AGENDA
GIG HARBOR ARTS COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, May 12, 2021 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting Link: https://zoom.us/j/99642717543
Call-in: (253) 215-8782 Meeting ID: 996 4271 7543

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of April 14, 2021, Special Meeting May 6, 2021; and Special Meeting May 11, 2021

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Creative Endeavor Second Round Grant Update
2. Harborview / Stinson Sidewalk Art Project Update
3. Locks of Love Update
4. Historic Markers Update

NEW BUSINESS:

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS / REPORTS:

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OTHER MEETINGS:
GHAC: June 9, 2021

ADJOURN:

MINUTES
GIG HARBOR ARTS COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, April10, 2021 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting Link: https://zoom.us/j/99642717543
Call-in: (253) 215-8782 Meeting ID: 996 4271 7543

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL:
Chair Glock-Jackson called the meeting to order.

Present: Chair Glock-Jackson, Commissioners Dan Bozich, Jennifer Beard, Lynn Stevenson, Robin Avni, and Linda Sutherland. Absent: Samantha Kelly Staff: Molly Towslee

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 10 ⇦ and March 10, 2021 ⇦

MOTION: Move to approve the minutes of February 10, 2021 as amended.
Avni / Bozich – five voted yes. Beard abstained

MOTION: Move to approve the minutes of March 10, 2021 as presented.
Beard / Bozich – unanimously approved

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Arts & Culture Element of the Comprehensive Plan Update. Chair Glock-Jackson said this was moved forward by the Council thanks to letters of support that came forward. Council also approved $15,000 for a consultant to usher the amendment through the process.

Chair Glock-Jackson said that later in the meeting she would be asking for a letter of support for another Comp Plan Amendment for a variance to the Shoreline Master Plan that would allow placement of the Honoring Sculpture “Our Fisherman – Our Guardian” at Austin Park.

2. Creative Endeavor Grant Program Update. Chair Glock-Jackson announced that the Rotary Group withdrew from their $5,000 grant award for their Heritage Day project. The Commissioners discussed adding the feasibility of a project to occur to the grading metrics to help prevent this in the future.

Commissioners deliberated going back out for a second call for applications for the $5,000 that returned to the fund.

MOTION: Move to re-open acceptance of applications for the remaining $5,000.
Avni / Sutherland – unanimously approved

Timeline:

- Updated application packet posted by April 16
- Applications due May 5
- Interviews May 6
- Review of applications May 6
- Council approval of recommendation May 24
- Contracts returned to City Clerk June 3
- Project completed and invoices submitted by December 8

3. Harborview / Stinson Sidewalk Art Project Update. Clerk Towslee read the email from Public Works Director Jeff Langhelm regarding the status of the project. He anticipates that the project will occur from September 2021 – April 2022. If the sewer main relocation takes less time, the project may be completed sooner.

They will know more in late May, and Chair Glock-Jackson will report back to the Commission on when to start the call for artists. She shared information about a sidewalk tile project in Long Beach. She will send photos and try to identify the artist.

4. Catalogue of City Art. Commissioner Beard asked for an update on this project. Chair Glock-Jackson provided an overview of what has been done to date. Clerk Towslee said that there is an opportunity for the Harbor History Museum to submit a bid for completing the remainder of the project.

5. Historic Markers Update. Commissioner Stevenson and Chair Glock-Jackson provided the background for this project. Chair Glock-Jackson is in contact with the Mayor about coordinating this project with current efforts to honor the Native Americans and will send the proposed text that was intended for the plaques that were to be placed on the concrete pylons. She stressed that the pylons are an Arts Commission project.

As Vice-chair Avni needed to leave the meeting, Chair Glock-Jackson asked for the letter to the Department of Ecology in support of the variance to the Shoreline Master Plan that would allow placement of the Honoring Sculpture at Austin Park. She provided additional information.

MOTION: Move to authorize the Chair of the GHAC to write the letter of support. Avni / Stevenson – unanimously approved.

