



# ARTS COUNCIL RETREAT MINUTES

## JANUARY 20, 2018

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### Roll Call

*Members Present:* Amy Barnes, Joy Langley, Joy Liechty, Angelina Odievich, Jessica Prince, Xixi Shakes, An Tootill, and Erin Vivion. *Members absent:* Matt Lome, June Silverberg and, Rene Stratton.

*City Council:* Council Member Salim Nice was absent.

*Staff:* Kai Fulginiti, Eileen Hemmis Trifts

*Facilitator:* Amber Britton

*Guest Speaker:* Jim Kelly, retired, Executive Director of 4Culture.

The meeting was opened at 8:00 am by staff member Kai Fulginiti. Introductions were made with each Arts Council member expressing what they like about being on the Arts Council.

Guest Speaker Jim Kelly presented a slide show with information and history of the Cultural Development Authority of King County, aka 4Culture. 4Culture funds 25 local art agencies of which Mercer Island is one. They have a 15 member board who oversees their programs. Sustained support is their largest program. Additional programs include art projects (individual and group), preservation and heritage programs, art facilities, heritage facilities, and preservation landmark capital.

In response to a query from the floor, Mr. Kelly indicated that 4Culture has an audition roster of artists who are available for performance. If bands apply to perform for Mostly Music in the Park and they are on that roster, 4Culture will pay 50% of the cost of having them perform. They will also put out information about any call for artist, including MMIP, on their website. Joy Langley stated that she will coordinate this action with 4Culture.

This concluded Mr. Kelly's presentation.

Facilitator Amber Britton explained the purpose of this annual retreat is to brain storm ideas for future Arts Council programming. Once everyone has had input, a vote was taken to determine the top three ideas that the Council wants to focus on in 2019.

Ideas generated were as follows (similar items are combined for voting purposes and the number of votes received is noted):

- Pop-up gallery with partners (local artists) **(4)**
- Strengthening core programs; includes indoor gallery diversity emphasis, establish guidelines for operating, sculpture gallery continuation, and finish up existing projects. **(6)**
- Guide to art/brochure; includes outreach money for existing arts **(6)**
- Square dance party
- Adult theatre production (by our community)
- Certified Creative District **(8)**
- Public space art interaction
- Sound oriented art **(1)**

- Dance PD **(1)**
- Additional sculpture pads **(3)**
- FAAC liaison for Arts Council
- Artists in residence **(2)**
- Classical music indoor performance; includes winter musical indoor concert **(3)**
- Outdoor chess game/dairy ruins **(4)**
- Musical suspension bridge

The three top choices to focus on in 2019:

1. Certified creative district (Joy Langley & Erin Vivion will take the lead on this)
2. Strengthening core programs
  - Sculpture gallery continuation
  - Finish up existing projects
  - Establish guidelines for operating
  - Indoor gallery diversity
3. Guide for art/brochure (Jessica Prince and Amy Barnes will take the lead on this))
  - Outreach money for existing arts

It was noted that in addition to the top three choices, there is potential that many of these ideas could be accomplished with very little effort and/or budgetary consideration. The Arts Council will dedicate time at future meetings to address these items and how to best accomplish them.

The retreat adjourned at 12:30 pm.

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Joy Langley, Chair

Attest:

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Eileen Hemmis Trifts, Scribe