



# ARTS COUNCIL MINUTES

## FEBRUARY 14, 2018

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### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Joy Langley, at 6:30 pm at the Mercer Island Community & Event Center, 8236 SE 24<sup>th</sup> St., Mercer Island, WA 98040

### Roll Call

*Members Present:* Joy Langley, Amy Barnes, Joy Liechty, Matt Lome, Angelina Odievich, Jessica Prince, An Tootill and Erin Vivion.

*Members Absent:* Rene Stratton, Xixi Shakes and June Silverberg

*City Council:* City Council Member Salim Nice

MIVAL Liaison: Claudia Zimmerman

*Staff:* Kai Fulginiti, Diane Mortenson and Eileen Hemmis Trifts

### Appearances:

#### **Sharon Perez, Director of Strategic Relationships, and Keith Imper, Marketing Manager, Mercer Island Center for the Arts (MICA)**

The purpose for their appearance is to reintroduce MICA and restart the conversation about Mercer Island Center for the Arts. MICA supports all forms of art and artists. They are an active part of the Mercer Island Community with a recently newly expanded Board of Directors and staff. Today they have new leadership, a good relationship with the City of Mercer Island and other arts organizations on Mercer Island. The next part of this is the community engagement process. The last part is that they are open to alternative sites and design. Other communities in our geographical area that have opened Performing Arts Centers have experienced a positive economic impact in employment income, local and state government revenues and full-time exempt jobs. They have met with all of the leaders to of these centers and are learning from their experiences.

MICA will continue to meet and work with the City Manager and Parks & Recreation Superintendent. The Arts Council, in the meantime, will be working with the City to update the Art piece of the city's Comprehensive Plan.

**Erin Vivion made a motion to amend the agenda move the Creative Districts presentation up on the agenda to follow appearances. The motion was seconded and passed with 1 opposed.**

#### **Patricia Pelter, President, and Marni Sheppard, Vice President of the Fine Arts Advisory Council - "All for Arts" Initiative**

All for Arts is a group of organizations that promote the arts in Mercer Island. Their objective is to consolidate all art resources on the Island. Their purpose for appearing at tonight's meeting is to present a proposal to have the Arts Council act as the art information hub by placing links to all MI art resources on their main webpage and post events on the calendar. They feel this would facilitate communication with the community, promote all art related events and bring about collaboration amongst all art organizations by capitalizing on common goals.

Deputy Mayor Salim commented that as we look at the Comprehensive Plan language and think about writing a statement that is general but has long-lasting language, this is the type of thing we should put in. It is not just about supporting the arts and creating the arts, but sharing information.

**Minutes:**

**Amy Barnes motioned to approve the minutes of January 10, 2018 as submitted. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

**Amy Barnes motioned to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2018 Retreat as submitted. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

**Chair Report - Joy Langley**

(1) King County City Council has proposed additional oversight of 4Culture. Joy will circulate a link to advocacy for 4Culture. She recommended that members research and then decide for themselves whether or not to advocate for 4Culture.

(2) Joy proposed that the Arts Council consider annual funding of Dance for Parkinson's. **Joy motioned that the Arts Council fund Dance for Parkinson's annually at \$750 pending finding a line item at the next meeting. The motion was seconded and passed 7 to 1.**

(3) Joy presented the following Committee Chair appointments:  
Gallery Chair (Indoor and Outdoor) – Amy Barnes, MMIP – Joy Liechty, Community Relations – Jessica Prince, Special Projects - An Tootill and Public Art - Erin Vivion. **Erin Vivion motioned to accept committee chairs as presented. The motion was seconded and passed.**

(4) Comprehensive Plan – Joy turned the floor over to Kai Fulginiti who presented a rough draft prepared by staff of the Comprehensive Art Plan Statement, Goals and Policies. Feedback from Arts Council members is being solicited for inclusion. A subcommittee of Amy Barnes, Joy Langley, Joy Liechty and Erin Vivion will work to prepare Arts Council feedback and report back to staff by March 4 so that their recommendations can be incorporated. An expanded draft will be posted on the website for public viewing 10 days prior to the March 14 Arts Council meeting. The public will be invited to comment at the March 14 meeting.

(5) Joy informed the Council that Angelina is resigning from the Arts Council as of the March meeting. A suggestion was made to post the opening on "Next Door".

(6) MMIP makes National News! Joy congratulated Joy Liechty on making the national news which named Mercer Island as one of the "Best Place to Live" and featured a picture of MMIP.

(7) Joy stated that if there is a public records request, that personal emails could be searched. The City is looking into getting everyone a city email address but until that time she suggested members consider setting up an email that can be used specifically for Arts Council correspondence.

(8) Following a short discussion, **Joy Langley motioned that a non-voting liaison position be created on the Arts Council for a Fine Arts Association Committee member. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

**Special Projects, Rene Stratton, Chair**

No Report.

**Mostly Music in the Park – Joy Liechty, Chair**

Joy reported that after reviewing 82 entries, the MMIP Committee approved the following bands for MMIP this year. The last concert will be a food rodeo. Jessica put forth the idea of having an additional food truck night in conjunction with Farmer's Market. They would coordinate with the city and food trucks, and do all marketing. The first concert was recommended and generally agreed on.

July 19	The Rumba Kings	<i>Mediterranean/Latina</i>
July 26	Scott Lindenmuth Group	<i>Jazz/Funkadelic</i>
August 2	Joy Mills Band	<i>Country/Americana</i>
August 9	The Mighty Dreadful	<i>Blue Grass</i>
August 16	Ethan Keller Group	<i>Contemporary Rock</i>
August 24	The Infinity Project	<i>Journey Tribute Band</i>

Claudia Zimmerman, MIVAL Liaison, requested that the specifications for the 2018 MMIP poster be sent to her. Kai will work with Joy to get that to her.

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

There is an opportunity for Mercer Island to become a WA State Arts Commission Certified Creative District. Erin recently met with their Program Manager to get more information. Erin presented a slide show and distributed a handout with a program overview. This is happening on a state level simultaneously with what is happening on Mercer Island, and it would be a great fit with the goals of Mercer Island. A point person is a requirement, and Diane Mortenson stated that should the Arts Council go forward on this, this person would be at a staff level.

Erin gave a brief report on her attendance at the most recent LAA meeting.

### **Indoor Gallery, Amy Barnes, Co-Chair**

Amy reported that the **Viva Cuba!** Exhibit will be hung on February 24. The artists' reception is March 1. In conjunction with the exhibit, there will be an hour-long presentation by the exhibit coordinator, Ray Pfortner, about Cuba and the backstory on the exhibit.

### **Outdoor Gallery, Angelina Odievich, Co-Chair**

No Report

### **Staff Report: Kai Fulginiti**

- ~ Summer Celebration Parade ideas. The theme this year is tropical, "Island Vibes with a Splash of Aloha". Be thinking of ideas and bring to the April meeting.
- ~ Retreat Summary (2013-2018) handout.
- ~ Request for Chairs to get 2017 Annual Report info to Kai by March 1. The 2018 Work Plan and 2017 Annual Report are scheduled to go to the City Council in March.
- ~ Outdoor Gallery. Ingrid Lahti's piece has been installed. The plaques have also been installed. Next step – Greta Hackett sign.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

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Joy Langley, Chair

Attest:

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Eileen Hemmis Trifts, Scribe