



ARTS COUNCIL MINUTES

OCTOBER 10, 2018

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rene Stratton at 6:30 pm at the Mercer Island Community & Event Center, 8236 SE 24th St., Mercer Island, WA 98040.

Roll Call

Members Present: Amy Barnes, Candace Chuck, Matt Lome, Jessica Prince, Damian Schwiethale, Xixi Shakes, Rene Stratton, Gaylene Vaden (arrived at 6:35 pm), and Erin Vivion

Members Absent: Erik Gordon and An Tootill

City Council: Deputy Mayor Salim Nice

MIVAL Liaison: Claudia Zimmerman

Staff: Diane Mortenson and Sarah Bluvus

Appearances: Sharon Perez, Director of Strategic Relationships, and Prady Misra, Co-Chair, Board of Directors, Mercer Island Center for the Arts (MICA)

Perez presented the key findings from MICA's community input and visioning sessions conducted in summer 2018, and she and Misra answered questions about the process and what's next for MICA.

Minutes:

It was moved by Schwiethale; seconded by Barnes to:

Approve the minutes as presented.

Passed 9-0

FOR: 9 (Barnes, Chuck, Lome, Prince, Schwiethale, Shakes, Stratton, Vaden, Vivion)

ABSENT: 2 (Gordon, Tootill)

2018 Budget Report

Bluvus reported on the 2018 operational budget to actual/pending expenses. As of October 8, 2018, \$1,359.15 remains in the Arts Council's 2018 operational budget.

Update on Town Center & Other Planning Processes

Bluvus presented an overview of three developments/planning processes happening in Town Center and adjacent to the Greta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery. She also provided resources for staying updated about these projects and informed the Arts Council of ways they can/have been asked to provide input:

- Commuter Parking and Mixed-Use Development Project (Tully's site redevelopment)
 - Updates posted on letstalk.mercergov.org/commuterparking
 - Key dates to remember
 - October 12: Developer semifinalists selected and notified
 - October 22: Open House, 6:30 pm, Mercer Island Community & Event Center

- Aubrey Davis Park Master Plan process
 - Updates posted on letstalk.mercergov.org/aubreydavis
 - Key dates to remember
 - November 14: Presentation by Paul West at Regular Arts Council meeting
 - November 29: Arts Public Forum, 6-9 pm, Mercer Island Community & Event Center
- Sound Transit East Link Extension
 - Kirsten Taylor, Senior Project Manager, City of Mercer Island, will update the Arts Council at a regular meeting in early 2019

Chair Report – Rene Stratton

Funding Request from Youth Theatre Northwest: Chair Stratton presented a request from Katie McKenna at Youth Theatre Northwest (YTN) to financially support a production coming up in fall/winter 2018.

It was moved by Vaden; seconded by Schwiethale to:

Provide up to \$1,000 in financial support for a 2018 Youth Theatre Northwest production.

Passed 8-1-0

FOR: 8 (Barnes, Chuck, Lome, Prince, Schwiethale, Stratton, Vaden, Vivion)

AGAINST: 1 (Shakes)

ABSENT: 2 (Gordon, Tootill)

Bluvas and Mortenson will follow-up with YTN to determine final support.

Public Art – Erin Vivion, Chair

Update on Arts & Cultural Comp Plan Amendment: Vivion provided an overview of the process for developing and refining the Arts & Cultural amendment for the City's comprehensive plan. She shared the most recent version of the amendment language, which was presented for a first reading by City Council on October 2, and proposed to clarify the language in policy 24.4 to accurately reflect the policy's intent.

It was moved by Vaden; seconded by Prince to:

Strike the language included in policy 24.4 and substitute with Vivion's proposed language clarification.

Passed 8-0-1

FOR: 8 (Barnes, Chuck, Lome, Prince, Schwiethale, Shakes, Stratton, Vaden)

ABSTAIN: 1 (Vivion)

ABSENT: 2 (Gordon, Tootill)

Vivion also expressed a desire to include a letter of thanks with the Arts & Cultural plan, which will be attached to the comprehensive plan as an appendix. She expressed confidence in Vivion to write the letter on behalf of the Arts Council and submit in time for the second reading at City Council on October 16. Bluvas will work with Vivion to determine how the letter is included.

Update on 1% for Art in Public Places Fund: Vivion requested periodic updates on the 1% for Art in Public Places Fund. Bluvas reported on the estimated/actual contributions and commitments for 2018 and that the estimated cash balance at year's end will be \$158,011.81. She will bring quarterly reports on the fund and/or report contributions/expenses as they occur.

Gallery – Amy Barnes, Chair

- Reminded the group about the gallery “work party” to install the MIVAL Holiday Show – Saturday, October 27, 10 am-3 pm

Community Relations – Damian Schwiethale, Chair

No report.

Special Projects – An Tootill, Chair

No report.

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

No report.

MIVAL Liaison – Claudia Zimmerman

- Reminded the group about the MIVAL Holiday Show, which features a range of 2D and 3D art, crafts, jewelry, etc., and runs at the Mercer Island Community & Event Center October 29-December 14, 2018

Literary – Erik Gordon

- Bluvus updated in Gordon’s absence that they met with Vicki Heck about future programming partnerships with Mercer Island Library and reminded about upcoming Classics on Film screenings.

Other Business

No other business.

Staff Report – Sarah Bluvus and Diane Mortenson

- Bluvus reminded everyone to submit volunteer hours.
- Mortenson checked to make sure everyone subscribes to the Mercer Island Weekly and the Parks & Recreation e-newsletters to receive updates from the City. Anyone who doesn’t subscribe should let staff know.

Adjournment

Chair Stratton adjourned the meeting at 8:26 pm.