



ARTS COUNCIL MINUTES

NOVEMBER 13, 2019

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Erin Vivion at 6:30 pm at Mercer Island Community & Event Center, 8236 SE 24th Street, Mercer Island, WA 98040.

Roll Call

- Members Present: Anumeha (arrived 6:34 pm), Erik Gordon, Matt Lome, Damian Schwiethale, Xixi Shakes, Suzanne Skone (arrived 6:34 pm), Gaylene Vaden, and Erin Vivion
- Members Absent: Amy Barnes
- City Council: Deputy Mayor Salim Nice
- Staff: Sarah Bluvus and Diane Mortenson
- MIVAL Liaison: Claudia Zimmerman
- FAAC Liaison: Alice Finch

Appearances

No appearances.

La Isla Foundation – Cristina Rodriguez

La Isla Foundation is a Seattle-based nonprofit formed in 2017 in the wake of Hurricane Maria to help rebuild and uplift Puerto Rico. On March 7, 2020, the organization will host its third-annual *Canciones para Puerto Rico*, an opera event that takes place at the Congregational Church on Mercer Island.

Minutes

It was moved by Skone; seconded by Schwiethale to:

Approve the October 9, 2019, minutes as presented.

Passed: 8-0-1

FOR: 8 (Anumeha, Gordon, Lome, Schwiethale, Shakes, Skone, Vaden, Vivion)

AGAINST: 0

ABSENT: 1 (Barnes)

2019 Budget Report – Sarah Bluvus

\$6,543.55 remains in the Arts Council's 2019 operational budget.

2020 Planning Session – All

2019 Arts Council Community Survey: The board reviewed the survey results and discussed ways to incorporate input received into programming plans in 2020. They will vote on any budget items related to the survey results at the December meeting.

Project Pull-Through Idea, Damian Schwiethale: Schwiethale presented a new arts-oriented event called "Artists on the Water" that could serve as a new model for Arts Council programs. He proposed seeding investment in an annual event that would later be sustained by "pull-through" sponsorships and/or ownership by external organizations. Schwiethale will return in December with an updated request.

Update on Gallery Walls – Erin Vivion and Sarah Bluvas

Gallery wall paint color samples are available to view in the gallery now. Board members should review samples and send feedback to the chair, vice-chair, and staff liaison by the end of the month.

Chair Report – Erin Vivion

Vivion encouraged members to continue reviewing the community survey results and thinking about how to allocate operating budget funds for the most impact in preparation for the December discussion.

Special Projects – Gaylene Vaden

The committee met this month and plans to redirect its 2020 focus on developing messaging and raising awareness of the value of the arts in the community. Vaden also reminded the board that the Governor's Arts and Heritage Awards event takes place November 19 in Olympia.

Mostly Music in the Park – Matt Lome

Lome encouraged the board to consider increasing the 2020 series budget to cover rising sound engineering costs.

Staff Updates – Diane Mortenson and Sarah Bluvas

- Mercer Island hosts the King County LAA meeting on Thursday, November 21, 9:30 am-12:30 pm. All board members are encouraged to attend.
- Please report October volunteer hours to staff.

Adjournment

Chair Vivion adjourned the meeting at 8:34 pm.