



## Mercer Island Arts Council Regular Meeting

Agenda | December 11, 2019

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

- 6:30 PM CALL TO ORDER**
- 6:30 PM APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
Regular Meeting Minutes, November 13, 2019
- 6:35 PM 2019 BUDGET REPORT, Sarah Bluvas**
- 6:40 PM OFFICER ELECTIONS AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS, All**  
*Action Requested* : Elect 2020 Chair and Vice-Chair  
*Action Requested* : Submit Committee Interest Forms
- 7:00 PM UPDATE ON GALLERY WALLS MAINTENANCE, Amy Barnes & Sarah Bluvas**
- 7:20 PM 2020 PROGRAMMING & PROJECTS, All**  
*Action Requested* : Schedule 2020 Arts Council Retreat
- 8:10 PM PROGRAM & LIAISON REPORTS**  
**Chair Report/Public Art, Erin Vivion**
- Mostly Music in the Park, Matt Lome**
- Special Projects, Gaylene Vaden**
- Literary, Erik Gordon**
- Community Relations, Damian Schwiethale**
- Gallery, Amy Barnes**
- FAAC, Alice Finch**
- MIVAL, Claudia Zimmerman**
- 8:25 PM STAFF UPDATES, Sarah Bluvas and Diane Mortenson**  
*Action Requested* : Submit volunteer hours
- 8:30 PM ADJOURN**

### Arts Council Members

- 1 Anumeha
- 2 Suzanne Skone
- 3 Gaylene Vaden
- 4 Amy Barnes, Vice Chair
- 5 Matt Lome
- 6 Erin Vivion, Chair
- 7 Erik Gordon
- 8 Damian Schwiethale
- 9 Xixi Shakes

### City Council Liaison

Salim Nice

### Staff

Sarah Bluvas

Diane Mortenson

### MIVAL Liaison

Claudia Zimmerman

### FAAC Liaison

Alice Finch

**Next Meeting: January 8, 2020**

**2019 Arts Council Group Norms/Guiding Principles**  
**Adopted at the Arts Council Retreat – 03.02.19**

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**Everyone contributes.**

- Listen actively.
- Create a space in which all members feel comfortable speaking up.
- Encourage respectful debate.

**Foster a collaborative environment.**

- Work better together.
- Stay open to new ideas and ways of thinking.
- Seasoned members mentor new members.
- Once a decision is made, everyone commits to that decision.

**Hold each other accountable.**

- Evaluate projects and ideas equally.
- Focus on the group's goals.
- Identify and leverage the skills everyone brings to the table.

**Get to know each other and the community.**

- Socialize with each other.
- Expand the network by bringing friends, neighbors, etc., along – create a pipeline/succession plan.

**Be transparent and accessible.**

- Check for understanding by paraphrasing.
- Foster open communication.



# ARTS COUNCIL MINUTES

## NOVEMBER 13, 2019

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### 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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
- 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.

**Mercer Island Arts Council - 2019 Operating Budget** *(Budget to Actual - As of 12.09.19)*

Expense Area	2019 Budgeted	2019 Actual	2019 Pending	Additions
<b>PR5200: Public Art</b>				
Operating supplies (placards, signage, etc.)	\$ 800.00	\$ -	\$ 467.96	\$ -
<b>PR5300: Community Arts Support</b>				
Arts Council Swing Dance (VFW Hall rental, supplies, etc.)	\$ 1,600.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Dance for PD	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ -
<b>PR5400: Gallery</b>				
Operating supplies (reception food, etc.)	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 912.72	\$ -	\$ -
Professional services (outdoor gallery installation stipend)	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ -	\$ -
Musicians at receptions	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ -	\$ -
Marketing and promotion (advertising, printing, etc.)	\$ 1,400.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>PR5500: Literary Program</b>				
Friday Night Films honoraria (Lance Rhodes)	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Meet the Author event	\$ 400.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Marketing and promotion (advertising, printing, etc.)	\$ 450.00	\$ -	\$ 288.00	\$ -
<b>PR5600: Cultural &amp; Performing Arts</b>				
Event supplies	\$ 100.00	\$ 16.53	\$ -	\$ -
Mostly Music in the Park sound engineering	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 6,784.80	\$ -	\$ -
Mostly Music in the Park bands	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Shakespeare in the Park performances	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Marketing and promotion (poster design/distribution, banners, etc.)	\$ 2,920.00	\$ 2,926.82	\$ -	\$ -
<b>PR5700: Special Programs</b>				
Operating supplies (office supplies, retreat supplies, etc.)	\$ 500.00	\$ 337.05	\$ 169.66	\$ -
Dues and subscriptions (STQRY, professional networks, etc.)	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,310.53	\$ -	\$ -
Marketing and promotion (Arts Council branding)	\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous grants and sponsorships	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ -	\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 40,970.00</b>	<b>\$ 34,138.45</b>	<b>\$ 925.62</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<i>Remaining</i>	<i>\$</i>			<i>5,905.93</i>