Vice-Chair Avni left the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

6. Locks of Love Update. Commissioner Stevenson reported that she has not been able to connect with Director Langhelm. She will provide an update at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS / REPORTS:

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OTHER MEETINGS:
GHAC: Special Meeting May 6 and regular meeting May 12, 2021

ADJOURN:

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

_____
Molly Towslee, City Clerk

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
GIG HARBOR ARTS COMMISSION

Wednesday, May 6, 2021 - 5:00 p.m.

Due to COVID-19 this meeting is being held remotely. Join Meeting: https://zoom.us/j/99811967118 Or by phone: US: +1 253 215 8782

CALL TO ORDER:
Present: Chair Charlee Glock-Jackson and Commissioners Robin Avni, Lynn Stevenson, Dan Bozich, and Linda Sutherland. Commissioners Kelly and Beard were absent.

Staff: Molly Towslee and Guest Dennis Larry Fowler

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Creative Endeavor Grant Program – Applicant Interviews. Mr. Fowler presented an overview of his proposal for a poetry series. The commissioners asked questions and offered suggestions for partnering options.

After Mr. Fowler signed off, the group deliberated the merits of the application and shared their grading criteria. The numbers were tallied, and a recommendation made to forward to Council for approval.

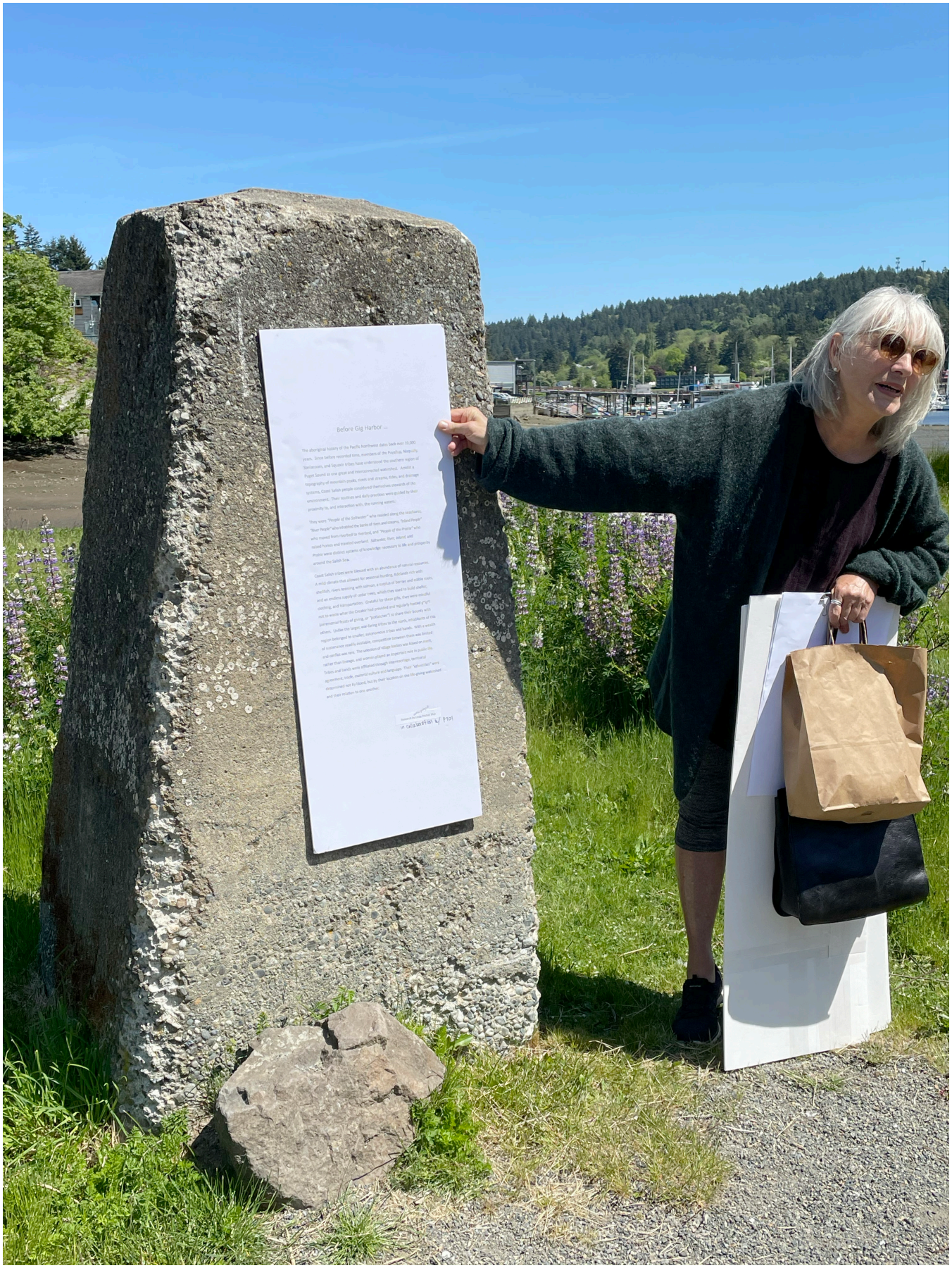
MOTION: Move to forward a recommendation to award Dennis Larry Fowler $5000 for the Poetry Series Program to council for approval at their May 10, 2021 Council meeting. Bozich / Sutherland – motion passed 5-0

