

Sammamish Arts Commission – Minutes – February 22, 2016

Sammamish City Hall, 801 228th Ave SE, Sammamish, Washington

Attendees:

Commissioners: Chair Anne Schaefer, Barbara Jirsa, Claradell Shedd, Lin Garretson, Priti Joshi, Steve Wright, Ramu Iyer, Jennifer Kacsmarek and Margaret Rosenow. Also present: **Staff:** Joseph Guinasso, Finance Director; Colleen Rupke, Administrative Assistant. Alternates: Carol Weaks and Angela Bovo. **Citizen** Lynn Stevens. No members were absent.

Call to Order

Chair Anne Schaefer

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Chair Pro-Tem Jirsa in the temporary absence of Chair Schaefer.

Welcome New Members – The Commission welcomed new Commissioner Jennifer Kacsmarek and Alternate Angela Bovo. Introductions were made of all in attendance.

Election of Chair – Commissioner Garretson moved to extend for one year the chairmanship of Commissioner Anne Schaefer. The motion was seconded by Commissioners Shedd and Rosenow. **The motion carried on a 9-0 vote.**

Approval of January 25, 2016 Minutes – The Commission approved the January 25, 2016 meeting minutes via email.

Budget and Financial Report Year-End 2015

Joe Guinasso

- 2015 Carry forward TBD
- 2016 Budget \$32,300.00 (includes \$6,500 4Culture Grant)
- 2016 Additional \$1,000.00 4Culture Grant
- 2015-2016 Mid-Bi Adjustment \$10,000.00
 - **2016 TOTAL BUDGET \$43,300.00**
- 2016 Expenditures to Date: \$839.48
- 2016 Balance: \$42,460.52

Director Guinasso reported that it appears the Commission will have just under \$1,000 carry-forward from last year's budget. Budget allocations have not yet been set by the Commission for this year.

Commissioner Garretson reported that the Library is very interested in partnering with SAC for a Poetry event. Budget numbers will be needed for planning this event. Commissioner Garretson also reported that the Ladies Musical Club has been approved for location at Bellewood so the cost for this event will be \$0.

Presentation to the City Council

Joe Guinasso

Director Guinasso reported that the SAC will be giving a report to the City Council on March 15. Chair Schaefer will be making the presentation and another presentation will likely be scheduled in the fall before budget discussions. Director Guinasso encouraged

the Commission to take credit for good things they have done and accomplished (i.e., roundabouts, etc.) and address the Commission's vision moving forward and how that translates into dollars. Chair Schaefer will be preparing a short slide show presentation for the Council. She encouraged that any suggestions from other commission members should be emailed to her.

City Roundabouts

Claradell Shedd

Commissioner Shedd gave a brief summary of the installation of the three new sculptures in the roundabouts. Positive responses are pouring in. The firemen named their ladder sculpture "11 Steps; Ladder 83". Commissioner Shedd took background stories of the sculptures to the neighboring schools to let them know the history. She reported that she received lots of positive feedback and response. Commissioner Shedd reported that all the wood used in the sculptures has been coated with three applications of preservatives. All of the wood used for the sculptures is from the old barn formerly on 228th. Four more sculptures will be installed this year. Commissioner Shedd has prepared the press packet for Communication Manager Tim Larson for the March newsletter and Tim will prepare the general public press releases from that. Art pieces will not be installed on traffic circles, but only on potential roundabouts.

Commissioner Garretson suggested that an artist reception featuring these installations be considered so people can hear the stories behind the art from the artist himself. Commissioner Shedd would check with the artist but didn't know if he would be agreeable to that. He doesn't desire to call a lot of attention to himself.

Commissioner Shedd also reported that she has spoken to the people who own the Cooper barn about use of their wood. (Cooper barn is across the highway from the Gray Barn on SR 202). She will continue pursuing this potential.

