



**CITY OF OAK HARBOR
ARTS COMMISSION
Regular Meeting
AGENDA**

Thursday, June 11, 2020 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Due to COVID-19, there will be NO physical meeting location

To participate in the meeting, use the RingCentral application or via web browser:

<https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1480082385>

OR please call (623) 404-9000, Meeting ID: 148 008 2385

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|----------------------|------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. ROLL CALL: | Freund, Karla ¹ | _____ | Russell, J.R. ² | _____ |
| | O’Connell-Balda, Nora ³ | _____ | Pohtilla, K.C. ⁴ | _____ |
| | Mason, Cynthia ⁵ | _____ | Gagnon, Rodric ⁶ | _____ |
| | Kingsbury, Therese ⁷ | _____ | Sipes, Lowell ^{Alternate} | _____ |
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2. Excuse Absent Commissioners
 3. Public Comment
 4. Approval of February 13, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
 5. “Tao” Sculptures next steps (approved by City Council June 2)
 6. Acorn Sculpture RFQ \$15,000 next steps (approved by City Council June 2)
 7. Status of Driftwood Day Event (scheduled for September 5, 2020)
 8. Other Projects / Items for Discussion
 9. Next Meeting July 9, 2020
 10. Adjournment

**City of Oak Harbor
Arts Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2020 at 4:00 PM**

1. Roll Call

Present:

Rodric Gagnon⁶ (via conference call)
Karla Freund¹
K.C. Pohtilla⁴
Cynthia Mason⁵
Therese Kingsbury⁷

Staff Present:

Blaine Oborn, City Administrator

Absent:

J.R. Russell²
Nora O'Connell-Balda³
Lowell Sipes^{Alternate}

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

2. Excuse Absent Commissioners

Motion: Commissioner K.C. Pohtilla moved to excuse Commissioners Russell, O'Connell-Balda, and Sipes.

Second: Commissioner Mason seconded. With all in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

3. Public Comments

No public comment was given.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes – December 12, 2019 & January 8, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes

Motion: Commissioner Mason moved to approve the December 12, 2019 Meeting Minutes as presented.

Second: Commissioner Freund seconded the motion. Chairman Rodric abstained as he had been absent. With all in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Commissioner Mason moved to approve the January 8, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes with the addition of the name of the Chamber of Commerce Board President referenced as Ronnie Wright. **Second:** Commissioner Kingsbury seconded the motion. Commissioner Freund abstained as she had been absent. With all in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

5. Recruitment and approval of art for display in Council Chambers

Staff briefed the Arts Commission on the art display in Council Chambers. Previously, a local artist worked with the former Executive Assistant to the Mayor to coordinate display of local artists work, rotating monthly. The local artist has indicated they do not wish to continue this role. Recently, the Council Chambers divider has been locked except during public meetings for security. The art is still highly visible on the broadcasted City Council and Planning Commission Meetings. Staff would appreciate the Arts Commission input and coordination on recruiting art for display.

6. Sculpture Park Update from Oak Harbor Creative Arts Foundation

Mr. Gagnon provided an update on his personal efforts to start the "Oak Harbor Creative Arts Foundation". Mr. Gagnon has submitted the bylaws, mission, and vision for review to Ronnie Wright so that the foundation can prepare to file with the State. Mr. Gagnon expects that they will be able to

develop a marketing plan and open bank accounts for fundraising within two to three weeks. Ms. Mason compiled a list of local businesses that the foundation will solicit letters of support from.

7. Other Projects

Mr. Oborn brought up the location on the trail at Scenic Heights that has been created for the display of art, and that the Commission might consider that location for some of the near projects. The Commission discussed the projects to make use of the Garry Oak Tree wood that is stored at public works, and reducing the previously approved amount for the Arts Commission portion of the project for the creation of acorns sculptures.

Motion: Commissioner Mason moved to amend the proposed RFQ for the Acorn Sculpture Project from three sculptures to one sculpture, and amend the proposed budget for the project from \$30,000 to \$15,000. **Second:** Commissioner Kingsbury seconded. With all in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

The Commissioners inquired as to the status of Windjammer Phase II. Mr. Oborn updated the Commission that the schedule for public meetings and process has not yet been released.

Commissioner Kingsbury revisited the topic of the “Tao” sculptures. She has brought them forward to the Parks Board and would like to move forward with obtaining the sculptures.

