



ARTS COUNCIL SPECIAL VIDEO MEETING

Wednesday February 10, 2021 | 6:30pm

ARTS COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Chair Erin Vivion
Vice Chair Amy Barnes
Board Members: Anumeha, Erik Gordon,
Xixi Shakes, Suzanne Skone, Gaylene Vaden
City Council Liaison: Salim Nice

LOCATION & CONTACT

Mercer Island City Hall – Zoom Meeting
9611 SE 36th Street | Mercer Island, WA 98040
Phone: 206.275.7706 | www.mercerisland.gov

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for meetings should notify the Staff Liaison at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at 206.275.7706.

Virtual Meeting Notice

The virtual meeting will be broadcast live on Zoom and recorded and saved on the City's [YouTube Channel](#)

Join by Telephone at 6:30 PM: To listen to the meeting via telephone, please call **253.215.8782** and enter Webinar ID **873 8577 1345** and Password **534808** when prompted.

Join by Internet at 6:30 PM: To watch the meeting over the internet via your computer, follow these steps:

- 1) Click [this link](#)
- 2) If the Zoom app is not installed on your computer, you will be prompted to download it.
- 3) If prompted for Webinar ID, enter **873 8577 1345**; Enter Password **534808**

For the safety and wellbeing of the public and staff, the City strongly recommends that community members attend the meeting by viewing the live feed on Zoom or watching the recording of the video conference on the City's [YouTube Channel](#), which will be available approximately 24 hours after the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

APPEARANCES

STAFF UPDATE

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Code of Ethics - Informal Opinion
- [2.](#) Approval of Minutes - December 9, 2020 and January 28, 2021
- [3.](#) Arts Reset Planning Check in
- [4.](#) Community Mural Project Idea - MIHS Student Groups on Race Relations (SGORR)
5. MIVAL Public Art Donations Status
6. Other Public Art Updates and Needs

OTHER BUSINESS

7. Submit Volunteer Hours for January 2021 - <https://forms.gle/6wk74KVEe81agNnS7>

ADJOURN



ARTS COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR VIDEO MEETING

DECEMBER 9, 2020

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chair Erin Vivion called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.

Vice Chair Amy Barnes, Erik Gordon, Xixi Shakes, Suzanne Skone, Gaylene Vaden, and Chair Erin Vivion participated remotely using Zoom (video teleconferencing platform).

Staff members Sarah Bluvas and Tammy Bodmer also participated remotely via Zoom.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

No public appearances.

STAFF UPDATE

Sarah Bluvas, EOC Small Business Liaison, provided an update on winter arts activations in Town Center; the 2021/2022 City budget adoption process; and reset planning efforts for the Mercer Island Community & Event Center, Recreation programs, and Arts Council work/arts programs.

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Approval of Minutes: October 14, 2020, Regular Video Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Barnes, seconded by Vaden to:

Approve the October 14, 2020, Minutes as presented.

Passed 6-0-1

FOR: Barnes, Gordon, Shakes, Skone, Vaden, and Vivion

ABSENT: Anumeha

2. 2021 Officer Elections

It was moved by Vaden, seconded by Gordon to:

Postpone officer elections until April 2021 and to extend the current officer and committee chair positions until that deadline.

Passed 6-0-1

FOR: Barnes, Gordon, Shakes, Skone, Vaden, and Vivion

ABSENT: Anumeha

3. Public Art Discussion
 - a. Public Art Donation Proposal from MIVAL – MIVAL members Judith Roan and Carol Whitaker presented a proposal to donate to the public art collection a work by long-time Island resident and MIVAL member Ron Reeder.

It was moved by Barnes, seconded by Skone to:

Accept the proposal to donate a work of art by Ron Reeder, pending final approval of a selected print and location.

Passed 6-0-1

FOR: Barnes, Gordon, Shakes, Skone, Vaden, and Vivion

ABSENT: Anumeha

b. Art Element for Xing Hua Development

It was moved by Skone, seconded by Gordon to:

Direct staff to propose to the Xing Hua Development team a collaboration with the Arts Council to identify an art element for the future development that does not include re-siting an existing work from the public art collection.

Passed 6-0-1

FOR: Barnes, Gordon, Shakes, Skone, Vaden, and Vivion

ABSENT: Anumeha

Staff will follow up with the developers and return to the Arts Council with next steps at a future meeting.

c. Public Art Maintenance Needs – Staff updated the board on maintenance needs of three works in the public art collection:

- *Now We Are One* by Philip Levine
- *Gateway Figure* by Garth Edwards
- *Fire Flower* by Gizel Berman

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Video Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.



ARTS COUNCIL MINUTES

SPECIAL VIDEO MEETING

JANUARY 28, 2021

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chair Erin Vivion called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

Anumeha, Vice Chair Amy Barnes, Erik Gordon, Suzanne Skone, Gaylene Vaden, and Chair Erin Vivion participated remotely using Zoom (video teleconferencing platform).

