

## **La Conner Arts Commission Meeting – March 12, 2020, 10:00 a.m., Garden Club**

**Attendees:** Scott Thomas, John Leaver, Sylvia Strong, Craig Barber (by phone), Nick Fennel, Gary Giovane, Sheila Johnson

### **Update on the Richard Nash sculpture**

Sylvia reported that artist Richard Nash will handle ordering a plaque to honor Clayton and Barbara Straker James. John spoke about where he thought the sculpture should be placed, and Scott led the discussion of the sod growing up the plinthe. The installation date will be after tulip season.

### **Invitational Artists**

The 2020 Art's Alive! title will be 'Legacy in Light'.

All 2020 Invitational Artists have accepted, with the exception of Cathy Schoenberg. There will be 11 painters. Early planning has the work of Steve Jensen and Native glass artists, Joe Feddersen, Lillian Pitt, and John Goodwin on-stage; Gary Giovane and Mary Ennis Davis occupying the "Clayton James/Demo" room; and the wine bar area offered to Doug Bison, the merchant owner of Blackfish Gallery. Artist and gallery owner, J. Lonnee, has volunteered to demo.

The Town will sponsor the show, and all paperwork will be done through the new nonprofit.

### **New Lighting Fixtures**

Some reasonably priced lighting options were discussed. Buying and trying before making a large purchase will be done.

### **Nonprofit Organization**

All filings are complete, and the La Conner Arts Foundation (LAF) is a nonprofit recognized by the State of Washington. The submitted IRS 501(c)(3) charity filing is based on scholarship, education, and public art. The goal is that the La Conner Arts Commission and the La Conner Arts Foundation work together. LAF will handle the administrative work of Art's Alive, with the Arts Commission as advisors. A contractual agreement between the Town and LAF concerning Art's Alive still needs to be worked out.

Scott warned about COVID-19 restrictions and the upcoming tulip season. The hotel-motel tax fund, from which event grants are made, may be severely impacted this year leaving little to be dispersed for 2021 events.

The meeting was adjourned.