ADJOURN:

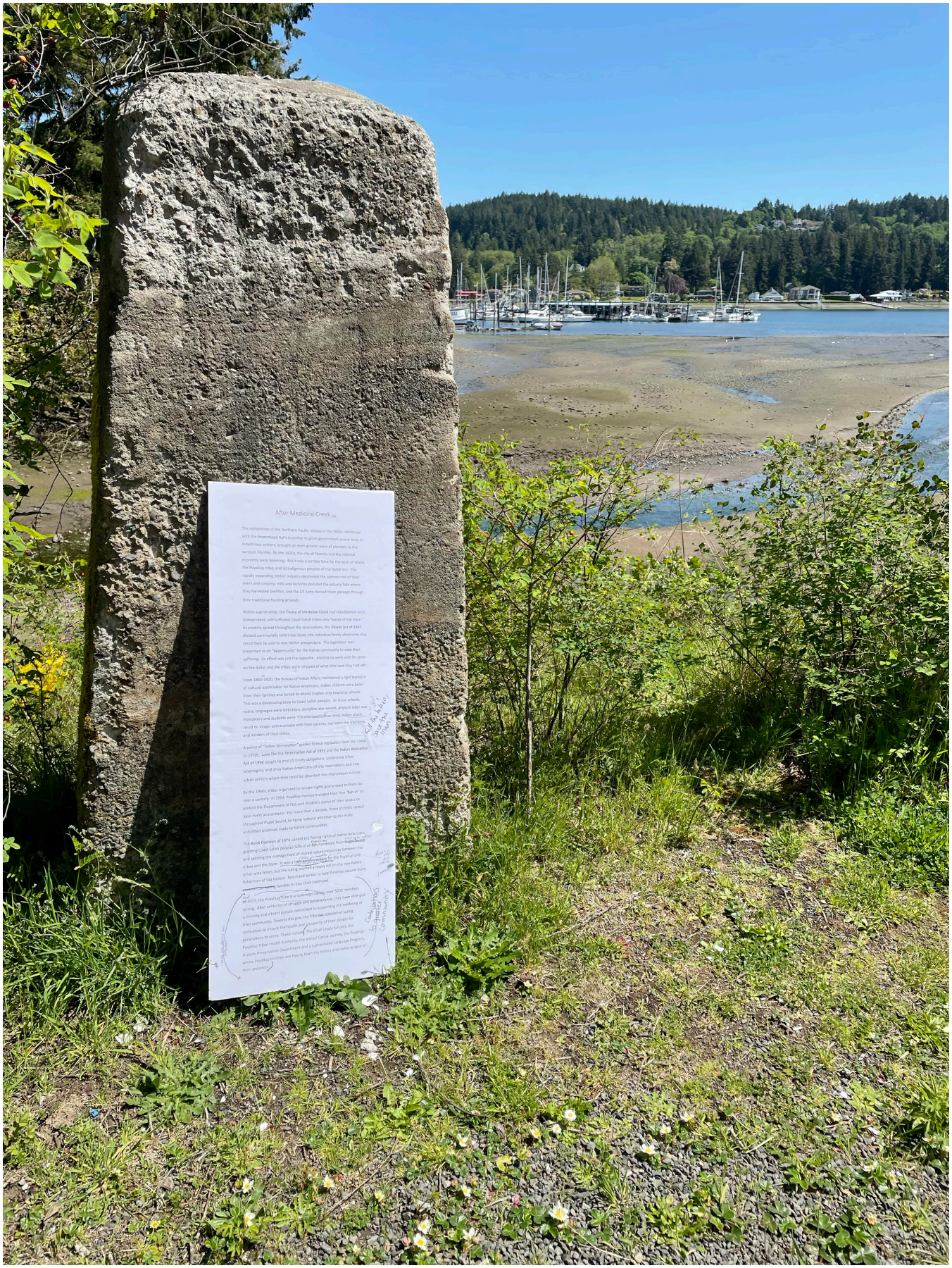
There was no further business to discuss and the meeting adjourned at 5:40.

