



ARTS COUNCIL MINUTES DECEMBER 12, 2018

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rene Stratton at 6:42 pm at 7965 SE 67th Street, Mercer Island, WA 98040.

Roll Call

Members Present: Amy Barnes, Candace Chuck, Erik Gordon, Matt Lome (arrived 6:52 pm), Jessica Prince, Xixi Shakes (arrived 6:50 pm), Rene Stratton, An Tootill, Gaylene Vaden, and Erin Vivion (arrive 6:45 pm)

Members Absent: Damian Schwiethale

City Council: Deputy Mayor Salim Nice absent

MIVAL Liaison: Claudia Zimmerman absent

Staff: Diane Mortenson and Sarah Bluvas

Appearances: None

Minutes:

It was moved by Vaden; seconded by Tootill to:

Approve the minutes as amended.

Passed 9-0-1

FOR: 10 (Chuck, Gordon, Lome, Prince, Shakes, Stratton, Tootill, Vaden, Vivion)

ABSENT: 1 (Schwiethale)

ABSTAIN: 1 (Barnes)

2018 Budget Report

Bluvas reported on the 2018 operational budget to actual/pending expenses. As of December 10, \$603.12 remains in the Arts Council's 2018 operational budget. Members requested that staff investigate using remaining funds for advertising and additional supplies for the Mercer Island Gallery.

Officer Elections and Committee Interest Forms – Chair and Staff

2019 Chair Nominations & Election: Prince nominated Vivion to the 2019 Chair position, and Vivion accepted the nomination. No other nominations were forthcoming. Tootill seconded the nomination, and Vivion was elected unanimously by a voice vote 2019 Chair position.

2019 Vice-Chair Nominations & Election: Prince nominated Barnes to the 2019 Vice-Chair position, and Barnes accepted the nomination. Barnes nominated Prince to the 2019 Vice-Chair position, but Prince declined the nomination. No other nominations were forthcoming. Shakes seconded the nomination of Barnes, and Barnes was elected unanimously by voice vote to the 2019 Vice-Chair position.

Committee Interest: Bluvas distributed and collected interest forms for 2019 Committee appointments. Chair Elect Vivion, Vice-Chair Elect Barnes, and Bluvas will review interest forms and announce appointments at the January 2019 meeting.

Planning for 2019 – Staff

Scheduling 2019 Retreat: The group reviewed dates and agreed to hold the 2019 retreat on Saturday, March 2, 2019. Bluvas will provide details about time, location, and preparation needs at the February meeting.

Update on City Budget and Program Changes: Mortenson reported on program and services changes due to budget reductions following the failure of proposition 1 (levy lid lift). These include reduced building hours at the Community Center and potential reduction of programs and special events.

Arts Council Program Evaluation: Bluvas introduced the idea of evaluating current Arts Council programs and activities to provide more impact in 2019. She directed members to ask at least three individuals in their network about Arts Council programs and activities to provide anecdotal data that will inform brief evaluation exercises in early 2019. Members should bring responses to the January meeting.

Chair Report – Rene Stratton

- This is Chair Stratton's last meeting as Chair. She elected not to seek the position again in 2019 due to time constraints.

Special Projects – An Tootill, Chair

- Tootill connected with Vicki Heck at the Mercer Island Library, and she is interested in continuing the ideaX series in partnership with the Arts Council. Bluvas will take over coordinating until the Arts Council identifies another program lead.
- The December meeting is Tootill's last meeting. She left the group with a few thoughts about strengthening the City's public art collection, including:
 - Partner with the Mercer Island heritage community to showcase/promote
 - Bolster access to information about and community connections to existing works of art

Gallery – Amy Barnes, Chair

- Barnes sought members to join her and Bluvas at the Community Center on Thursday, December 13, at 1:30 pm, to review applications to fill the remaining 2019 exhibit slots for the Mercer Island Gallery. Shakes, Stratton, and Tootill volunteered to participate.
- The next exhibit features Northwest Artists in Action Guild and opens Monday, January 7, 2019. Barnes will send an e-mail seeking volunteers to assist with the install on Saturday, January 5.

Other Updates

- A Council Ad Hoc Committee comprised of City staff has been working on updating and streamlining all Board/Commission ordinances since early 2018. Arts Council members should provide any feedback about the Arts Council ordinance updates to Bluvas, and she will send to the committee for review.
- Bluvas, Vivion, and Prince updated the group about the 4Culture Creative Consultancy program, and Bluvas announced that they were moving forward with working with George Lee to draft a grant proposal to submit to 4Culture in early 2019. Lee will attend the January meeting to introduce himself and kick off the process.
- Bluvas contacted Artsite, 4Culture, and the artist Tom Jay to explore different options for the *Handsome Bollards* restoration. She will report updates at the January meeting.

Adjournment

Chair Stratton adjourned the meeting at 8:12 pm.