Motion: Commissioner Mason moved to amend the request to City Council to purchase the Tao sculptures at the price of \$7,000 (now excluding the proposed grant from Soroptimist originally motioned at the May 9, 2019 Arts Commission Meeting), with an additional \$500 for installation costs, at a location to be determined, but proposed for the existing sculpture pad at Scenic Heights. **Second:** Commissioner Kingsbury seconded. With all in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

8. Next Meeting – March 12, 2020

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:41 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Felix
Senior Administrative Assistant
Administration



Arts Commission

STAFF REPORT

June 11, 2020

AGENDA ITEM 5:

“Tao” Sculptures next steps (approved by City Council June 2)

At the June 2, 2020 City Council Meeting, City Council approved Resolution 20-17 authorizing the acquisition of the “Tao” sculptures. The following steps have been taken to prepare for the sculptures:

- Parks Manager Hank Nydam and City Administrator Oborn met with the Garden Club at the pocket park adjacent to Office Max to discuss the installation of the statues
- Staff has requested the artist prepare an invoice for the sculptures and provide a bid for transporting the sculptures
- Once the bid is provided, staff will decide the best way to move forward to get the sculptures delivered
- The artist will need to provide the information for the plaque and staff will order it
- Staff will coordinate with the Arts Commission, Park Board, and Garden Club to plan an “unveiling” of the pieces – the timing of this will depend on the COVID restrictions

ATTACHMENTS

1. June 2, 2020 City Council packet documents for “Tao” sculptures

City of Oak Harbor
City Council Agenda Bill

Bill No. 4.e.
Date: June 2, 2020
Subject: Arts Commission: Resolution
20-17: Authorizing the
acquisition of the “Tao”
Sculpture Pieces

FROM: Blaine Oborn, City Administrator

INITIALED AS APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE COUNCIL BY:

- Bob Severns, Mayor
- Blaine Oborn, City Administrator
- Patricia Soule, Finance Director
- Anna Thompson, Interim City Attorney, as to form

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Recommended motion:

Move to approve Resolution 20-17 authorizing the acquisition of the “Tao” sculptures, the placement of the pieces in the pocket part on the Southwest corner of State Route 20 and NE Koetje Street, and the creation of an appropriate base and plaque for the pieces, for a total amount not to exceed \$8,000, to be paid from the Creative Arts Fund.

BACKGROUND / SUMMARY INFORMATION

The Arts Commission has been working to purchase two pieces of sculpture titled “Tao” from artist Verena Schwippert. The Arts Commission presented the pieces to City Council at the April 22, 2020 workshop. Staff evaluated multiple possible locations and determined that the pocket park at the Southwest corner of State Route 20 and NE Koetje Street would be the most appropriate location at this time. Parks Manager Hank Nydam is coordinating with the Garden Club, that sponsors the pocket park, to coordinate the installation of the sculpture pieces. A plaque with information about the pieces will be installed.

Resolution 20-17 authorizes City Council to acquire the “Tao” sculpture pieces, place them in the pocket park, and expend funds for their placement and the creation of a plaque.

LEGAL AUTHORITY

OHMC Section 2.29.120 “City funding of the arts” and OHMC Chapter 3.26 “Creative Arts Fund”.

FISCAL IMPACT

Acquisition, placement, and plaque creation for the “Tao” Sculpture Pieces: not to exceed \$8,000

Fund 115 Creative Arts Fund balance as of March 31, 2020: \$160,491.77.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL / BOARD / CITIZEN INPUT

May 9, 2019: Arts Commission Meeting

February 13, 2020: Arts Commission Meeting

April 22, 2020: City Council Workshop

ATTACHMENTS

1. [Resolution 20-17 Authorizing the Acquisition of the "Tao" Sculpture Pieces](#)
2. [Photos and sculpture information provided by artist Verena Schwippert](#)

RESOLUTION 20-17

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF OAK HARBOR AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF THE SCULPTURE PIECES KNOWN AS “TAO”.

WHEREAS, the City finds that public artistic expression of all kinds enhances the historical, cultural, economic, educational and social life of the community and benefits the health and welfare of the City’s residents; and,

WHEREAS, the City finds it appropriate, necessary, and desirable to promote and support public experiences of the visual arts and artistic disciplines for the good of the citizens of Oak Harbor; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Oak Harbor Arts Commission has been working to obtain a set of pieces created by sculptor Verena Schwippert known as the “Tao” sculptures; and,

WHEREAS, staff has vetted multiple locations for the placement of the “Tao” sculptures and determined that the most appropriate location is the pocket park on the Southwest corner of State Route 20 and NE Koetje Street; and,

WHEREAS, the purchase price of the sculptures from artist Verena Schwippert is \$7,000, and staff estimates \$500 for transportation of the pieces, and \$500 for creation of a plaque and appropriate base for the pieces;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Oak Harbor Washington, that the City Council authorizes the acquisition of the “Tao” sculptures, the placement of the pieces in the pocket part on the Southwest corner of State Route 20 and NE Koetje Street, and the creation of an appropriate base and plaque for the pieces, for a total amount not to exceed \$8,000, to be paid from the Creative Arts Fund.