Respectfully submitted:

_____
Molly Towslee, City Clerk


Before Gig Harbor ...
The aboriginal history of the Pacific Northwest dates back over 10,000 years. Since before recorded time, members of the Puyallup, Nisqually, Steilacoom, and Squaxin tribes have understood the southern region of Puget Sound as one geographic and interconnected watershed. Amidst a topography of mountain peaks, rivers and streams, tides, and drainage systems, Coast Salish people considered themselves stewards of the environment. Their routines and daily practices were guided by their proximity to, and interaction with, the running waters.
They were "People of the Saltwater" who resided along the seashores; "River People" who inhabited the banks of rivers and creeks; "Inland People" who moved from riverbed to riverbed; and "People of the Prairie" who raised homes and traveled overland. Saltwater, River, Inland, and Prairie were distinct systems of knowledge necessary to life and prosperity around the Salish Sea.
Coast Salish tribes were blessed with an abundance of natural resources. A mild climate that allowed for seasonal hunting, Adirondack rich with shellfish, rivers teeming with salmon, a surplus of berries and edible roots, and an endless supply of cedar trees, which they used to build shelter, clothing, and transportation. Grateful for these gifts, they were mindful not to waste what the Creator had provided and regularly hosted g"ul" (ceremonial feasts of giving, or "potlatches") to share their bounty with others. Unlike the larger, war-faring tribes to the north, entanglements of this region between smaller, autonomous tribes and bands, with a wealth of resources readily available, competition between them was limited and conflict was rare. The selection of village leaders was based on merit, rather than lineage, and women played an important role in public life. Tribes and bands were affiliated through intermarriage, ceremonial agreement, trade, material culture and language. Your "affiliations" were determined not by blood, but by their location on the life-giving watershed and their relation to one another.
Written by Jennifer Kelly Wilson
in collaboration w/ Pilot

The Puyallup Tribe



After Medicine Creek

The completion of the Northern Pacific railway in the 1880s, combined with the Homestead Act's incentive to grant government-owned lands to industrious settlers, brought an even greater wave of pioneers to the western frontier. By the 1920s, the city of Tacoma and the regional economy were booming. But it was a terrible time for the local schtaluli, the Puyallup tribe, and all indigenous peoples of the Salish Sea. The rapidly expanding timber industry decimated the salmon runs of their rivers and streams; mills and factories polluted the estuary flats where they harvested shellfish; and the US Army denied them passage through their traditional hunting grounds.

Within a generation, the Treaty of Medicine Creek had transformed once independent, self-sufficient Coast Salish tribes into "wards of the State." As poverty spread throughout the reservations, the Dawes Act of 1887 divided communally held tribal lands into individual family allotments that could then be sold to non-Native prospectors. The legislation was presented as an "opportunity" for the Native community to ease their suffering. Its effect was just the opposite. Allotments were sold for cents on the dollar and the tribes were stripped of what little land they had left.

