



Mercer Island Arts Council Regular Meeting

Agenda | September 12, 2018

Mercer Island Community & Event Center
8236 SE 24th St., Mercer Island, WA 98040

6:30 PM CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

6:30 PM APPEARANCES

Pamela Lavitt, Director of Arts+Ideas & Seattle Jewish Film Festival, SJCC

6:40PM APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes, August 8, 2018

6:45 PM BACKGROUND ON GRETA HACKETT NAME DEDICATION, An Tootill

6:55 PM 2018 BUDGET REPORT, Sarah Bluvus

7:05 PM CHAIR REPORT, Rene Stratton

Review of 2018 Goals & Priorities

7:15 PM PROGRAM REPORTS

Special Projects, An Tootill, Chair

ideaX

West Mercer Way Mural

Mostly Music in the Park, Matt Lome & Jessica Prince, Co-Chairs

Public Art, Erin Vivion, Chair

Gallery, Amy Barnes, Chair

Puget Sound Sumi Artists Exhibit Recap

Northwest Collage Society Exhibit & Opening Reception - Thursday, September 13, 6:30-8 pm

MIVAL Holiday Show Work Day - Saturday, October 27, 10 am-3 pm

Literary, Erik Gordon, Chair

Community Relations, Damian Schwiethale, Chair

7:45 PM OTHER BUSINESS

7:55 PM STAFF REPORT, Sarah Bluvus and Diane Mortenson

City Council Study Session - Monday, September 17, 6 pm

Update on 4Culture Creative Consultancy

Scheduling 1x1s with Committee Chairs

Administrative Housekeeping

8:05 PM ADJOURN

Arts Council Members

- 1 Jessica Prince
- 2 Candace Chuck
- 3 Gaylene Vaden
- 4 Rene Stratton, Chair
- 5 Amy Barnes
- 6 Matt Lome
- 7 Erin Vivion, Vice Chair
- 8 An Tootill
- 9 Erik Gordon
- 10 Damian Schwiethale
- 11 Xixi Shakes

City Council Liaison

Salim Nice

Staff

Sarah Bluvus

Diane Mortenson

MIVAL Liaison

Claudia Zimmerman

FAAC Liaison

TBD

Next Meeting: October 10, 2018



ARTS COUNCIL MINUTES AUGUST 8, 2018

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rene Stratton at 6:34 pm at the Mercer Island Community & Event Center, 8236 SE 24th St., Mercer Island, WA 98040.

Roll Call

Members Present: Amy Barnes, Candace Chuck, Erik Gordon, Jessica Prince, Damian Schwiethale, Xixi Shakes, Rene Stratton, An Tootill, and Erin Vivion

Members Absent: Matt Lome and Gaylene Vaden

City Council: Deputy Mayor Salim Nice

MIVAL Liaison: Claudia Zimmerman absent

Staff: Diane Mortenson and Sarah Bluvas

Appearances: None

Minutes:

It was moved by Barnes; seconded by Schwiethale to:

Approve the July 11, 2018 minutes.

Passed 9-0

FOR: 9 (Barnes, Chuck, Gordon, Prince, Schwiethale, Shakes, Stratton, Tootill, Vivion)

ABSENT: 2 (Lome, Vaden)

Budget Report – Sarah Bluvas

Bluvas reported on the 2018 operational budget to actual/pending expenses. As of August 6, 2018, the Arts Council has \$6,648.07 remaining in its 2018 operational budget.

Chair Report – Rene Stratton

Extra Funds for Art UnCorked: Chair Stratton presented a request for additional funds to support performances at the Mercer Island Chamber of Commerce's Art UnCorked event on Friday, September 7.

It was moved by Gordon; seconded by Prince to:

Approve the request for an additional \$300 to support live performances at Art UnCorked.

Passed 7-1-1

FOR: 7 (Barnes, Chuck, Gordon, Prince, Shakes, Stratton, Vivion)

AGAINST: 1 (Schwiethale)

ABSTAINED: 1 (Tootill)

ABSENT: 2 (Lome, Vaden)

Other updates:

- Chair Stratton reminded all members to get involved with committees and/or current projects and events.

