty Willis, Del Woock, Kit Kuhn, Mary Rae Lund, Karla Epperson, and Nancy Weaver. Staff Member Maureen Whitaker took minutes of the proceedings.

**EXCUSED:** Renee Crist, Chris Erlich

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The members read the minutes of the August 9, 2005, meeting.

**MOTION:** Approval of the August 9, 2005, meeting minutes as presented.  
Woock/Willis – unanimously approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Rotary Pavilion: Lita Dawn reported that Mardie Rees' contract had been approved by City Council on September 12, 2005. Lita Dawn attended the Council Meeting and presented three slides that showed a better example of Mardie's concrete relief work. Lita Dawn explained that Mardie's contract had been pulled off the consent agenda at the last Council meeting for further discussion because the Mayor thought that the entire Andrew Skansie family's names, including the women be listed around the perimeter of the medallion instead of "Skansie Brothers." During Lita Dawn's presentation to Council, she suggested putting the Andrew Skansie family's names on a bronze plaque that could be placed on the Andrew Skansie homestead. Betty Willis said that during Mardie's proposal/presentation, she had some great language that described the entire Andrew Skansie family, including the women that could be used for the plaque.

There was a brief discussion about the completion date of Mardie's contract which had been changed to April 15, 2005. The Commission agreed that any future projects requesting City Council's approval should include a presentation by the Arts Commission.

Betty reported that Jennifer Kilmer, Director of the Historical Society was very interested in Ernest Kuntz's art proposal of a mosaic portrayal of the Shenandoah. Betty was going to hand-carry the sketch of the mosaic to Ms. Kilmer after speaking with Mr. Kuntz.

2. Budget Proposal: Copies of the 2006 Budget Request document that had been submitted to the City Administrator on August 26, 2005 was distributed and discussed. The total requested was \$65,000. Kit Kuhn suggested that the

Commission participate in speaking to each of the council members and to the City Administrator. There was discussion about how best address the Administration and City Council. Mark Hoppen happened to be in his office during this discussion and as he was leaving, the Commission asked for his input on how the budget process works. Mark stated that the Commission was "on a roll" and applauded the Commission for generating a program that is "building all the right things." He made mention of the Commission knowing how to "celebrate" art within the City. He said that he will present to Council exactly what the Commission is proposing and didn't anticipate any problems even though 2006 is a tight budget year, and concluded that, "Council will do what Council will do."

The Cushman Trailhead Park project was revisited after Betty said that this project was mentioned as an objective in the 2005 budget. There was discussion that the City had not involved the Commission with this project soon enough. Maureen said that Dave had met with the Commission in July 2004 and had also recently met with Renee to discuss what could be done in the way of public art at this site.

See below for an excerpt from the July 13, 2004 GHAC Meeting Minutes:

*Commission Chair Stanton moved this new business agenda item forward to accommodate Director of Operations Dave Brereton. Mr. Brereton spoke about the opportunity for public art at the Cushman Trailhead Park which is under development and construction located at Soundview Drive at the corner of Hollycroft Street. He passed around some architectural drawings of the park and explained the proposed 3-year construction schedule. Mr. Brereton further explained that for this budget year, phase one of the project will consist of the construction of the park's plaza area including a wooden deck with an overlook area that will be shaped like a bow of a boat, brick pavers and the reconstruction of the Cushman Trail that goes through this area. The overlook deck area will be approximately 46-48 inches off the ground. The plaza area identified in the drawings includes brick pavers with an informational kiosk that would provide one parking stall with the ability to park, exit the vehicle and have access to a city map that could include information about lodging and restaurants. Commissioner Erlich asked Mr. Brereton if he had a budget for public art. He responded that there was not a budget for public art, however public art could be incorporated as part of the infrastructure. Mr. Brereton said that the kiosk would not be constructed this year however, power, water and sewer would be installed enabling the possibility for a water or lighted feature. He stated that there would be street lights along the street side and street trees. Commissioner Crist suggested the possibility of phasing the artwork during the course of construction and target different areas over the next few years. The Commission agreed to think about possible site furnishings and functional art and bring back their ideas to the next meeting.*

*There was further discussion about pedestrian accessibility to the site. Mr. Brereton explained that once the second bridge is built, the little spur street will most likely be closed and used for parking. He further stated that there is additional park parking at the Park Plaza building across the street.*

*Commissioner Erlich asked about the budget for the project. Mr. Brereton stated that he would provide them the budget for the pavers. Commissioner Crist suggested the idea of a monument and there was also a suggestion about a bronze inset in the paver area.*

*There was more discussion about the kiosk. Mr. Brereton stated that the plan was to install a restroom facility as part of the kiosk. Commissioner Erlich suggested making the entire kiosk a functional art structure.*

3. Grant Recipient follow-up: Betty stated that she sent out an email to the 2005 grant recipients requesting photos, testimonials and website links. She said that she has received lots of returned calls. She mentioned that she had received a nice call from Dale Schultz of the Farmers Market. He said the grant money has helped fund the outdoor music which has directly increased the Market's attendance.

The Commission agreed that the 2005 Final Reports should be attached to next year's budget request to help show what a positive impact the grant program has had on the community. It was noted that only four grant recipients have requested funding to date. Betty pointed out that the writer's conference was listed incorrectly on last month's budget report form but it had been corrected.

Nancy Weaver said that she would put together a calendar of events for the Commission.

Betty was asked to prepare a spreadsheet with all contact names, etc.

4. Website: tabled to next meeting.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. "Drawing You In" Program: Lita Dawn reported that this event has been consistently well attended. Easels and stools are set up from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. There was a lot of enthusiasm about the program. Lita encouraged everyone to attend.

2. Rotating Public Art Program: tabled to next meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. 2006 Grant Application Process: tabled to next meeting.

2. GHAC Logo: tabled to next meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was discussion about the salmon auction. Kit said that he needed addresses of people who were serious buyers since they are limited to 175 people. The auction is scheduled on November 5<sup>th</sup> at the Inn at Gig Harbor. Kit thought that the price of the tickets was \$50 per person which includes a sit down dinner. Laureen Lund is putting together a list of sponsors (75 to 100 ppl.) and serious buyers. Stokes is doing the auction. He stated that they need volunteers. Kit proposed the idea of the Commission bidding on one of the salmon. There was discussion about the pros and cons. It was suggested that this discussion be revisited at the next meeting.

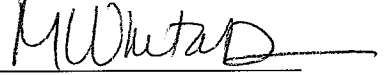
#### **NEXT REGULAR MEETING:**

October 11, 2005, 7:00 P.M.

#### **ADJOURN:**

**MOTION:** Move to adjourn at 8:05 P.M. – Weaver/Willis – unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MWhitaker', written over a horizontal line.

Maureen Whitaker