From 1860-1920, the Bureau of Indian Affairs maintained a rigid standard of cultural assimilation for Native Americans. Indian children were taken from their families and forced to attend English-only boarding schools. This was a devastating blow to Coast Salish peoples. At these schools, native languages were forbidden, discipline was severe, physical labor was mandatory and students were "Christianized." Over time, Indian youth could no longer communicate with their parents, nor learn the traditions and wisdom of their tribes.

A policy of "Indian Termination" guided federal legislation from the 1940s to 1950s. Laws like the Termination Act of 1953 and the Indian Relocation Act of 1956 sought to end US treaty obligations, undermine tribal sovereignty, and drive Native Americans off the reservations and into urban centers where they could be absorbed into mainstream culture.

By the 1960s, tribes organized to reclaim rights guaranteed to them for over a century. In 1964, Puyallup members staged their first "fish-in" to protest the Department of Fish and Wildlife's denial of their access to local rivers and streams. For more than a decade, these protests spread throughout Puget Sound, bringing national attention to the many unfulfilled promises made to Native communities.

The **Boldt Decision of 1974** upheld the fishing rights of Native Americans, granting Coast Salish peoples 50% of all fish harvested from Washington waters and splitting the management of shared natural resources between the tribes and the State. It was a hard-fought victory for the Puyallup and other area tribes, but the ruling exerted a heavy toll on the non-Native fishermen of Gig Harbor. Restricted access to local fisheries caused many of the fishing families to lose their livelihood.

By 2021, the Puyallup Tribe is a thriving community, over 5000 members strong. After centuries of struggle and perseverance, they have emerged a thriving and vibrant people committed to supporting the well-being of their community. Towards this goal, the Tribe has established lasting institutions to ensure the health and prosperity of their people for generations to come. These include: The Chief Leschi Schools, the Puyallup Tribal Health Authority, the annual Canoe Journey, the Puyallup Historic Preservation Department and a culturally-rooted language program, where Puyallup children are free to learn the history and native tongue of their ancestors.

Kill the Indian, save the man

to guarantee a healthy community

The Dangling of Deans Creek

Master
Master
LYNX

MINUTES
GIG HARBOR ARTS COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING

Tuesday, May 11, 2021 11:45am – 1:00pm
at Austin Park on Harborview Drive

IN ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners Lynn Stevenson and Samantha Kelly (sub-committee)
Commissioners Jennifer Beard, Linda Sutherland
Dawn Stanton and Linda Pitcher

OLD BUSINESS:

Historic Trail Marker signage on concrete pylons in Austin Park

Dawn Stanton and Linda Pitcher gave an overview of the site's history, the Donkey Creek daylighting project, tribal lands/language and the vision for this project.

- Proposed signs are 15˝ x 40˝ vertical metal plaques with engraved lettering.
  Very simple, unembellished design.
  To be inset into the concrete pylons from the original bridge.

- The tribal representatives are enthusiastic about this project
  and requested that we "tell the whole story."

- Project consists of FIVE stories on FOUR pylons:
  1. "Before Gig Harbor"
  2. "sxʷəbabš / The Swiftwater People"
  3. The Puyallup Tribe"
  4. "After Medicine Creek"
  5. The Daylighting of Donkey Creek"

- They are waiting for text edits/comments from the Puyallup tribe.

- Group discussion:
  – Commissioner Kelly expressed concern that the current text is too lengthy and the point size is a little small.
  – Commissioner Sutherland mentioned adding a QR code. This would require web content management.
  – Commissioner Beard suggested that the museum website might be able to include a more elaborate version of the stories.
  – Commissioner Kelly wants to be sure the signage acknowledges the current existence of the Tribe.
  – Should the signs be numbered or otherwise indicate that there's a collection?
  The text is written so it can stand alone and doesn't necessarily have to be read in a particular order.
  Also, Mayor Kuhn is working on a separate project with signage that will illustrate where the various art and pylons signs are located throughout the estuary.

- Dawn is getting estimates for fabrication and installation and she will have a follow-up presentation for the GHAC, hopefully in time for the June meeting.

• note: There is a fifth pylon in Donkey Creek Park that could still be utilized.