- She also introduced a desire to review the Arts Council's goals and priorities as outlined on the website, in the organizational manual, etc. Bluvas will send out several current documents with different iterations of the goals and priorities for review and discussion at the next meeting.
- She and staff continue to work with the 2018 Street Banner project artist and the company fabricating the banners to ensure colors are correct and suitable. The banners should go into production in the next couple of weeks.

Special Projects – An Tootill, Chair

- Production on the West Mercer Way mural began on Monday, August 6, 2018.
- Tootill requested that staff plan a ribbon-cutting celebration after the mural is completed and consider delaying the unveiling for the 2018 Street Banner project to the fall. Bluvas will work with the budget and calendar to determine what is feasible.
- Thoughts on promoting ideaX, which begins September 15 at the Mercer Island Library, are appreciated.

Mostly Music in the Park – Matt Lome, Co-Chair

No report.

Public Art – Erin Vivion, Chair

- Vivion and Bluvas requested ideas for updating the Arts Council's project profile for the 4Culture Creative Consultancy program. Suggestions included:
 - Partnering with a performance artist to create new arts experiences downtown
 - Incorporating an artist's perspective in the existing MICA visioning process
 - Reimagining the Greta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery and integrating into other planning processes (Aubrey Davis Park master plan, Sound Transit, etc.)

It was moved by Barnes; seconded by Schwiethale to:

Amend the Arts Council's 4Culture Creative Consultancy project profile to focus on showcasing the Greta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery and integrating it into future developments in the area.

Passed 9-0

FOR: 9 (Barnes, Chuck, Gordon, Prince, Schwiethale, Shakes, Stratton, Tootill Vivion)

ABSENT: 2 (Lome, Vaden)

Vivion will work with Bluvas to update the online profile, and Bluvas will connect with other City staff about collaborating on other processes.

Gallery – Amy Barnes, Chair

Mercer Gallery updates:

- The Puget Sound Sumi Artists reception was small but successful, and the zither musician added an authentic element to the event. Artwork is already selling well.
- The next show by the Northwest Collage Society will be installed on Saturday, September 8. Barnes will solicit volunteers to assist with hanging via e-mail.
- Nothing new has developed with the ability to serve wine at receptions.

Literary – Erik Gordon, Chair

- He plans to meet with Laurie at Island Books to discuss renewing a partnership for Meet the Author and other literary arts events.

Community Relations – The Arts Council still needs a member to lead community relations and outreach efforts.

Other Business

Review of Project Support Rubric: Schwiethale and Chair Stratton revised the evaluation rubric presented at the July meeting but decided to table the discussion until the Arts Council redefines its goals/priorities.

Staff Report – Sarah Bluvas and Diane Mortenson

Greta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery Signage: The Arts Council discussed a new draft of a sign for the Greta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery. Staff will continue to work with Fossil Graphics to tweak design and bring a new draft to the September meeting.

GIS Story Map: The Arts Council reviewed a draft of a Story Map created by the City's GIS department. This website can serve as a collection-management tool as well as provide public-facing access to information about the City's public art collection. Bluvas collected feedback about navigability to share with GIS and will include the Arts Council in future conversations as this tool evolves.

Other updates:

- The meeting about updating City Board/Commission codes and policies was postponed until mid-August. Bluvas will report back as changes develop that will impact the Arts Council.
- Bluvas provided an outline of staff liaison priorities related to the Arts Council work plan for the rest of 2018.

Adjournment

Chair Stratton adjourned the meeting at 8:13 pm.

Rene Stratton, Chair

Attest:

Sarah Bluvas, Scribe

Margaret Louise Hackett

Margaret Louise Torrence Hackett, longtime Island resident and community volunteer, died Monday, Aug. 11, 1997.

Mrs. Hackett was born May 31, 1933 in Seattle, the first daughter of Margaret and Clarence Torrence. She attended Roosevelt High School, Stanford University and the University of Washington with honors.

Mrs. Hackett was honored with 1996 Paul Harris Award, the high-honor awarded by the Mercer Island Rotary Club.

