



# ARTS COUNCIL MINUTES

## JULY 11, 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 24<sup>th</sup> St., Mercer Island, WA 98040.

### Roll Call

Members Present: Amy Barnes, Candace Chuck, Erik Gordon, Matt Lome, Jessica Prince, Damian Schwiethale, Rene Stratton, and Gaylene Vaden

Members Absent: Xixi Shakes, An Tootill, and Erin Vivion

City Council: Deputy Mayor Salim Nice absent

MIVAL Liaison: Claudia Zimmerman

Staff: Diane Mortenson and Sarah Bluvas

**Appearances:** Jane Meyer Brahm and Sue Sherwood, Mercer Island Sister City Association (MISCA)

Brahm and Sherwood presented about hosting a French art lecture by art historian Rebecca Albiani at the Mercer Island Community & Event Center (MICEC) in October 2018 and invited the Arts Council to serve as a partner for this program. They requested a program partnership in the form of space (favorable rental rate for the Mercer Room at MICEC) and marketing and promotions support.

It was moved by Prince; seconded by Barnes to:

**Approve the requested program partnership with the Mercer Island Sister City Association.**

Passed 8-0

FOR: 10 (Barnes, Chuck, Gordon, Lome, Prince, Schwiethale, Shakes, Stratton, Vaden)

ABSENT: 3 (Shakes, Tootill, Vivion)

### Minutes:

It was moved by Barnes; seconded by Gordon to:

**Approve the June 13, 2018 minutes as amended.**

Passed 8-0

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

ABSENT: 3 (Shakes, Tootill, Vivion)

### Chair Report – Rene Stratton

2019-2020 Budget planning: A sub-committee met on July 10 to draft the 2019-2020 Budget proposal.

Chair Stratton and Bluvas reviewed the proposal.

It was moved by Prince; seconded by Barnes to:

**Approve the 2019-2020 Arts Council Budget as proposed by the sub-committee.**

Passed 8-0

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

ABSENT: 3 (Shakes, Tootill, Vivion)

Rubric for Outside Project Support: Chair Stratton presented the draft of a rubric for evaluating external project support requests and requested feedback. Stratton will send the draft to Schwiethale for additional input.

2018 Budget Reallocations: Bluvas and Chair Stratton presented a proposal from Lance Rhoades requesting an additional \$400 to provide a stipend for two Washington college students to attend the Classics on Film screening of *Queen of Katwe*, which is a dramatization of their stories. Chair Stratton also presented the request to add \$500 to Classics on Film budget for additional advertising (movie poster), but Mortenson advised that we can design in-house for minimal cost.

It was moved by Lome; seconded by Vaden to:

**Approve the request from Lance Rhoades for an additional \$400 for two stipends for the Classics on Film 2018/2019 series.**

Passed 8-0

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

ABSENT: 3 (Shakes, Tootill, Vivion)

### **Special Projects Report – An Tootill, Chair**

*No report.*

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

Concert MC volunteers update: Lome requested volunteers to MC the August 16 and August 24 concerts. Prince and staff/Vaden volunteered. The updated MC volunteer schedule is:

- Thursday, July 19: Lome
- Thursday, July 26: Lome
- Thursday, August 2: Lome or Joy Leichty
- Thursday, August 9: Vivion
- Thursday, August 16: Prince
- Friday, August 24: Vaden or City staff

Bluvas will send concert announcements to MC volunteers each week.

### **Public Art – Erin Vivion, Chair**

- Chair Stratton reported on behalf of Vivion that Vivion continues to work with Evan Maxim from the Development Services Group (DSG) address planning concerns in the Comprehensive Plan draft.
- Bluvas reported on behalf of Vivion that they met about the Creative District designation and are drafting a community stakeholders list and invite to assemble the community planning team. Bluvas will add Chuck, Gordon, Schwiethale, and Vaden to the e-mail list for subsequent communications.

### **Gallery – Amy Barnes, Chair**

Mercer Gallery updates:

- Barnes reported that the BIAWA exhibit reception was very successful, with more than 100 people attending.
- She requested volunteers to assist with hanging the new gallery show by the Puget Sound Sumi Artists on Saturday, July 21. Chair Stratton volunteered.
- Bluvas requested volunteers for a Gallery Renovation sub-committee to assist staff in choosing paint colors and signage for the gallery. Barnes, Prince, and Zimmerman volunteered.

Other updates:

- The Arts Council will not host Urban Artworks at a booth at Summer Celebration! this year. Barnes will work with the organization to identify other ways to collaborate.
- Diane Barrett Tien from Mercer Island High School PTSA reached out to Barnes and Bluvas for guidance on a “gallery” program for the school’s renovated Staff Lounge. They will report about program/partnership ideas at a late Arts Council meeting if necessary.

**Staff Report – Sarah Bluvas and Diane Mortenson**

- Bluvas discussed the City-wide shift to streamline Board/Commission processes, codes, and policies. She and Mortenson meet with Ali Spietz on July 18, and they will continue to report any new developments and how they may impact the Arts Council.
- Bluvas requested that members send any comments or updates to the Recreation Guide copy (included in Agenda Packet) to her.
- Bluvas presented an example of a public art collection “story map” from the City of Burien. The City’s GIS department is currently working on a similar project to serve as both a public-facing map and an internal collection management tool. Bluvas will continue to report on the progress of this and bring Arts Council members into the process.
- Bluvas will send information about the Northwest Public Art Consortium conference to the group and encouraged anyone interested in attending to let her know.
- At the August meeting, Bluvas will present ideas about how she should prioritize her time for the rest of 2018 and into 2019 to best meet the needs of the Arts Council.
- Mortenson invited members to attend Summer Celebration! on Saturday and Sunday, July 14 and 15, in Mercerdale and Luther Burbank Parks.

**Other Business**

*No other business.*

**Adjournment**

Chair Stratton adjourned the meeting at 8:03 pm.

---

Rene Stratton, Chair

Attest:

---

Sarah Bluvas, Scribe