City of Oak Harbor
Arts Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2019 at 4:00 PM

1. **Roll Call**
   - **Present:**  J.R. Russell, Nora O’Connell-Balda, K.C. Pohtilla, Cynthia Mason, Therese Kingsbury, Karla Freund
   - **Absent:**  Rodric Gagnon

   The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM.

2. **Excuse Absent Commissioners.**
   - **Motion:**  Commissioner O’Connell-Balda moved to excuse Chairman Gagnon.  **Second:**  Commissioner Kingsbury seconded.  With all in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

3. **Public Comments**
   - No public comment was given.

4. **Approval of Meeting Minutes – November 14, 2019**
   - **Motion:**  Commissioner O’Connell-Balda moved to approve the November 14, 2019 Meeting Minutes as presented.  **Second:**  Commissioner Mason seconded the motion.  Commissioner Russell and Alternate Commissioner Freund abstained as they had been absent.  With all in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

5. **Driftwood Day 2020 Planning**
   - This item was tabled until February.

6. **Sculpture Park Update**
   - The Commission reviewed the talking points in the packet provided by Chairman Gagnon, who had recently met with Dr. Gibbon, Oak Harbor School District Superintendent, regarding the proposed Sculpture Park.  Chairman Gagnon had suggested a meeting with all of the interested parties, including representatives from the School District, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Arts Commission.  Staff suggested the next Arts Commission Meeting date as the time for this proposed meeting, and will coordinate with the parties and send a calendar invite once the date is decided.  The Commission discussed adding language to the proposed contract that would guarantee spaces for student artwork and increasing the partnership with the schools’ art programs as part of the mission of the sculpture park.  The Commission discussed the the Chamber of Commerce’s proposed role in the Sculpture Park, including marketing and tracking of participation.  Mr. Oborn reiterated the need for the Sculpture Park to be community focused and driven in order to be successful.
7. Other Projects
Commissioner Kingsbury inquired if the Interpretive Center could pay for one of the acorns with its own funding. Mr. Oborn explained that there will be a scoping process for the Interpretive Center similar to the process for Windjammer Park Phase 2. EnviroIssues has been contracted for the community outreach, which is scheduled to start sometime in January or February 2020.
Mr. Oborn updated the Commission that Parks Manager Hank Nydam is making process with the Autumn Winds Sculpture landscaping and improvements. The Park Board brought up an item of note, that there is a location on Scenic Heights at a trailhead that was designed for the placement of a piece of art but is currently vacant. The County’s project of road improvements at Regatta near Torpedo Gate will bring up the proposed project of a mural on the retaining wall that will be created, but this is awaiting the County’s roadwork schedule.
Commissioner Kingsbury presented a request from the Whidbey Island Arts Council to contribute to the Arts Classes for Kids, as the Arts Commission did at the end of 2018.

Motion: Commissioner Mason moved to request City Council approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Oak Harbor and Whidbey Island Arts Commission, with a contribution of $1,000 from the Creative Arts Fund for Arts Classes for kids. Second: Commissioner Kingsbury seconded. With all in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

8. Creative Arts Fund Balance Report
Mr. Oborn presented the Creative Arts Fund Balance Report as of October 31, 2019 and reviewed the list of components underway for the Autumn Winds Sculpture landscaping and improvements. Mr. Oborn explained that the Sculpture Park will likely need more than $20,000, and the pursuit of the Creative District has been tabled at this time.

9. Next Meeting – January 9, 2020
The Arts Commission will hold a workshop on January 6, 2020 at the Chamber of Commerce. Staff will notice attendance in case a quorum of Arts Commissioners attend.

10. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 4:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Felix
Senior Administrative Assistant
Administration