She was deeply involved in community activities, both on and off the island since 1972. She served as PTA president at all three levels in the schools. She also worked on several Mercer Island School levy campaigns.

Mrs. Hackett was the Mercer Island coordinator for the Girl Scouts as well as volunteering her time to help with the Cub Scouts.

She served for several years on the Arts Council where she chaired the Sculpture Gallery Committee, the Music in the Park Committee, and was an active board member of Mercer Island Community Fund. Mrs. Hackett served as both a district chairperson and election official for many years. She had

been a volunteer on behalf of the Seattle Arboretum for three decades, serving as chairperson of the annual plant sale on several occasions and was Mercer Island coordinator for Arboretum Unit initiatives. She was a Master Gardener and had been a lecturer as a plant expert. Mrs. Hackett helped with the Women's Association of the Seattle Symphony's fund raising initiatives.

Mrs. Hackett was a member of the Mercer Island Presbyterian Church.

She is survived by her husband, John A. Hackett; her sons: Robert Hackett and wife, Angela, Stephen Hackett and wife Kira; her daughter, Joan and husband Tim Wold; grandchildren: Kyle Robert Hackett, Grace Margaret Wold, Katie Anne Wold.

She also leaves her sisters and their husbands, Marilyn and Ron Lince of Kirkland, and Clarice and Rollin Odell of Orinda, Calif.; and nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A memorial service will be held at the Mercer Island Presbyterian Church at 2:30 p.m. on Friday Aug. 15. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society.



Greta Hackett

About Greta Hackett – prepared by Jane Meyer Brahm, May 2016

Greta Hackett: born May 31, 1933; died Aug. 11, 1997.

A longtime Island resident, Greta was a passionate gardener, artist and art lover. She was a longtime member of the Seattle Arboretum, and was in charge of the annual plant sale for years.

She was an artist, a watercolor painter, and a member of the MI Arts Council for a number of years, serving as chair of Mostly Music in the Park and the Outdoor Sculpture Gallery.

It was on trips to San Diego and Japan that she saw examples of outdoor sculpture galleries, and learned about how they operate. She brought back photos and began campaigning for Mercer Island to install an outdoor sculpture gallery.

She believed that for the average person walking through a park, seeing a sculpture in the park makes something special happen – you look at art and life in a different way. She believed outdoor sculptures bring art to people who might not otherwise view it.

If any one person is to be credited with the creation of the Outdoor Gallery, it's definitely Greta Hackett.

Gary Feroglia, former Parks and Recreation Director, said: "I would definitely say that she was the one who got the whole thing started."

Marny Burdega, former Parks and Recreation superintendent, said: "Greta had the idea for the outdoor gallery, and she was the force behind making it happen. In fact, we (Mercer Island) were one of the first cities to have a rotating art gallery like that. It's become a fairly popular thing now – but we were one of the first."

She made at least one presentation to the MI City Council about the outdoor sculpture gallery. I personally know how persistent she was about getting the idea off the ground, for she visited my office frequently seeking publicity for the idea, and asking for news coverage in the Mercer Island Reporter.

She helped with the fundraising to purchase "Primavera," the massive sculpture at the corner of 80th Ave. S.E. and S.E. 27th, for it was to serve as the "anchor" to the outdoor sculpture gallery.

In 1996 she received the Paul Harris Award, the highest honor awarded by the Mercer Island Rotary club, for her service to the Mercer Island community.

It's fair to say that were it not for Greta Hackett, there would be no outdoor sculpture gallery.