**1% for Art in Public Places Fund Balance**

Cash Balance as of 01.01.19	\$ 143,011.81
<b>2018 - Contributions</b>	
Contributions	\$ 30,222.00
2018 Town Center Banners	\$ (300.00)
Net 2018 contributions	\$ 29,922.00
<b>2019 Budget - Commitments or Future Use of Cash</b>	
Anticipated Contributions	\$ 19,000.00
Gallery walls maintenance (est.)	\$ (30,000.00)
Handsome Bollards restoration (est.)	\$ (7,000.00)
Routine public art maintenance (est.)	\$ (4,442.02)
Net 2019 contributions (est.)	\$ (22,442.02)
<i>Est. Cash Available at year's end (12.31.19)</i>	<i>\$ 150,491.79</i>

## **Arts Council Officer Positions Elections Process**

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At the Arts Council's December meeting, the following process is conducted to elect new officer positions:

- Place motion to elect Chair and Vice Chair on the agenda.
- Take nominations for the position of Chair from the floor.
- Nominations do not require a second vote.
- If no further nominations, the Chair declares nominations closed.
- Voting takes place in the order nominations are made.
- If there is only one nomination, board members will vote on that nomination by a voice vote.
- If there is more than one nomination, each will be voted on separately by a roll-call vote of the members present.
- Once a nominee receives a simple majority vote, the nominee is declared elected to the position.
- If none of the nominees receive a majority vote, nominations are requested again, and the process is repeated until a candidate receives a majority vote.
- The process is repeated for Vice Chair.

## **2020 Arts Council Committee Information**

### **Community Relations**

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This committee works with Parks & Recreation staff to coordinate a variety of efforts related to public relations and community outreach. Efforts may include providing marketing and promotional support for the Arts Council as well as staying updated on current technology and social media trends and working with staff to use these tools to advertise programs and events. This committee familiarizes the Mercer Island community with the Arts Council and its programs as well as cultivates communications and networking channels through local publicity resources, the Mercer Island School District, other arts organizations, and local arts and other events. The Community Relations Chair also has the opportunity to connect with 4Culture, the Cultural Development Authority of King County.

### **Gallery**

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This committee collaborates with Parks & Recreation staff to program the Mercer Island Gallery at the Mercer Island Community & Event Center and the Greta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery. Projects include coordinating rotating exhibits and artist receptions hosted at the Mercer Island Gallery; working with the Arts & Culture Coordinator to assess outdoor gallery needs and updates; and partnering with the Public Art Committee to update and promote the STQRY and Public Art Story Map digital platforms.

### **Literary**

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This committee fosters appreciation for literary arts in the community by sponsoring literary artists, groups, and events. Committee members assist Parks & Recreation staff in planning events such as poetry readings, writing workshops, the Friday Night Films series, and storytelling events. The committee may also work with the Arts & Culture Coordinator to foster the relationship with Wooden O Theatre, who produces the annual Shakespeare in the Park series, and establish/strengthen relationships with other community organizations and businesses.

### **Performing Arts**

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This committee replaces the Mostly Music in the Park (MMIP) committee to focus on performing arts programs at-large. In addition to continuing to support MMIP planning and production, this committee may also collaborate with the Literary Committee to foster the Shakespeare in the Park program as well as explore other opportunities to support or present performing arts programs (music, theater, dance, etc.). To maintain cohesive planning for MMIP, the committee may elect to create a MMIP subcommittee with an event chair.

### **Public Art**

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This committee works with City staff, other Boards and/or Commissions, and the Arts Council to steward and showcase the City's Public Art Collection. Duties include working with staff to update and develop collection-related policies; assist in coordinating collection maintenance needs; and collaborating with the Gallery Committee update and promote the STQRY and Public Art Story Map digital platforms.