PASSED by the City Council and approved by its Mayor this 2nd day of June, 2020.

CITY OF OAK HARBOR

Robert Severns, Mayor

Attest:

Julie Lindsey, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

Anna Thompson, Interim City Attorney

"Tao" Sculptures

Verena Schwippert, artist

Dimensions: H 38" and H 31", width: 55", depth: 26"

Weight: 850 Lbs and 550 Lbs , estimated weights.

Material is Cascade granite, the taller vessel has a reddish tint, smaller one is a soft black and white.

Each vessel has a 2" hole drilled in the top, surrounded by a polished area (which shows off the granite nicely)

Below the shoulder of each vessel is a band of also polished stone.

The granite is virtually maintenance free and not affected by weathering, it can be scrubbed with Dow Foam cleaner every 3 years or so.





Arts Commission

STAFF REPORT

June 11, 2020

AGENDA ITEM 6:

Acorn Sculpture RFQ \$15,000 next steps (approved by City Council June 2)

At the June 2, 2020 City Council Meeting, City Council approved the restructuring of the Acorn sculpture project to reduce the budget from \$30,000 to \$15,000 and from three sculptures to one.

The Arts Commission should develop what criteria they would like included on the Request for Proposals, and then staff can proceed with opening the RFQ, and commissioners can share it with interested artists.

ATTACHMENTS

1. June 2, 2020 City Council packet documents for Acorn sculptures

City of Oak Harbor
City Council Agenda Bill

Bill No. 4.d.
Date: June 2, 2020
Subject: Arts Commission: Acorn
Sculpture Commissioning
amendment

FROM: Blaine Oborn, City Administrator

INITIALED AS APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE COUNCIL BY:

- Bob Severns, Mayor
- Blaine Oborn, City Administrator
- Patricia Soule, Finance Director
- Anna Thompson, Interim City Attorney, as to form

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Recommended motion:

Move to authorize staff to solicit requests for proposals for the commissioning of one Acorn Sculpture, in the amount of \$15,000.

BACKGROUND / SUMMARY INFORMATION

At the May 7, 2019 City Council Meeting, Council authorized staff to solicit requests for proposals for three Acorn Sculptures, for an amount not to exceed \$30,000. At the time, the vision of the Arts Commission was to place three different sized sculptures at potentially different locations around town. Since that time, the Arts Commission has undertaken various project and sculpture purchases, and as such decided to reduce the scope and expense of the proposed Acorn Sculpture.

The Arts Commission briefed Council about this proposed change at the City Council Workshop on April 22, 2020. After further staff discussion, the suggested location for the Acorn Sculpture will be near the Autumn Winds Sculpture (on the Southeast corner of SR 20 and NE 4th Avenue). The pieces will tie well together and will create a dynamic entry along SR 20 honoring the Garry Oak Tree heritage of the City.

Staff will work with the Arts Commission to develop the specifics of the RFQ and advertise for artists to submit proposals. The final commissioning of the piece will be brought back to Council in the form of a Resolution once the artist, price, and location has been determined.

LEGAL AUTHORITY

OHMC Section 2.29.120 “City funding of the arts” and OHMC Chapter 3.26 “Creative Arts Fund”.

FISCAL IMPACT

Commissioning of one Acorn Sculpture not to exceed \$15,000

Fund 115 Creative Arts Fund balance as of March 31, 2020: \$160,491.77.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL / BOARD / CITIZEN INPUT

August 5, 2015: City Council Regular Meeting, Council reviewed Post Office Gary Oak Tree Ad-Hoc Committee Report

February 21, 2019: Arts Commission Meeting

March 14, 2019: Arts Commission Meeting

March 27, 2019: City Council Workshop

April 11, 2019: Arts Commission Meeting

April 24, 2019: City Council Workshop

February 13, 2020: Arts Commission Meeting

April 22, 2020: City Council Workshop

ATTACHMENTS

1. [City Council Agenda Bill from May 7, 2019](#)
2. [City Council Workshop Presentation from April 22, 2020](#)

City of Oak Harbor
City Council Meeting
Agenda Bill
HISTORICAL

Bill No. 4. d.
Date: May 7, 2019
Subject: Arts Commission: Acorn Sculpture
Commissioning

FROM: Blaine Oborn, City Administrator

INITIALED AS APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE COUNCIL BY:

- Bob Severns, Mayor
- Blaine Oborn, City Administrator
- Patricia Soule, Finance Director
- Nikki Esparza, City Attorney, as to form

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Move to authorize staff to solicit request for proposals for the commissioning of the Acorn Sculptures.