| 2018 Budget to Actual (as of 09.10.18) | | | | |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Expense Area | 2018 Budgeted | 2018 Actual | 2018 Pending | Additions |
| PR5200: Public Art | | | | |
| Greta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery sign | \$ 800.00 | \$ 543.00 | \$ 362.00 | |
| Permits | \$ - | \$ 193.64 | \$ - | |
| West Mercer Way mural unveiling | | | | \$ 400.00 |
| Street Banner reception at the Chamber of Commerce | | | | \$ 200.00 |
| PR5300: Community Arts Support | | | | |
| Arts Council Swing Dance | \$ 1,900.00 | \$ 1,437.53 | \$ - | |
| Vistaprint | \$ - | \$ 95.69 | \$ - | |
| Art Uncorked music performances | \$ 500.00 | \$ 800.00 | | |
| PR5400: Gallery | | | | |
| Operating supplies (reception food, etc.) | \$ 1,500.00 | \$ 491.88 | \$ - | |
| Professional services (outdoor gallery installation stipend) | \$ 1,400.00 | \$ 400.00 | \$ - | |
| Musicians at receptions | \$ 1,650.00 | \$ 600.00 | \$ 300.00 | |
| Advertising | \$ 400.00 | \$ - | \$ 170.00 | |
| Printing | \$ 50.00 | \$ - | \$ - | |
| Permits | \$ - | \$ 272.30 | \$ - | |
| PR5500: Literary Program | | | | |
| Lance Rhoades fees | \$ 2,750.00 | \$ 1,200.00 | \$ 1,550.00 | |
| Honoraria for students | \$ 400.00 | \$ - | \$ - | |
| Event supplies | \$ 50.00 | \$ - | \$ 10.00 | |
| PR5600: Cultural & Performing Arts | | | | |
| Event supplies | \$ 600.00 | \$ 3.27 | \$ - | |
| Mostly Music in the Park sound engineering | \$ 6,520.00 | \$ 4,827.90 | \$ - | |
| Mostly Music in the Park bands | \$ 6,300.00 | \$ 6,750.00 | \$ - | |
| Shakespeare in the Park performances | \$ 7,000.00 | \$ 7,000.00 | \$ - | |
| Poster design | \$ 800.00 | \$ 314.60 | \$ - | |
| Postage | \$ 500.00 | \$ 1,827.64 | \$ - | |
| Advertising | \$ - | \$ 252.00 | \$ - | |
| Printing | \$ 1,500.00 | \$ 1,388.75 | \$ - | |
| PR5700: Special Programs | | | | |
| Operating supplies (office supplies, retreat supplies, etc.) | \$ 575.00 | \$ 232.20 | \$ - | |
| Dues & Subscriptions (Collector Systems, STQRY, etc.) | \$ 1,900.00 | \$ 801.70 | \$ - | |
| Grant for Community Dances | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ - | \$ - | |
| TOTAL | \$ 38,095.00 | \$ 29,432.10 | \$ 2,392.00 | \$ 600.00 |
| Remaining | \$ | | | 5,670.90 |

Review of 2018 Goals & Priorities

Mercer Island Arts Council Mission Statement

The mission of the Mercer Island Arts Council is to nurture, promote, and support quality cultural arts activities for the community of Mercer Island.

Goals *(Adopted at the Annual Retreat on 12/06/09)*

The goals of the Mercer Island Arts Council are as follows:

- Acknowledge the positive influence that the arts have on the community's quality of life, serve as the City's advocate for the arts, artists, and arts organizations of Mercer Island.
- Inspire, stimulate and promote community wide education, awareness and enjoyment of the arts. Create curiosity.
- Support implementation of accessible, high quality performing, visual and literary arts programs, projects and events through the following, but not limited to:
 - Music and Shakespeare in the Park
 - Literary Lectures and Films
 - Indoor and Outdoor Gallery
 - Community Art Walks
- Acknowledge and where possible, quantify the economic impact of a high quality arts environment on Mercer Island.
- Encourage qualified volunteer involvement from the community in Arts Council activities.
- Seek mutually benefiting partnerships with other organizations that would enhance the quality of Arts Council produced programs, events, and projects.

Projects Added to 2018 Work Plan *(Voted on at the Annual Retreat on 03/18/17)*

1. Toddler Arts Critic program
2. Art Swap program
3. Add cement pads to Greta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery
4. Expand *Orbits & Pieces* installation

City of Mercer Island Comprehensive Arts and Culture Plan

Vision and Goals

Vision: To assimilate positive art experiences into everyday life for all community members.