### **Special Projects**

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The Special Projects Committee assists Parks & Recreation staff in coordinating special programs and projects that arise. These may include Arts Council Anniversary celebrations, the Annual Arts Council Retreat, or other special ad-hoc events and opportunities that develop.

## Mercer Island Arts Council Committee Interest Form

The Chair and Vice-Chair elect will use this form to make committee chair and associate appointments for the following calendar year. Please select up to three (3) preferred interests, and rank them in order of greatest preference (1-3).

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Position:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Committee Positions

Performing Arts Chair

Performing Arts Associate

Literary Chair

Literary Associate

Gallery Chair

Gallery Associate

Public Art Chair

Public Art Associate

Community Relations Chair

Community Relations Associate

Special Projects Chair

Special Projects Associate

### Additional Comments



*Ideas or Requests Proposed by Arts Council*

Project/Program Idea or Area	Summary	Partnerships (known or anticipated)	Dates	Estimated Financial Investment
Project Pull-Through: Artists on the Water	Arts-oriented event featuring readings, visual arts, beer sponsor, giveaways, etc.  Opportunity to pilot a new approach to sustaining programming with partnerships and sponsorships	Snoqualmie Brewery Patagonia Filson Fly Fish Journal	Spring	\$8,000
Friday Night Films Special Event: <i>Restless Creature</i>	Partner with local dance groups and businesses to screen <i>Restless Creature</i> and host a panel with the filmmakers, local dancers, physical therapists, etc.  Opportunity to enhance an existing program series while building new audiences/community partnerships	Movement Systems Definitive Dance Creation Dance Studios Pacific Northwest Ballet	Spring/Summer	\$3,000
Art UnCorked Enhancement	Partner with MIVAL and the Chamber of Commerce earlier in the planning process to more intentionally showcase the outdoor gallery during the event	MIVAL Chamber of Commerce	January-September for collaboration  Event on 9/11/20	TBD (past funding: \$800-\$1,000)
Mostly Music in the Park Enhancement	Reallocate funds in 2020 budget to accommodate rising costs for sound engineering and performers	Arts4All 889 The Bridge MIVAL MICA Community groups and sponsors	Summer	\$1,500-\$2,000
Arts Value Proposition Messaging Campaign	Develop messaging to raise awareness of the value of the arts in the community	ArtsWA 4Culture Community groups and businesses	Ongoing	TBD
Greta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery Visioning	Build on the ADMP arts & culture vision and refocus on the outdoor gallery as an opportunity area for arts & culture experiences in Town Center and the park	4Culture George Lee	Ongoing	TBD (\$10,000 secured via 4Culture Creative Consultancy program)
Div-Art	Pilot an arts-based element for YFS's diversion/early intervention program	YFS	?	TBD

*Known/Anticipated Partner Programs in 2020*

Partner	Program(s)	Partnership To-Date	Dates	Estimated Financial Investment
Stroum Jewish Community Center	SeaJAM Festival	Sponsored festival in 2018 and 2019  No follow-up since 2019 sponsorship	Fall?	TBD (past funding: \$1,000-\$2,500)
Mercer Island Library	ideaX	Co-hosted programs in Fall 2018 and 2019  Will reconnect with program coordinator in 2020	Fall?	\$0
	Art Talks	Co-hosted several talks in 2018 and 2019  Plan to co-host at least one talk in 2020	Spring	\$0
Mercer Island Sister City Association	French Art Talks with Rebecca Albani	Provided free space, marketing, and staff support for first program in 2018  Provided marketing support for some of 2019 programs  Need to reconnect regarding where the programs stand/if MIAC involvement is still desired	TBD	TBD (past in-kind support: \$200-\$300)
	Friday Night Films French films	Promote the film screenings as part of our film series but have had little contact with MISCA directly on coordinating marketing efforts  In process of reconnecting with Jane Brahm to better cross-promote 2020 films	February 28 and March 27	TBD (cost per screening is \$200 but MISCA funds the French films right now)
	Thonon-les-Bains Anniversary	Deputy Mayor Nice mentioned this at the October meeting  No direct contact or programming request to-date	TBD	TBD
Mercer Island Historical Society	100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment programming	Historical Society and KCLS hosting a variety of programs in the spring to celebrate the Centennial of Women's Suffrage  Interested in partnering on a fall presentation at MICEC by John Hughes, chief historian for the Secretary of State's oral history program  Last connected with Terry Moreman on 12.06.19	Fall 2020	TBD (likely in-kind support of space at MICEC and marketing)