

1-8-24 Arts Commission Minutes

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Arts Commission**

6:30 PM
January 8, 2024

MINUTES

COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Commissioners:

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

Administration/Staff:

Amy Dukes, Cultural Arts Manager

Guests:

Christina Bruning, DIA
Corby Casler, DIA
Paula Stringer, DIA
Lindsey Pinkston, Issaquah Highlands
Council

CALL TO ORDER

MAHADEO called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

WRIGHT moved to approve the minutes of November 13, 2023. CRAVEN seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Corby Casler, DIA thanked the commission for the city's support of arts and culture programming in 2023.
Christina Bruning, DIA provided information on the December authors fair that featured 26 local artists.
Paula Stringer, DIA introduced herself as a DIA volunteer and commented on the large number of artists featured through DIA programming in 2023.

CHAIR REPORT

MAHADEO shared a quick overview of the 2024 Arts Granting Process and Criteria.

1-8-24 Arts Commission Minutes

STAFF REPORT

DUKES provided an update on the downtown plazas project and public art integration, with artist June Sekiguchi accepting the commission. She also provided information about upcoming arts commission items at Council Services and Safety Committee and Planning Policy Commission.

AGENDA ITEMS

A **Cultural Element Updates – Final Recommendations (A)**

Arts Commissioners reviewed the full set of cultural element updates and changes.

MAHADEO motioned to recommend the changes to the Cultural Element of the City of Issaquah Comprehensive Plan as presented. CRAVEN seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

B **2024 Art Grant Applications – Evaluation, Overview and Priorities (D)**

WRIGHT presented an overview of data related to the forty 2024 Issaquah Arts Grant Applications. MAHADEO outlined the process and criteria for evaluation of the applications. Arts Commissioners requested that applicants who submitted more than one project provide prioritization of their requests. Commissioners discussed the feasibility of projects with the need for a venue, but without a venue secured. Requests were made for additional budget information from several applicants. The Commission will complete the review of the 2024 Arts Grant applications at a special meeting on January 18, 2024. Allocation recommendations will be made at that meeting and forwarded to Council Services and Safety Committee on January 23, 2024.

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm.