CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Arts Commission

6:30 PM
November 13, 2023

MINUTES

COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

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

Zoe Iacomini – youth representative (excused)

Administration/Staff:
Amy Dukes, Cultural Arts Manager
Juliana da Cruz, Economic Dev. Coordinator

Guests:
Christina Bruning, DIA
Dani French, Village Theatre
Jocelyn Sandruck, DIA

CALL TO ORDER

MAHADEO called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

WANG moved to approve the minutes of October 9, 2023. HAYS seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Christina Bruning, DIA provided information on the upcoming local author fair as well as holiday artisan markets.
Jocelyn Sandruck, DIA introduced herself as a new community member and DIA volunteer.
Dani French, Village Theatre gave updates on Village Theatre's season.

CHAIR REPORT

WRIGHT thanked those who participated in the arts space survey. She also announced the launch of Issaquah Arts, a new nonprofit to serve the creative community in Issaquah.

MAHADEO shared that she has a new job in development with PBS.

STAFF REPORT

DUKES provided information about the upcoming arts grant cycle. The commission will cancel its December meeting to focus on individual review of grant applications. There will be two arts commission meetings in January 2024 to facilitate grant application evaluation and funding recommendations – one on the original meeting date of January 8 and an additional meeting, date tbd.

AGENDA ITEMS

A **Downtown Plazas Artist RFQ Submission Review (A)**
Arts Commissioners reviewed the submissions for the Downtown Plazas artwork design RFQ. They also discussed the overall public art placement within the downtown core (since several pieces will need to be relocated as part of the capital project). HINDS shared a draft map of artwork locations for further, future discussion. After evaluation of the artist submissions, commissioners selected June Sekiguchi as the first choice for the project and several additional artists as alternates.

MAHADEO moved to select Sekiguchi for the commission, with Miller, Thurston and Goldlust as alternates. WANG seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

B **Issaquah Economic Development Action Plan (I)**
Economic Development Coordinator Juliana da Cruz presented the goals and strategies related to the creative economy in the new ED action plan. She solicited feedback from arts commissioners on the priorities.

C **Comprehensive Plan – Cultural Element Updates (D)**
Arts Commissioners continued discussion on the reorganization of the cultural element to better align with the arts strategic directions. Commissioners will continue to work on their assigned sections. Final recommended changes will be reviewed in January 2024.

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

AGABRA reported on a site visit to the Day of the Dead Celebration. KAPUSTEIN reported on a site visit to Artwalk. HAYS reported on a site visit to Zombie Walk.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22pm.