

4-15-24 Arts Commission Minutes

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH  
Arts Commission**

6:30 PM  
April 15, 2024

**MINUTES**

**COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT**

*Commissioners:*

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

*Administration/Staff:*

Amy Dukes, Cultural Arts Manager  
Robin Spear, Park Planning and  
Development Manager  
Tina Eggers, Chief of Staff

*Guests:*

**CALL TO ORDER**

MAHADEO called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

WRIGHT moved to approve the minutes of February 12, 2024. HAYS seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

none

**CHAIR REPORT**

MAHADEO provided information about the arts commission interviews conducted in March. Two new arts commissioners will be joining the commission in May. WRIGHT spoke about a letter she authored to support community use of the Issaquah High Performing Arts Center. She plans to send the letter via email to city council members prior to their joint meeting with the Issaquah School Board on April 25.

**STAFF REPORT**

DUKES thanked POYNER for his service on the arts commission, as his term expires at the end of April. She also announced that the Issaquah Film Festival planning is moving forward and that Regal Issaquah Highlands has been secured for the event on Saturday, August 3 and Sunday, August 4, 2024. Grand Ridge Plaza/Regency Centers is sponsoring the event and hosting an opening party on Friday, August 2. Other sponsors include 425 Magazine and Regal Cinemas.

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## AGENDA ITEMS

- A **Parks Projects Updates (I)**  
Park Planning and Development Manager Robin Spear gave a presentation about current park projects as well as the park systems update. She invited commissioners to attend the virtual community meeting about the park system update on April 18 at 6p.
- B **Downtown Plazas Project – Sculpture Concepts (D)**  
Artist June Sekiguchi shared the latest sculpture concepts for Pedestrian Park Plaza and the Senior Center Plaza. The large-scale sculptural works are inspired by the western red cedar tree and its importance to the region and the peoples who have lived in Issaquah since time immemorial. She shared renderings, her design process and the project timeline.
- C **Sister Cities Commission Updates / Visiting Artist (A)**  
Chief of Staff and Sister Cities Commission Staff Liaison Tina Eggers provided updates on the sister cities commission programming as well as plans to bring visiting artists from Chefchaouen Morocco to Issaquah this October. She requested \$6,000 in funding from the arts program to support the travel and stipend expenses for the visiting artists. Arts commissioner requested a written proposal with budget to be considered at the May 13 meeting.

## OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

AGABRA attended an Issaquah History Museums talk at the Train Depot. Commissioners further discussed the letter regarding community use of the Issaquah Performing Arts Center. Commissioners offered suggestions regarding the letter and indicated support for its message.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51pm.