



ARTS COUNCIL MINUTES MAY 8, 2019

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Erin Vivion at 6:32 pm at Mercer Island Community & Event Center, 8236 SE 24th Street, Mercer Island, WA 98040.

Roll Call

Members Present: Amy Barnes, Candace Chuck, Erik Gordon (arrived 6:36 pm), Damian Schwiethale, Xixi Shakes, Gaylene Vaden (arrived 6:36 pm), and Erin Vivion

Members Absent: Matt Lome, Jessica Prince, and Rene Stratton

City Council: Deputy Mayor Salim Nice

MIVAL Liaison: Claudia Zimmerman

FAAC Liaison: Alice Finch

Staff: Sarah Bluvas, Jessi Bon, and Diane Mortenson

Guests: Kevin Pettelle, artist, and Rachel Foster, Pacific Northwest Ballet

Appearances

No appearances.

Minutes

It was moved by Chuck; seconded by Barnes to:

Approve the April 10, 2019, minutes as amended.

Passed 6-0-1

FOR: 6 (Barnes, Chuck, Gordon, Schwiethale, Shakes, Vaden)

AGAINST: 0

ABSTAIN: 1 (Vivion)

ABSENT: 3 (Lome, Prince, Stratton)

Update on 2-for-1 Public Art Project Idea – Damian Schwiethale

Schwiethale refreshed the Arts Council about the 2-for-1 public art collaboration with Pacific Northwest Ballet (PNB). Artist Kevin Pettelle shared information about his background as well as presented a process and timeline for completing a project in collaboration with PNB and the Arts Council.

Schwiethale will bring the conversation back at a future meeting to discuss how the project could fit in with other Arts Council initiatives.

2019 Budget Report – Sarah Bluvas

Bluvas reported on the 2019 operational budget to actual/pending expenses. As of May 8, \$36,368.83 remains in the Arts Council's 2019 operational budget. She again noted program areas where the Council may elect to reallocate funds and advised members to consider this heading into the second and third quarters.

Aubrey Davis Park Cultural Arts Visioning Working Session – Jessi Bon

Bon reviewed the plan to work with the Arts Council to develop a cultural arts vision as part of the Aubrey Davis Park Master Plan process. She kicked off that process by leading the Arts Council in a high-level brainstorming session and debrief on the Redmond Central Connector Tour. Bluvas will compile the notes from this session and continue to process at the next meeting.

Update on *Handsome Bollards* Maintenance – Sarah Bluvas

Bluvas reported that Parks & Recreation staff met with Tom Jay (the artist) and his wife Sara Mall Johani to determine a restoration plan for the installation in connection with the plaza repair. The artists provided a design mock-up for the repair but are still estimating costs. Bluvas will present costs and ask for input on next steps at the next meeting.

Chair Report – Erin Vivion

Vivion reported on arts and other community events she attended recently, including the Empty Bowls event supported by FAAC. She also thanked Chuck for her service to the Arts Council; Chuck's term on the Arts Council ends May 31, and she is not seeking another term.

Special Projects – Gaylene Vaden

No committee report.

Mostly Music in the Park – Sarah Bluvas

In the committee co-chairs' absence, Bluvas reported that marketing efforts for the concert series rolled out on April 25, and she is working with community groups to plan pre-concert activities.

Literary – Erik Gordon, Chair

No committee report.

Community Relations – Damian Schwiethale, Chair

Schwiethale will follow up with individual Arts Council members on outreach initiatives such as Arts Council Open Houses, a survey about programs, and using the Let's Talk platform to raise awareness and build support for projects.

Gallery – Amy Barnes, Chair

No committee report.

Public Art – Erin Vivion, Chair

Vivion and Gordon discussed a potential opportunity to work with Sound Transit to place artwork in a future roundabout on North Mercer Way and 77th Avenue SE. No specific details are available at this time, and Mortenson reminded the board that we should work through Kirsten Taylor (Project Manager for the Sound Transit development) on Sound Transit-related opportunities.

FAAC – Alice Finch, Liaison

The second installment of the LEGO posters project will be installed Downstairs @ the Mercer Island Gallery on Monday, May 12. Finch also updated the board on a recent meeting FAAC had with Donna Colosky, superintendent of the Mercer Island School District.

MIVAL – Claudia Zimmerman, Liaison

The exhibit *Flora and Fauna* is on view at the MIVAL Gallery until June 2. Zimmerman also shared that the MIVAL Gallery celebrates its 10th anniversary this year, and MIVAL hopes to partner with the Arts Council to celebrate the gallery in some way. Bluvas will work with her to explore opportunities.

Other Business

No other business.

Staff Report – Sarah Bluvas

- 4Culture Demographics Questionnaire: Members should complete the anonymous survey by Friday, May 31. Bluvas sent the link to members' City e-mail addresses.
- Mentoring new Arts Council members: Candace Chuck, Jessica Prince, and Rene Stratton are all leaving the Arts Council effective May 31. At least two new members will join in June. Bluvas asked current members to consider mentoring incoming members.
- Checking in with committees: Bluvas asked committee chairs and members to check in about projects and identify needs. She will re-send the spreadsheet of 2019 committee appointments.

Adjournment

Chair Vivion adjourned the meeting at 8:31 pm.