



## GIG HARBOR ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES

**DATE:** May 12, 2009  
**TIME:** 5:30 pm (meeting began at 5:35 pm)  
**LOCATION:** Executive Conference Room  
**SCRIBE:** Lita Dawn Stanton  
**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tracy von Trotha, Michael Jones, Dale Strickland, Karen Peck, Summer Lane Landry, and Carola Stark (excused Bob Sullivan, Ron Carson / unexcused Pat Rosenthal)  
**STAFF PRESENT:** Lita Dawn Stanton  
**MINUTES:** Approval of GHAC April 14<sup>th</sup> Minutes (Stark/Lane)

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### *New Business*

#### 1. MAIN STREET & JERISICH PARK IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

##### DISCUSSION POINTS

David Fisher of the Gig Harbor Historic Waterfront Association (GHHWA) Main Street Approach Design Committee presented the Jerisich Park Improvement Project to the Commission. David provided an update on the status of the project. The biggest cost will be moving the Fishermen's Memorial. The objective is to make it more visible and by relocating utilities and portable park amenities (mailboxes, trash receptacles, etc.), create more open space. Another cost will be the pavers which will provide more hard surface. The utilities service box cannot be relocated. The solution is to enclose it to function as a kiosk that combines the City's existing free-standing Display Case currently located next to it. The Bus Stop will probably remain at its current location. Public Works will manage parking stall alignments. Wastewater pumps cannot be relocated but will be surrounded by a planter box and seating (may be backless). Plans are to give the restroom roof a new coat of paint. Funding of the project may include private donations (Rotary built the Pavilion) and the City will provide public works labor. In-kind volunteer labor is also expected. Stark also described a 2-way overhead "Jerisich Dock" sign over the ramp at the end of the dock that can be viewed from the water and from land. The large rock monument base and anchor memorial will be relocated (though the base does not have to be preserved). Stark asked if anyone on the Commission had experience with water features. Lane responded that the power pump and filter may require its own vault. Stark reported that the project was presented to the City's Operations Committee. They commented that the increased hard surface (pavers) will help mitigate the "soggy" grass at that location. The pavers could also be pervious. Lane asked if there should be more seating for the park. Fisher answered that the intent was to create more open space and reduce the number of permanent features to increase flexibility for events (concerts, booths, etc.) Jones asked if the water in the fountain would be salt-water? Fisher responded that the initial plan was to go with fresh-water. Lane commented that moving chlorinated water is less susceptible to freezing. Peck asked for confirmation that the mailboxes would be relocated. Lane asked about bike racks & space for kayaks. Fisher responded that there was no plan for kayak storage at this time. Jones asked if there was a cost estimate for the project. Fisher responded that an estimate would follow once the plans were finalized. Lane asked for a timeline. Stark estimated: next year and that the project may be phased. It would require close coordination with the City and GHHWA. Strickland asked if the Design Committee was looking for an endorsement; "How can we help?" Fisher suggested that the Commission provide input, ideas, and suggestions. This meeting was to inform the Commission about the project. Strickland suggested that bike racks, signage, and the wall on

the back of the restroom building offer opportunities for art. Jones suggested that the pavers and their design be considered such as salmon shapes or a “school of fish” approaching the fountain and that selling pavers could be a source of income. Lane asked if there was a “historic marker”. The existing one could be incorporated into the kiosk. Von Trotha asked if the Judson Street Improvement Project was a part of this work. Staff responded that because of budget constraints, that project is on hold but that the park improvements were consistent with it. Fisher will bring back the final Jerisich Park Improvement Plan when completed. Stark offered to bring samples of bike rack designs.

**RECOMMENDATION / ACTION / FOLLOW-UP**

Strickland made a formal recommendation to endorse the preliminary design for the Jerisich Dock Improvements and added a request that the Arts Commission continue to work with the Committee on artistic enhancements or placements that may be appropriate for the project. (Strickland/Lane)

2. MOON OVER GIG HARBOR – THEME SONG

DISCUSSION POINTS

Staff asked if the commission would consider the request from former Mayor Gretchen Wilbert to formally designate “Moon Over Gig Harbor” as the City’s official song. Strickland commented that the Arts Commission’s role is to review art form not art entertainment. Jones agreed that the Arts Commission should not be the ones to appoint an official bird, etc., and that maybe City Council review is the better venue for this decision. All commissioners felt it was not their role to choose theme art or music.

**RECOMMENDATION / ACTION / FOLLOW-UP**

Commissioners did not review the music and recommended that they refrain from choosing “theme” art.

3. PUYALLUP PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

DISCUSSION POINTS

Strickland suggested that Gig Harbor develop a program similar to the Puyallup Public Art Program. The City could build 4 pedestals in town. The art would be placed by the artist for 1 year. The City would have the right to purchase the art. Public Works could build the pedestals and the art could rotate. Von Trotha commented that there would be no commitment and therefore no expense to the City unless they chose to purchase a piece.

**RECOMMENDATION / ACTION / FOLLOW-UP**

Staff will bring information on the Puyallup Program from the Arts Commission from years past. It includes photos of suggested art placement locations.

*Old Business*

1. PUBLIC ART MAP FOR WEBSITE

DISCUSSION POINTS

Tracy von Trotha will take pictures of each piece once the list is confirmed. Jones will help. Lane clarified that there is “public art” that is around town. A brochure that includes a map should be produced so that visitors can view each location. This is something that the Commission could contract for and fund. Jones suggested that there be a catalog created. The group discussed the need for a web map, a brochure and a catalog.

**RECOMMENDATION / ACTION / FOLLOW-UP**

This work item will be added to the monthly agenda and may take a few months to complete.