

5-8-23 Arts Commission Minutes

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH  
Arts Commission**

6:30 PM  
May 8, 2023

**MINUTES**

**COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT**

*Commissioners:*

Bridget Agabra  
Chris Craven  
Mary Deraitus (excused)  
Kimberly Kapustein (excused)  
Tina Velazquez Hays  
Treasure Hinds  
Tracie Mahadeo  
Eric Morgret  
Fred Poyner IV  
Albert Wang  
Rachel Wright

*Administration/Staff:*

Amy Dukes, Cultural Arts Manager

*Guests:*

Mark Clemens, DIA

**CALL TO ORDER**

MAHADEO called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

HAYS moved to approve the minutes of April 24, 2023. WRIGHT seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mark Clemens, Executive Director of DIA, gave arts and culture program updates from DIA.

**CHAIR REPORT**

MAHADEO reported on attending the Influence the Choice film screening. WRIGHT gave creative district updates and reported on creative district advisory board plans for making public comment at the May COW meeting.

**STAFF REPORT**

DUKES gave an update the NW Trolls Project. Issaquah troll build is scheduled for late August. Thomas Dambo kicked off the social media campaign for the project which he is calling "Way of the Bird King." Seattle Shakespeare will be performing "The Tempest" at the community center green on July 27. There will only be one production this year due to staffing, logistics and funding challenges at Seattle Shakespeare.

5-8-23 Arts Commission Minutes

## AGENDA ITEMS

- A **Art in the Schools Grant Program**  
Process and criteria for reviewing applications was discussed. Application deadline is May 24. Applications will be sent to commissioners to review before next arts commission meeting. Funding decisions will be made in early summer.
- B **Joint Economic Vitality Commission Meeting Preparation**  
Commissioners discussed goals for meeting with the Economic Vitality Commission on June 21 as well as areas of potential collaboration.
- C **Artmaking Space Discussion**  
WRIGHT shared data collected from various Creative District surveys and focus groups in which artmaking space was identified as a top priority for Issaquah's creative community. Commissioners discussed creating a committee or study group to further explore the feasibility of developing an artmaking space or art center for Issaquah. Several members shared information about successful community art center models. WRIGHT shared information on a vacant building in Issaquah that could be explored as one option. WRIGHT made a motion to create a committee to explore artmaking space needs and options. MORGRET seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Commissioners will self-select to participate in the committee.
- D **2023-24 Arts Commission Elections**  
MORGRET made a motion to nominate Tracie Mahadeo and Rachel Wright as arts commission co-chairs for 2023-24. POYNER seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

none

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.