BACKGROUND / SUMMARY INFORMATION

This item was first presented at the March 27, 2019 Workshop Meeting, where Council requested more historical information. Attachment 1 is the Agenda Bill with the Ad-Hoc Committee Report that was presented at the August 5, 2015 City Council Meeting. City Administrator Blaine Oborn met with Parks Manager Hank Nydam to view the Garry Oak Tree Wood on March 28, 2019. Designated large pieces of the tree trunk have been set aside specifically for this Acorn Sculpture Project. While there are a variety of projects which may still be considered, the Arts Commission is focusing on getting one project underway. Since there has already been a process for community involvement through the work of the Ad-Hoc Committee in 2015, staff feels comfortable with moving forward with the Acorn Project based on the past work done and current interest in the project.

The use of the large portions of wood set aside for the Acorn Sculpture still leaves a sizeable amount of wood for other projects. Public Works staff is currently working on three potential projects which will be undertaken at the staff level, namely a timeline slice to be displayed in the CWF Interpretive Center, a podium, and a live edge table.

Once the Acorn Sculpture Project has been commissioned, the location to display the two to three large sculptures that will be created will be brought before Council.

LEGAL AUTHORITY

FISCAL IMPACT

Arts Commission Fund: Estimated amount not to exceed \$30,000, paid out of the Art Acquisition and Maintenance Fund #115

PREVIOUS COUNCIL / BOARD / CITIZEN INPUT

August 5, 2015: City Council Regular Meeting, Council reviewed Post Office Gary Oak Tree Ad-Hoc Committee Report

February 21, 2019: Arts Commission Meeting

March 14, 2019: Arts Commission Meeting

March 27, 2019: City Council Workshop, Council asked for additional information at next workshop.

April 11, 2019: Arts Commission Meeting

April 24, 2019: City Council Workshop

ATTACHMENTS

(original agenda bill attachments not included)

**City of Oak Harbor
City Council Workshop
Summary Statement
HISTORICAL**

Date: April 22, 2020

Subject: **Arts Commission:
Restructuring Acorn
Sculptures proposed RFQ and
Proposed sculpture purchase
'Tao'**

**FROM: Blaine Oborn, City Administrator
Rodric Gagnon, Arts Commissioner (Chair)
Therese Kingsbury, Arts Commissioner**

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Arts Commission Chair Rodric Gagnon and Arts Commissioner Therese Kingsbury will present two items for Council's consideration. The first item is restructuring the proposed RFQ for the Acorn Sculpture Project. At the May 7, 2019 City Council Meeting, Council approved staff to solicit RFQs for the commissioning of Acorn Sculptures, with a budget of \$30,000 and a target of three sculptures. Since that time the Arts Commission has considered its available funds, other projects, and the condition of the Garry Oak tree wood, and moved at their February 13, 2020 meeting to amend the proposed RFQ budget to \$15,000 and one Acorn sculpture.

The Arts Commission has been considering the purchase of two sculptures known as "Tao" which has not previously been presented to Council. At the May 9, 2019 Arts Commission Meeting, the Commission had voted to request approval for purchase in coordination with a potential grant from the Soroptimist Foundation. After further consideration, at their February 13, 2020 Meeting, the Arts Commission moved to request the purchase of the "Tao" art pieces without the grant, at a cost of \$7,000, with \$500 for installation, and the proposed location for placement of the pieces the existing sculpture pad at Scenic Heights.

Council will be asked to consider these items and if favorable, they will be brought forth for action at a future Council Meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

1. [Presentation by Chairman Gagnon and Commissioner Kingsbury](#)

Arts Commission

City Council Workshop, April 22, 2020

Overview

1. Gary Oak Acorn Project Revision
2. Sculpture Purchase: “Tau”

Gary Oak Acorn Project Revision

- Suggest reducing number of acorns sculptures from 3 down to 1.
 - Condition of wood has deteriorated significantly.
 - Reduction in cost can allow for redirection of funds to other projects.



Arts Commission Minutes February 13, 2020

Motion: Commissioner Mason moved to amend the proposed RFQ for the Acorn Sculpture Project from three sculptures to one sculpture, and amend the proposed budget for the project from \$30,000 to \$15,000. **Second:** Commissioner Kingsbury seconded. With all in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Sculpture Purchase: “Tau”

- Purchase Price: \$7,000
- Installation: \$500
- Proposed location: Scenic Heights

Arts Commission Minutes February 13, 2020

Motion: Commissioner Mason moved to amend the request to City Council to purchase the Tao sculptures at the price of \$7,000 (now excluding the proposed grant from Soroptimist originally motioned at the May 9, 2019 Arts Commission Meeting), with an additional \$500 for installation costs, at a location to be determined, but proposed for the existing sculpture pad at Scenic Heights. **Second:** Commissioner Kingsbury seconded. With all in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Sculpture Purchase: "Tau"

