

**City of Oak Harbor  
Arts Commission  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
July 16, 2020 at 4:00 PM at The Center, 51 SE Jerome Street, Oak Harbor**

**1. Roll Call**

**Present:**

Rodric Gagnon<sup>6</sup>  
Karla Freund<sup>1</sup>  
J.R. Russell<sup>2</sup>  
Nora O'Connell-Balda<sup>3</sup>  
Cynthia Mason<sup>5</sup>  
Therese Kingsbury<sup>7</sup>  
Lowell Sipes<sup>Alternate</sup>

**Staff Present:**

Blaine Oborn, City Administrator

**Absent:**

K.C. Pohtilla<sup>4</sup>

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

**2. Excuse Absent Commissioners**

**3. Public Comments**

**4. Approval of Meeting Minutes – June 11, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

**Motion:** Commissioner Russell moved to approve the June 11, 2020 Meeting Minutes as presented.

**Second:** Commissioner Sipes seconded the motion. Commissioner Freund abstained as she had been absent. With all in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

**5. “Tao” Sculptures next steps**

The Commission discussed that the pocket park location that was listed in Resolution 20-17 that Council adopted is not ideal for the “Tao” pieces as they will get lost. The Commission discussed that this location would be better suited for a larger piece of art. Chairman Gagnon suggested that the preferred location would be the trailhead at Scenic Heights, unless the Commissioners had other ideas. Commissioner Kingsbury has been coordinating with the artist, Verena Schwippert, and she would like to do the installation herself with a boom truck and concrete company chosen by the artist. City Administrator Blaine Oborn will ask the Parks Department to coordinate with the artist on the logistics of the installation.

**Motion:** Commissioner Mason moved to request City Council to amend Resolution 20-17 with the location to be the Scenic Heights Trail Head pad, and to add \$675.00 for the 9% tax to the total approved amount.

**Second:** Commissioner Freund seconded. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

**6. Acorn Sculpture RFQ \$15,000 next steps**

Chairman Gagnon provided draft criteria for the RFQ in an email to Commissioners, which they reviewed at the meeting. The Commission discussed having the artist include movement of the raw wood offsite for their working conditions, instead of having the artist do the work onsite. City Administrator Oborn explained that the RFQ can proceed, and then once the Arts Commission has selected the artist, the Resolution for the creation of the piece, location of the piece, and contract with the artist will need to go before Council. The Commission discussed the criteria for scoring the RFQs, including if the artist has five years of comparable wood carving experience; has experience creating public art and working in public

places; has created an outdoor wood sculpture that has lasted for a long term; lives locally; has a portfolio. Chairman Gagnon asked to see a draft RFQ in the next 30 days; the Commission agreed to have Chairman Gagnon work with staff to finalize the RFQ.

#### **7. Joseph Kinnebrew sculpture collection next steps**

Commissioner Kingsbury had spoken with Skagit Powder Coating, the vendor who completed the repairs and painting to the other pieces, and estimates that it will take five – six hours to complete the necessary repairs to the three tower pieces from the Joseph Kinnebrew Sculpture Collection that have sustained weather damage. Chairman Gagnon stated that it would be best to determine a proposed location before going to Council to request the funds to complete the powder coating.

The Commission discussed the placement of a piece from the collection in the pocket park along SR 20 adjacent to Office Max. Commissioner Mason suggested that the piece that is painted in blue and yellow, titled “Temple Blue”, be placed at this location.

**Motion:** Commissioner Mason moved to place the Joseph Kinnebrew sculpture piece titled “Temple Blue” in the pocket park adjacent to the Office Max on SR 20. **Second:** Commissioner O’Connell-Balda seconded. *With all in favor, the motion carried unanimously.*

#### **8. Other Projects / Items for Discussion**

The Commission discussed the status of the Driftwood Day event tentatively scheduled for September 5, 2020. Currently, the Governor has rolled back the Phase 3 restrictions from gatherings of 50 people to gatherings of 10 people. By the time of the next meeting, it should be clear whether or not the event could proceed.

Rodric Gagnon provided an update on the non-profit that he and Cynthia Mason are working to create to work with the Chamber of Commerce on the proposed sculpture park.

#### **9. Next Meeting – August 20, 2020 meeting will be virtual due to COVID-19 gathering restrictions**

#### **10. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Felix  
Senior Administrative Assistant  
Administration