Goals

1. Support the arts on Mercer Island.
 - a. Support implementation of and encourage community involvement in accessible, high quality performing, visual and literary arts programs, projects, and events.
 - b. Provide educational art opportunities through Parks & Recreation curriculum.
 - c. Maintain a citizen Arts Council, which is advisory to the City Council and that spearheads arts programming and partnerships.
 - d. Promote cooperation and local partnerships between the City of Mercer Island and artists, arts providers, nonprofit organizations, and urban designers to help improve the quality of the built environment.
 - e. Coordinate and collaborate with the local school district to broaden accessibility and awareness of local art opportunities.
 - f. Coordinate and collaborate with local, regional, and national art organizations, and through public and private partners to integrate art into the community via permanent installations and special events.
 - g. Assess community art needs through community engagement and public involvement.
 - h. Implement a creative district and accountability strategy to complement and enhance overall city economic development strategy and to foster a thriving creative economy.
 - i. Support efforts to secure space for art, cultural activities, and archival needs by: pursuing the establishment of a community maker space; pursuing opportunities around all-income housing and/or live/work space for artists; pursuing a multidiscipline-oriented community arts facility; and pursuing storage space for historical documentation.
 - j. Maintain a parity of public space for art and cultural activities when existing public art and cultural activity space is modified or eliminated.
2. Nurture public art on Mercer Island.
 - a. Encourage diversity in public art.
 - b. Maintain current and encourage new spaces for public art placement.
 - c. Maintain and preserve current collection and encourage the acquisition of additional public art.
 - d. Incorporate public art into capital improvement projects.
 - e. Maintain requirement that at least 1% of qualifying capital improvement projects' costs are set aside for public art acquisition, repair, and maintenance.
 - f. Incorporate public art into and surrounding transportation projects.
 - g. Welcome and support community involvement in public art processes.
3. Preserve Mercer Island's heritage.
 - a. Promote awareness and appreciation of Mercer Island's history and historic resources.
 - b. Support efforts to secure space for the preservation of Mercer Island's cultural heritage.
 - c. Promote public engagement with culture and heritage organizations.

Arts Council Programs 2009-2017

2009

- Eight Mercer Gallery exhibits, including special *Alaska Yukon Pacific Exhibition (AYPE) Centennial Celebration* exhibit
- Nine Mostly Music in the Park concerts
- Shakespeare in the Park: *Hamlet* and *Taming of the Shrew*
- Lecture series on Richard Wagner's *Ring Cycle*
- Meet the Author: Scott Oki
- Shakespeare Birthday Celebration and Mercer Island High School student poetry contest
- Third Thursday Art Walk
- Classics on Film
- Halloween Storytelling Event
- Veteran's Celebration at *Standing Strong* (Veteran's Pergola)
- Community Dance
- Introduced Street Banner project proposal

2010

- 25th Anniversary Celebration
- *Dawn on the Island* literary event with Mercer Island Historical Society
- Eight Mercer Gallery exhibits
- Nine Mostly Music in the Park concerts
- Shakespeare in the Park: *Othello* and *Much Ado About Nothing*
- City of Mercer Island 50th Birthday Celebration at MMIP
- Completed Street Banner project selection process
- Third Thursday Art Walk
- Classics on Film
- Meet the Author: Michael Medved (local radio host/MI resident)
- Meet the Author: Garth Stein
- Renaissance and Romantic Literature lecture series by Jeffrey Woolley
- Shakespeare Birthday Celebration
- Veteran's Celebration at *Standing Strong* (Veteran's Pergola)
- Grants
 - Music at Farmers Market (\$1,000)
 - MIVAL for full-color brochure (\$1,000)

2011

- Shakespeare in the Park: *The Comedy of Errors* and *Macbeth*
- Eight Mercer Gallery exhibits
- Nine Mostly Music in the Park concerts
- Third Thursday Art Walk
- Classics on Film
- Meet the Author: Erica Bauermeister
- Two-part lecture series on Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*
- Arts & Crafts tent at Summer Celebration!