Redmond Art

Margaret Rosenow

Commissioner Rosenow gave a presentation from Redmond's Art program. Then she distributed and discussed handouts of ordinances from the City of Redmond relating to public art and their arts budget. Commissioner Rosenow asked the Commission to consider the direction it would like to go and whether it would like to begin to model our neighboring jurisdiction in funding and legislation. Commissioner Rosenow pointed out that, in 1973, King County adopted legislation creating the 1% for Art Programs, where 1% of certain project costs is set aside to purchase and display public art that visually enhances the jurisdiction's facilities. There was Commission discussion about presenting this idea to Council again, and discussing what the Commission would have done with 1% of the project costs allocations to-date, what it is asking for in additional funding now, and then what it would do with the additional funds (i.e., additional support to theatre, public art, etc.) Commissioners discussed using the Economic Report that is available from the Arts Council that shows the revenues generated from public art and art events. With a new retail base coming to Sammamish, the Commission agreed it makes a lot of sense to begin this discussion now. Chair Schaefer asked if the Commission wanted to rethink its Mission Statement, perhaps to incorporate drawing people from the outside into the Community as well. Commissioner Garretson suggested considering creating a community personality or identity that is expressed through the arts. Commissioners Garretson and Iyer will work on drafting ideas along these lines.

Director Guinasso suggested that the Commission begin with revisiting the Commission's Mission Statement in consideration of serving larger community demands. The Commission might also then begin drafting a budget element which would address the increased services that could be provided with increased funding and a vision for the future (i.e., Sammamish's own theater, permanent public art, etc.)

2016 Planning

Chair Schaefer

Upcoming Events:

The Teen Talent Show and the **Life Stories Event Workshop** are both slated for **Saturday, February 27**. Commissioner Garretson expressed disappointment in not being made aware of this schedule conflict earlier—and both events involving teen. Had she known of the Teen Talent Show event date, she would have been willing to move her event to another date.

Clay Day is slated for **Saturday, March 19**

Build It Sammamish Lego Event – Saturday, March 5

Nest / Park Dedication Ceremony – May 21 (Tentative)

Poetry Event – partnering with Library – Commissioner Garretson advised that once the artist is selected that will determine the schedule (Poetry month is normally April, but event could be held in May). **There was consensus agreement of the Commission to work cooperatively with the library to develop partnership terms for a poetry event.** Commissioner Garretson will work on locating an artist.

Budget Discussion:

The Commission proposed the following budget allocations for 2016:

Build It Sammamish Lego Event - **\$750**

Simple Measures - **\$3,500**

Poetry Event - **\$250**

Senior Art Class (one only in the Fall) - **\$1,800**

Public Art – Roundabouts - **\$5,000**

Wooden O' Shakespeare Event - **\$1,800**

Sammamish Nights - **\$1,000**

Ladies Musical Club - **\$0**

Art Fair - **\$4,000**

Theater –

 Teen Talent Show - **\$200**

Additional theater funding will be considered for sponsorship as requests emerge so that the Commission knows what is scheduled.

Other budget allocations were previously agreed upon at the January Regular meeting. (See *January 25, 2016 Meeting Minutes for specific details.*)

Open discussion

All

Repertory Theater Collective vs. SAC events: Commissioner Wright was asked to clarify the distinction between the Repertory Theater Collective vs. Arts Commission theater events. Commissioner Wright reported that his Collective has expanded its events this year to include a fundraiser for The Sammamish Boys and Girls Club. The Teen Talent Show has been in auditions and rehearsals and is slated to premiere February 27, at 7:00 p.m. at the Teen Center. No tickets are necessary. This event is SAC sponsored. Commissioner Wright indicated there would be no expenses for this event. Director Guinasso pointed out that there are charges pending for the event through City facilities use as well as Mail Post charges. Chair Schaefer asked that any further scheduled events be brought to the Commission's attention so that the event could be placed on the Commission schedule and funds could be dedicated.

Klahanie transition committee—Commissioner Garretson spoke with her contact from the Klahanie transition committee, Robert. Klahanie is electing a new board of directors on March 9. Commissioner Garretson suggests the Commission should begin working with that new board. Robert expressed interest of bringing events to Klahanie, though they don't have indoor venues available for hosting. The events the Klahanie Community has now include an Easter Egg Hunt, a 4th of July Parade Event, Pool and Swim Meets, and Movie Nights. It was suggested that the Commission consider piggy-backing onto some of Klahanie's existing events by providing a pop-up event or sponsoring an art event or live music. Commissioner Garretson will take the lead on pursuing this matter.

Adjourn – There being no further business, the Commission was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Next regular SAC meeting – Monday, March 28, 2016 – 6:30 pm