

Sammamish Arts Commission – Minutes – June 22, 2020
Sammamish City Hall, 801 228th Ave SE, Sammamish, Washington

Attendees:

Commissioners: Claradell Shedd, Margaret Rosenow, Ashley Arrington, Jillian Born, Sudeshna Dixit. Staff: Chris Jordan, Recreation Manager; Annelise Diers, Office Assistant

Absent: Barbara Jirsa, Janet Hild, Sandra Pearce

Call to Order:

Claradell Shedd

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

Approval of February Meeting Minutes:

All

Commissioner Shedd moved to approve the February meeting minutes as amended. Seconded by Commissioner Rosenow. Motion passed 6-0.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Budget and Financial Report

Chris Jordan

- 2020 Budget: **\$218,008**
- 2020 Expenditures to date: **\$27,929**
- 2020 Balance to date: **\$190,029**

Arts Grant Program

All

Chris Jordan will update questions/topics to address individuals and organizations. Chris will also add that applications will be accepted for programs in Sammamish in addition to Sammamish artists.

Commissioner Born recommended highlighting diversity to the cultural section updating this section to cultural and diversity.

2020 Workplan Update and Discussion

All

The Commission discussed alternative event ideas and the importance of a safety plan for events. The Commission discussed the risks of promoting people to come together in person with the current state. Commissioner Born

suggested a virtual event to promote artists' work and the possibility of broadening artists outside of Sammamish. Commissioner Dixit recommended an event such as rain art that doesn't promote people coming together at one time and people can enjoy with places such as schools are open again.

Commissioners discussed the risks of gathering right now and alternative ways of having events such as having a digital event for the Arts Showcase. This platform could be a virtual event offering digital galleries.

Commissioner Dixit suggested promoting events such as Rain Art which could encourage artists to submit designs and would not encourage large groups gathering in one place at one time. Commissioner Dixit also mentioned a drive through parking lot music event.

Commissioner Rosenow suggested some sharing activities on Facebook for the community to enjoy. Even if the activities don't come from Sammamish, you are still providing activities to Sammamish residents.

Chris Jordan told commissioners they can send events his way that they would like posted on the commission's Facebook page. He also mentioned partnering with the library.

The Commission discussed drive by events for those people who are unable to do a walking event. One event discussed specifically was the Sand Sculpture.

The Commission discussed options/alternatives for the "Before I die" wall as well as a mural on the retaining wall near Wells Fargo/Jacksons on 228th for a mural.

Motion: Commissioner Rosenow moved to post activities on Facebook at least once a week. Seconded by Commissioner Dixit. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion: Commissioner Dixit moved to approve the sand sculpture with a cultural diversity/social distance message that can stay up in front of City Hall. Seconded by Commissioner Born. Motion passed 4-1.

Artwork Representing Civil Liberties and Racial/Social Justice

All

Mayor Moran brought this subject up at the recent council meeting. The council approved moving forward on commissioning art for this project. There was really strong interest from the community for this project. The next steps the Arts Commission will need to work on are developing a scope, a project idea, getting community involvement, an estimated budget and location.

Chris Jordan went over the two public comments presented at the council meeting regarding art. One public comment came from former councilmember Ramiro Valderrama. This project he presented on is focused on diversity and funded by multiple organizations; Chris presented a document from Valderrama. The other public comment came from Karen Herring who presented on a program where murals are designed by youth representing values and community.

Commissioner Dixit mentioned the importance of inviting individuals from diverse backgrounds for a discussion to see find out what people want to see. Chris Jordan recommended using Sammamish Connect to reach out to the community as well as the option for doing A Call for Artists.

Commissioners Update

All

Commissioner Rosenow gave an update on the sculpture. Right now, the framework is finished and the piece of granite is being selected. Installation is scheduled for the week of July 6th. The stainless steel will be done at the very end. Information will be shared through a press release as well as on Facebook to let the community know about the sculpture. Additionally, there will be a future ribbon cutting. The symbolism of this sculpture is unity, commitment and tenacity. Commissioner Rosenow mentioned community involvement will be needed to suggest a name for the sculpture.

Meeting adjourned 8:28 pm.

Next regular SAC meeting – July 27, 2020 – 6:30 pm.