



ANACORTES ARTS COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 547, ANACORTES, WA 98221
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Anacortes Arts Commission

April 8th, 2026 at 4pm

This meeting will be held in person & virtually.

Virtual meeting link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83082608401>

Preliminary Agenda

1. Call to order
2. Approve March 2026 minutes
3. Public comment
4. Correspondence/Communication
5. Madrona Grove
6. Piano-cortes
7. 98221 Gallery
8. Communication/Advertising
9. Other business

If reasonable accommodation due to a disability are needed, please contact Brandon Krause at 299-1961 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting date.

March 11, 2026

Members Present: Bob Hogan, Kami Bratten, Stephen Cheng, Trish Wilson

Staff Present: Jonn Lunsford, Darby Jordan

Called to Order: 4:06 PM

Arts Festival:

Jonn shared that he and Meredith have agreed that a routine check in between the Arts Festival, Creative District and the Arts Commission would be beneficial. Meredith clarified the difference between the Festival and Creative District, with the Festival being a non-profit since 1962 with a summer festival and fine art show supporting art in the community. The Creative District is an economic driver piece and separate entity, with the Festival handling the administrative part for now. Meredith spoke about upcoming events-

The Tulip Art show will be held at the Depot April 3-12, from 11-4.

The Nautical Treasure Hunt will run on the same dates with about 200 balls being hidden in parks and public spaces around town. Prizes are for nautical art from local businesses.

The Festival fine art show will run July 31-August 2 at the Depo.

She updated on the current priorities of the Arts Festival, sharing that the 2026 budget is tight and most work will revolve around the Creative District. They have funding for two murals that need to be done from June 2026-June 2027. One will be a Samish mural and one will be a “working people of Skagit county” mural with a call to artist for the second one. They are working on alley projects with possible murals attached to the walls. They have about 45,000 for pocket parks and are looking at options for those.

The Mayor would like to see even more improvements to the area around the Preston and Maritime Museum with better flow, a stage, seating and art.

Permission has been given by the Chamber to put up light pole banners in the Creative District.

There will be more bike racks painted as the weather improves, this is part of the street scape project.

They are working with Sign Dog on a project to wrap two utility boxes in downtown. There will be a call to artists for the next phase of this project. It is about \$1500 per box to wrap.

There will be a presentation to Council on Monday about the street scape project, looking at a trial street closure on 5th street for 4-6 weeks over the summer to create a plaza. The goal is to draw both residents and tourists to the downtown area.

Meredith also shared some of their ideas-

They would like to participate in the international “Make Music Day” on June 21st. This is a program that connects venues and musicians. Another variation on this would be with written word art, connecting poets and artists with a venue.

They are looking at bringing back the youth art show, but presenting it as part of the First Friday Art Walk with art displayed in local business windows and shops. Trish said that the library would like to participate as the new teen center has open wall space.

It was decided that Meredith would return for a meeting with interested members of the Commission to talk about ideas for the youth art show.

Minutes:

January minutes were unanimously approved.

Public Comments:

Chelsea was in attendance as a local artist and muralist, interested in the Commission.

Correspondence & Communication:

Jonn shared that Stephen’s tiny house has been vandalized for a third time, unfortunately.

Madrona Grove:

The call will go out soon with Zach heading this project again. Darby will put a link on the website.

Advertising:

The 98221 Gallery is winding down with this show ending in May. Trish will be taking the lead on the next show, to go up for the June Art Walk. The submission deadline for that will be May 15th.

Piano-cortes:

This project will not happen without the moving company. Bob will reach out about and confirm with the Arts Festival about space.

Other Business:

Jonn shared that because the World Cup is being held in the US, a local group has secured town names for all towns in Skagit County. They are six feet high and "Anacortes" is 43 feet long. Staff are working with the Port to install them in a photogenic place near the water. The "O" will need to be painted as a soccer ball. Jonn asked for ideas and artists.

Meeting adjourned at 5:06 pm

Respectfully submitted by Darby Jordan