

## SEATTLE ARTS COMMISSION

Minutes

Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Remote – Zoom Conference

**Commissioners present:** Vee Hua, Vanessa Villalobos, Holly Jacobson, Jessica Caudle, Chieko Phillips, Sophia Fang, Kayla DeMonte, Mikhael Mei Williams, James Miles

**Staff in attendance:** royal alley-barnes, Maritza Rivera, Allie Lee, Jenny Crooks

### **Call to Order, Introduction, Land Acknowledgement (4:09)**

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

Kayla moved to approve the commission minutes from April. James seconded. Approved.

#### **Public Comment:**

No public comment.

#### **Other Comment:**

Vanessa suggested having an icebreaker/check-in at the beginning of each meeting going forward.

#### **Agenda Edit:**

Starting today's meeting, Vanessa Villalobos will be Co-Chairing SAC with Vee Hua. James Miles will return to his role as Commissioner.

### **Committee Updates**

#### **Briefing: Committee Chairs**

- Work Updates
  - CIC (Kayla) – Continued refinement on purpose statement and 18-month workplan. Will have offsite session to discuss workplan on 5/26. Need more CIC members; workplan will help guide recruitment.
    - Perhaps consider changing the monthly meeting time to after 5pm to encourage more participation?
      - City staff workday generally ends at 5pm, so staff support will not be available.
  - FED (Chieko) – 1) Received an email from City's interagency light rail planning team, they are asking to hear from different committees who commented on Sound Transit in regard to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions (WSBLE). Chieko shared the template letter that was written for commissioners and committee members to use for advocacy. 2) Connected with the City's Comprehensive Plan team at OPCD - they will be coming to next week's FED

meeting to provide an overview and start getting feedback. They also want to hear from the larger SAC.

- SAC would like to have the opportunity to share what they think and to be integrated; need to do some homework of looking at sample plans from other cities.
  - SAC members are encouraged to attend next week's FED meeting.
  - There will also be a separate Comp Plan info session at an upcoming SAC meeting. ARTS staff are in the process of designating a point person for this work and coordinating.
- PAAC (Vee) – Continues to provide feedback for specific projects and recommend approval.
- Committee Membership
  - James will return to the CIC.
  - Encourages new members, Sophia and Jessica, to join committee.

## **2022 SAC Priorities / Workplan**

### **Briefing: Vanessa Villalobos**

SAC needs to define clear roles to do the work in a tactical way; what are some priorities you look forward to or are excited about? Discussion:

- Kayla – There is the challenge of having to figure out roles and priorities with new people coming on; excited to establish new opportunities around advocacy and supporting individual artists, emerging artists re: recovery and change. Re: Comprehensive Plan – what can we learn into in terms of recovery and how can arts integrate? There seems to be lots of opportunities to insert ourselves.
- Holly – Forming new community and order, start thinking bigger picture, clarity of purpose, taking ownership and bringing work to fruition. Advocacy piece/CIC work is important and the community building aspect of work is important.
- Chieko – Definition of values of the community and decision-making process.
- James – Excited to come together as arts sector folks from various fields and use momentum of combining roles. Want to be on top of advocating for the 50M from Dept of Commerce to go to the arts and culture sector. Also, we've experienced a lot of change in the past few months and would like to get some better grounding in governance.
- Vee – See commitments from commissioners for next steps from the retreat (section 4 of retreat minutes) – perhaps we should have working groups around these commitments.
  - At an upcoming SAC meeting, we can have a working meeting and break into groups. Or we can dedicate time to every SAC meeting to discuss these commitments.
- Vanessa – How can we encourage more participation from community, do outreach, create a buddy system, etc.?
  - Mikhael – In the past, the Music Commission and Arts Commission had a joint “meet the commissioners” event each year and coffee talks to engage community and hear about their concerns/issues. It also helped raise visibility of the commission.
    - Would also work well for a recruitment strategy

- Vee – We don't want to rush on events and outreach before we solidify who SAC is first
- Vee – some potential work groups would be:
  - Governance and values
  - Community/constituent engagement strategy work
  - Event activations and marketing

## **Co-Chairs Report**

### **Briefing: Vee Hua**

- Vanessa Villalobos is the new Co-Chair with Vee Hua, starting today.
  - Vanessa encourages commissioners to get out and engage with community more.
- Council Presentation Debrief
  - SAC was invited to CM Morales's Neighborhoods, Education, Civil Rights & Culture Committee to give a brief presentation on SAC's priorities and advocacy. Vee gave a slideshow presentation showing support for Hope Corps and Beloved campaign, ARTS' cultural space programs, and the Cultural Space Agency. Council asked SAC to come back to present on cultural space updates that SAC is passionate about. Vee will share the slide deck to SAC via the shared SAC Google Drive.
    - royal suggested adding a version of these slides with priorities to the SAC website.
- Email Addresses for SAC
  - The City recommends that all boards and commissions members create a separate, independent, personal email account used only for boards and commission business. This account may be from any email service such as Gmail or Outlook.com and would protect our board members and commissioners from exposing personal or business email accounts in the event of a public disclosure request.
  - Specifically, the City recommends that all City government officials or staff serving on a City board or commission not use their local government email account in favor of an independent boards and commissions email address.
- Budget letter submitted to Mayor on 5/5
  - Arts integration into City planning
  - Funding for the Cultural Space Agency
  - Retain & maintain current assets, staffing, and programs of the ARTS Office

## **Director's Report**

### **Briefing: royal alley-barnes, Maritza Rivera**

- ARTS Updates
  - Hope Corps - Our new funding program that connects under and unemployed workers in the creative industries with career opportunities, is now open. The [application](#) is open through **June 6, 2022**.
    - Learn more and encourage your networks to apply: <https://artbeat.seattle.gov/2022/04/27/hope-corps-grant-now-open/>

- Information Sessions:
      - Wednesday, May 11, 2022, 1-2 pm [RSVP](#)
      - Monday, May 23, 2022, 6-7 pm [RSVP](#)
- Black Arts Showcase – The project is well down the road with Jasmine Mahmoud and Brangien Davis managing the production of the work at Cascade Media. royal will be touching base with the project managers soon and hopes to provide further updates.
- Comprehensive Plan
  - OPCD’s Comprehensive Plan team has launched their [One Seattle Plan Engagement Hub](#), which is a central platform for all virtual outreach for the plan. Please share this resource with your networks, as it will help increase accessibility of the engagement process to communities which have been historically and systematically under-represented in the Comprehensive Plan.
  - OPCD is asking to promote their [survey](#) as preliminary results are indicating that we need to make a concerted push for higher participation of BIPOC and other under-represented groups in this particular engagement effort.
  - OPCD’s Comp Plan team will be invited to provide an info session at an upcoming SAC meeting. ARTS staff are in the process of designating a point person for this work and coordinating.
- ARTS Recovery Team Update (Jenny Crooks, Recovery Manager) – Two new staff will be joining ARTS recovery team starting tomorrow to help move cultural reopening grants. Currently making sure all organizations are set up for success, that we are equipped to help them, and making sure we are compliant with guidelines. New hire names will be shared with SAC in a follow up email.
- City Employee Appreciation Event
  - This event will take place on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am-1pm at the City Hall Plaza. The Mayor and County Executive will be speaking, and there will be performances.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.