- Monster Mural painting project
- Public Art projects
 - Installed Street Banners
 - Accepted donation of *Reclining Woman*
 - Repainted *Standing Strong* (Veteran's Pergola)
 - Deaccessed *Sizzling Waters*
 - Received approval to purchase art pieces from the Apollo space program

2012

- Poetry contest with Island Books
- Shakespeare in the Park: *Twelfth Night* and *The Winter's Tale*
- Nine Mostly Music in the Park concerts
- Six Mercer Gallery exhibits + Mercer Island High School AP Art Student Showcase
- Classics on Film
- Meet the Author: Jim Lynch
- Meet the Author: Maria Semple
- Arts & Crafts tent at Summer Celebration!
- Public Art projects
 - Purchased/installed *Gazing* (topiary deer)
 - Installed *Orbits and Pieces*
 - Installed *Reclining Woman*
 - Replaced canvas for *Standing Strong* (Veteran's Pergola)

2013

- Poetry contest with Island Books
- Six Mostly Music in the Park concerts
- Shakespeare in the Park: *The Tempest* and *Henry V*
- Seven Mercer Gallery exhibits
- Meet the Author: Tara Conklin
- Meet the Author: Jonathan Evison
- Classics on Film
- Public Art projects
 - Received/installed *Call of the Wild* donation
 - Received/installed *Stan the Dog* donation
 - Replaced damaged/missing pieces for *Thanks* and *Extraordinary Journey*
 - Commissioned/installed *Kenton's Dragon*
 - Selected artists for Fire Station 92 project
 - Received approval for mural project at Luther Burbank tennis courts
 - Deaccessed *Gazing* (topiary deer)
 - Launched collection management system (CMS) with Artech

2014

- Classics on Film
- Shakespeare in the Park: *The Two Gentleman of Verona* and *Julius Caesar*
- Six Mostly Music in the Park concerts
- Seven Mercer Gallery exhibits

- Meet the Author: Margaret Wrinkle
- Meet the Author: Robin Oliveira
- Meet the Author: Daniel James Brown
- Freehold Theatre performance of *Henry I* and *Henry II*
- Sponsored music performances at Art Uncorked
- Public Art projects
 - Contracted with STQRY
 - Proposed mosaic project at Luther Burbank Park playground
 - Continued work on *Gateway of Service* for Fire Station 92
 - Completed *Summer in the Wetlands* mural at the Luther Burbank tennis courts

2015

- Classics on Film
- Shakespeare in the Park: *As You Like It* and *Henry IV, Part One*
- Six Mostly Music in the Park concerts
- Freehold Theatre performance of *Henry I* and *Henry II*
- Seven Mercer Gallery exhibits
- Arts & Crafts tent at Summer Celebration!
- Public Art Collection Treasure Hunt
- Gratitude Graffiti Project
- Sponsored music performances at Art Uncorked
- Greta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery
 - Sold *Rotating Rings*
 - Added *Memories of a Heron* and *Bird Mountain*
- Public Art projects
 - Completed mosaic project for Luther Burbank Park playground
 - Began process for West Mercer Way mural

2016

- Classics on Film
- Shakespeare in the Park: *Love's Labour's Lost* and *Hamlet*
- Six Mostly Music in the Park concerts
- Seven Mercer Gallery exhibits
- Sponsored Junk Chimes, Silent Disco, and interactive giant floor piano at Summer Celebration!
- Poet Laureate program with Island Books
- Proposed Mercer Island Artists Directory
- Sponsored music performances at Art Uncorked
- Proposed renaming the Outdoor Sculpture Gallery
- Public Art projects
 - Purchased/installed *Twin Foxes*
 - Received *Cyclemates* donation
 - Mercer Island Rocks event
 - Installed mosaics at Luther Burbank Park playground

2017

- Classics on Film
- Shakespeare in the Park: *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Pericles*
- Six Mostly Music in the Park concerts
- Seven Mercer Gallery exhibits
- Community Dance
- Dance for Parkinson's program
- Sponsored activities at Summer Celebration!
- Launched Mercer Island Artists Directory
- Sponsored music performances at Art Uncorked
- Russian Chamber Music Foundation of Seattle concert
- Renaming of Outdoor Sculpture Gallery approved by City Council
- Public Art projects
 - Installed *Cyclemates*
- Researched Creative District program and began connecting with professional arts networks (4Culture LAA, etc.)