

Sammamish Arts Commission – Minutes – May 22, 2017

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

Attendees:

Commissioners: Chair Ramu Iyer, Claradell Shedd, Jennifer Kaczmarek, Barbara Jirsa, Margaret Rosenow, Gregory Clark and Priti Joshi. Also present: **Staff:** Aaron Antin, Finance Director / Staff Liaison; Colleen Rupke, Administrative Assistant.

Absent: Commissioner Lin Garretson.

Call to Order

Chair Ramu Iyer

The meeting was called to order by Chair Iyer at 6:35 p.m.

Welcome New Commissioner

Commissioner Gregory Clark was introduced to the Commission. He was appointed by the City Council on May 16. Commissioner Clark shared his background and his artistic passion of Fine Arts Photography.

Approval of April 24, 2017 Meeting Minutes – Commissioner Shedd moved to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2017 Arts Commission Meeting. Commissioner Rosenow seconded the motion. The meeting minutes of April 24, 2017 were formally approved by the Commission on a 7-0 vote.

Budget and Financial Report

Aaron Antin

- 2017 Budget **\$62,300.00**
- 2017 Expenditures to Date: **\$4,796.85**
- 2017 Balance to date: **\$57,503.15**

Finance Director Aaron Antin gave the financial report to the Commission of the current expenditures and balance to date, represented above. The carry-forward amount requested is \$20,000 for a Permanent Public Art reserve fund and this has gone to Council for first reading. The carry-forward is expected to be adopted at the first meeting of the Council in June.

Commissioner Rosenow requested an allocation of \$250 to cover the upcoming LAA meeting which Sammamish will be hosting at the Maintenance Facility. ***Commissioner Rosenow moved that \$250.00 be moved from “unallocated” for LAA meeting hostess expenditures. Commissioner Jirsa seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.***

Vashon Performing Arts Center

Jennifer Kaczmarek

Commissioner Kaczmarek gave a PowerPoint presentation on her visit to the Vashon Performing Arts Center. This \$20 Million project was initiated with a gift, took 8-10 years from start to finish. The architect for this Vashon Center was also the architect for Benaroya Hall. The facility boasts state of the art acoustics. Commissioner Kaczmarek's slide presentation depicted all the different rooms and features of the facility.

Zakuse Fish Passage Project

Commissioner Kaczmarek advised that there is nothing further at this time to report. This project is on hold for now.

Arts Fair Additional Funding Request

Mireille Koenders-Kools

Arts Fair Chair Mireille Koenders-Kools is requesting additional funds for rental of a tent canopy for the Commons plaza. She would like an additional \$1,000 that is normally dedicated to the Sammamish Nights event. Arts Fair artists won't be participating in Sammamish Nights this year so they would like the funds to go to the Arts Fair budget instead. Chair Koenders-Kools has had the same \$4,000 budget for the past few years but has spent in excess of \$5K and would like to have that ability with funding this year. Commissioners asked about process of jurying and she explained that there was a call for artists, a jury of 3, submissions are jpegs, separated by art form or media, all are scored numerically by the 3 jurors, jurors are not involved in the fair, judge independent of each other, submit their scores, Koenders-Kools acts as talisman, consideration is given for variations of mixed media, Koenders-Kools changed the process so that there would be independent judging and so that the process would be fair. 33 adult artists are selected as well as six high school kids who use the loft to display their work. There was discussion about the responsibilities of participating artists and also about difficulties that have arisen with artists selected.

There will be a follow-up discussion with the Commission about this matter before a decision is made.

It was suggested that she check with the Teen Center as a possible venue for the Arts Fair.

The Arts Fair is September 23-24. Commissioner Jirsa mentioned that this will pose a bit of challenge for the art exhibit on display at that time, since she had not been planning for the earlier date of the Arts Fair and would need to check with the exhibit artists to see if the planned schedules can be altered somewhat.

Permanent Public Art

Margaret Rosenow

Commissioner Rosenow distributed the outline of what their presentation to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be in next month's meeting. Copies of the outline were distributed. The meeting is slated for June 2nd. If commissioners wish to suggest any edits to the presentation, let Commissioner Rosenow know about it soon.

Slash & Burn Update

Barbara Jirsa

Commissioner Jirsa reported that the Slash-and-Burn exhibit is up now. The Opening reception was not big or highly attended but it was very interesting and successful. Have heard really good things about the exhibits.

Commissioner Jirsa has been having conversations with a variety of different artists about trying something different which might incorporate reaching out to underserved communities of those with dementia, their caregivers and family members. She believes this might serve our community well. She will keep the Commission updated.

Au-Some Artists Event

Claradell Shedd

Commissioner Shedd gave a brief report on behalf of Commissioner Garretson in her absence: Photos of this event were shared with the Commission. The event was very successful and highly attended. Even some return students. A number of first-timers as well.

LAA Meeting in Sammamish

Margaret Rosenow

LAA meeting coming up this week at SeaTac.

Commissioner Rosenow reported that the City will host the LAA meeting on Thursday, July 27 at the Maintenance Facility. Commissioner Garretson will speak about her programs. Possibly Commissioner Jirsa might present as well. Anyone else that wants to speak should indicate so. Chair Iyer will be attending. Colleen will secure the meeting room.

Updates to the 2017 Work Plan

All

Commissioner Shedd reported that she is planning to present a short PowerPoint in early June to the Planning Commission and Council.

Commissioner Kaczmarek reported that she is working with Frances and Janine on the Community Theater / Performing Arts events. Another event is upcoming. Some of the challenges were discussed. Colleen requested that Commissioner Kaczmarek call and talk to her about it so Colleen can assist in some way with the time demands placed on the Commissioner.

Citizen Comments

Mary Wictor 408 – 208th Ave NE, 98074 – Spoke about the Sign Code getting passed recently by the City but doesn't include Art at this point. This will be delayed to another time. There have been discussions about the signs for different businesses and schools – so the matter of electronic signs will be brought up again soon. Mary feels strongly that Art needs to be exempted. Believes that the Arts Commission should be the one to review the art or aesthetics in the process. Her goal as a citizen is to encourage art and not penalize it and let it be reviewed by the Commission for process and review.

Adjourn – The Commission was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Next regular SAC meeting – Monday, June 26, 2017 – 6:30 pm