Councilmember Salim Nice, consultant Emily Moon, and staff member Sarah Bluvas also participated remotely via Zoom.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

No public appearances.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

1. Arts Reset Planning

City staff member Sarah Bluvas and consultant Emily Moon led the first Art Reset Planning Workshop as part of the Recreation/MICEC/Arts Reset Planning effort.

OTHER BUSINESS

2. 2021 Arts Council Meeting Schedule

The Board discussed the regular meeting schedule and will evaluate shifting to a less frequent schedule at the March 2021 meeting. Upcoming meetings:

- February 10, 6:30pm – Regular Video Meeting
- February 23, 6:30pm – Special Video Meeting
- March 10, 6:30pm – Regular Video Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Video Meeting adjourned at 8:43pm.

CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

www.mercerisland.gov



Arts Council February 10, 2021 Arts Reset

To: Arts Council

From: Sarah Bluvas, Economic Development Coordinator; Emily Moon, consultant

Date: February 10, 2021

Tonight's meeting will include a brief status update on the Arts portion of the Recreation, Mercer Island Community and Event Center, and Arts Reset project. As was described in the January 13th Arts Council meeting materials and the January 28th Arts Council workshop, the purpose of the Reset project is to develop recommendations for City Council's consideration regarding the future delivery of Arts Council services. Arts Council services and programs were suspended during the pandemic and following citywide budget and staffing reductions.

The Reset Plan will be responsive to two different timeframes and contexts:

- An Immediate Action Plan will describe a few actions the Arts Council wishes to take in 2021 that are feasible, consider the uncertainties and limits of the pandemic, are consistent with existing Arts Council goals, and are responsive to current needs.
- A longer-term action plan that describes which prioritized goals and efforts the Arts Council wishes to advance (post-pandemic) and what resources will be needed to implement these actions in the next few years.

A second workshop will be held on February 23rd. To focus that workshop and ensure the Arts Council makes progress toward developing its Immediate Action Plan, we would like to collect your comments on a few topics in advance of the meeting. Please complete the attached survey by February 17th and send your responses to Sarah sarah.bluvas@mercerisland.gov. At the workshop, we anticipate sharing a synthesis of your responses, discussing councilmembers' ideas for the Immediate Action Plan, and reviewing a few draft proposal options.

3. What are the three most important objectives the Arts Council needs to accomplish during this year? What should the focus be for 2021?

[Examples might include: protecting/maintaining the public art collection; securing resources to support Arts Council work; supporting community artists; collaborating with partners on arts advocacy; bringing attention to the public art collection; delivering an arts/culture outlet or experience for the public; organizing and delivering art education or arts classes online; sponsoring and marketing the activities of other arts/culture providers on Mercer Island; effectively managing all new public art selections and installations; sponsoring an artist working in a park or an exhibit or a self-directed activity in a park; securing funding and planning to deliver a robust Mostly Music in the Park series in 2022; developing a system and resources to support Mercer Island Gallery functions; improving policies such as XXX; convening community arts partners to discuss ways to collaborate on service and program delivery or to talk about arts' needs in the community]

4. As you look past 2021 and the pandemic, how should the Arts Council measure its success?

Community Mural Project Idea Presented by MIHS Student Groups on Race Relations (SGORR)

MIHS students from Student Groups on Race Relations (SGORR) recently approached City staff with an idea for a community mural project. Sarah Bluvas met with the students on February 2 and shared high-level information about the public art process as well as provided some ideas for how to approach their project. Additional details about the project from the students:

The mural would be focused on representing historically oppressed peoples, and helping to make Mercer Island a more welcoming place for people of all races, ethnicities, and backgrounds. In the future it could even become a location for related events, as it would be in a public space already, and it would signify Mercer Island's commitment to racial and ethnic inclusion in a very permanent way.

We are thinking of involving art clubs throughout Mercer Island School District to contribute to the mural. With the four elementary schools, middle school, and high school, we hope to have six "panels" of artwork that each club can draft individually and, of course, get approved. We also want to provide opportunities for people in the general arts community to contribute, with possible partnerships with local artists in the Mercer Island Visual Arts League, and regular people interested in art who have ideas for the project. These contributions could also be in a panel format, so that each group could represent a different facet of the diversity of the Island and the US.

As for locations, we are still debating between a few. We loved your suggestion of the wall behind the basketball court at Aubrey Davis Park, though we were concerned this may involve ladders/be a larger project than we and other students can handle. You are welcome to offer your thoughts on this, too. We also still are contemplating the original idea of putting the murals in the concrete at Luther Burbank Park, although there would obviously be some challenges that we discussed at the previous meeting, including pre-existing graffiti, uneven surfacing, and possible opposition to a change in the park.

We had issues brainstorming other large/visible walls that we could use. There is a large, blank wall at the high school, which would obviously require involving the school district, but could allow us to use senior funds as a gift from the Class of 2021.

We researched prices of mural paints and found that they are relatively inexpensive per square foot, especially if all the art is made by volunteers. The graffiti-proof coating, from our findings, ranges from \$100 to \$200, depending on the size of the installation. If we were to spend about \$800 (high estimate here for paint and coating), would that fit within the city budget? If not, we could always have a fundraiser to raise the rest of the cost.