

**CITY OF SEQUIM
CITY ARTS ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES
VIRTUAL MEETING
SEQUIM, WA
December 14, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER

The City Arts Advisory Commission of the City of Sequim, Washington met virtually using teleconferencing software on Monday, December 14, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m., with Chair Ross Brown presiding. The meeting was quorate.

ROLL CALL

City Arts Coordinator Aurora Lagattuta conducted roll call. Commissioners Susan Boudreau, Ross Brown, Craig Robison, Suzanne Horne, Mary Lofstrom and Maggie Taylor were in attendance.

Council Liaison Mayor Armacost was not present.

CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Minutes

MOTION: Commissioner Horne moved to approve the final agenda. Commissioner Lofstrom seconded. VOTE: 5 in favor, 0 against. Motion carried.

5.2 October Expenditures and Revenue

MOTION: Commissioner Horne moved to approve the final agenda. Commissioner Taylor seconded. VOTE: 5 in favor, 0 against. Motion carried.

REPORTS

1. Commission Chair Brown informed commissioners about the Sunshine Festival.
 - A. Thank you to Aurora for your efforts & big thank you to commission and to prove there is still spirit of arts in Sequim
 - B. At this moment there will be a Fun Run and nothing else is planned. He will be putting up some lights in Carrie Blake Park perhaps before March 1st.
 - C. For Sign Art, City does have old signs. Brown will pick them up and straighten them out as best he can.
 - D. Port Townsend has a Call for Artists that has to do with signage.
 - E. Port Angeles Arts Center's Light Show is open now from Dec.5-February. Brown has a few pieces up and invites everyone to go and see.
2. Commission Vice Chair Horne stated that she also noticed other towns are also doing sign and billboard art.

3. Arts Coordinator Lagattuta referred commission to see her report as well as videographer's final contract.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7.1 Creative Placemaking

7.1A Arts Coordinator Lagattuta reviewed the Creative Placemaking plans for 2021.

January-April: *Informing.*

- Educate public about Creative Placemaking project
- Call for Artists released. Submission due March 15th and artists selected by April 1st.
- Release two films 1) What is Creative Placemaking and 2) Call for Artists
- Promote: Put up info on bulletin board in Centennial Place and online, newspapers,
- social media, radio, etc.
- Inform pARTners group, Chambers of Commerce and other community stakeholders
- Finalize survey questions

May-August: *Engaging.*

- Release surveys to public: online, mailed out and in person (if possible)
- Mentor support provided for artists.
- Artists engage with community in their creative ways
- Release film about artistic process and engagement

September – December: *Synthesizing Data.*

- Jury reviews surveys and artistic findings
- Synthesize results
- Release two films: 1) displaying civic process of engagement and 2) the end results of research: list of key ideas for Centennial Place to be voted on in 2022, artists' final product and community about their experience.

Commissioner Taylor asked about the Historical Society and including their input. Lofstrom added we should include indigenous story. Commission Vice Chair Horne seconded this idea.

Commissioner Boudreau inquired about how to best include musicians and get outreach. Lofstrom added that she would like to assist in making connections. Lagattuta asked if musicians would be interested in applying for Call for Artists. Commissioner Boudreau mentioned several artists and Commissioner Lofstrom mentioned another musician she knows. Commissioner Taylor added that interviewing artists and including their personal story would be helpful. Lagattuta agreed with Taylor and mentioned that one film will include this information. Commissioner Horne clarified that this process is improvisational.

7.1B Review & Approve Call for Artists.

Arts Coordinator Lagattuta went over details for "Call for Artist." The artistic component provides a window into the story and soul of Sequim as told by those who do this best:

artists. Artists will be asked to create a project proposal that addresses: 1) how they plan to engage/dialogue with the community about Sequim and 2) provide a creative end product that displays their findings. Artists will also need to address prior community engagement experience. Engagement, especially in a pandemic, will need to be creative. The City can and will provide support to artists via questionnaires online, mailed and/or in person. We want artists to be creative. Maybe they create a phone tree to talk with friends about Sequim? Or they do zoom interviews? The artistic outcome could be a song, a poem, a painting, a collage, etc... It will assist the community by providing another lens for understanding the research. Truly, the gem of the work will be driven by the process. How artists creatively connect with the community will be just as important as how they communicate their findings.

Extra Details: We will release a Call for Artists Video by February 2021 that explains this unique project and how to apply for artists. Submissions due March 15, 2021 and artists notified by April 1, 2021. The videographer will track and document this entire experience. The city will provide \$1,000.00 stipend for each artist. The artists will need to submit invoices for reimbursement at the end of the year to be paid.

7.1C Titles for Creative Placemaking

Commissioner Lofstrom commented that she really likes The Understory title at the moment because it addresses all the topics: trees, connections and stories without being too specific. Commissioner Robinson said he loves Talking Trees.

Commissioner Taylor's first choice is Sequim Roots. Commissioner Horne said she votes for Tree for Life. Commissioner Taylor seconds Tree of Life. Commissioner Boudreau commented that she really likes The Understory as well as Tree of Life. B says you cannot do one without the other. Arts Coordinator Lagattuta added that she likes The Understory. Commission Chair Brown said that Tree Talk was always the beginning of all this and it is very basic. Brown explained that it becomes a question and not an answer, it becomes more interesting.

Commissioner Robinson suggested the title Stories Under the Tree and Commissioner Horne passed on a recommendation for Endor. Action: Arts Coordinator Lagattuta will make a survey for commissioners to pick their top choices.

MOTION: Commission Vice Chair Horne moves to approve all issues in agenda in number 7.1 minus title vote which will be done online via a survey. Commissioner Lofstrom seconded. VOTE: 6 in favor, 0 against. Motion carried.

7.2. Finalizing Programming Programs for 2021:

- Sign Art Show Submissions due in June, show July-August
- Youth Exhibit. Promo begins in September; Submissions open after Thanksgiving. Show opens First Friday in January, 2022.
- Blog.
- Music in the Park and/or Music Where You Park with KSQM
- Creative Placemaking project at Centennial Place

Commission Chair Brown asks about juries. Arts Coordinator Lagattuta suggests deciding jury in next meeting. Brown adds that is a full slate but we have had fuller slates in the past, so we can manage. Commissioner Lofstrom mentioned that she has a heat metal company so that she could help along the way with sign art.

MOTION: Horne to approve 2021 Programming goals. Boudreau seconded it. VOTE: 6 in favor, 0 against. Motion carried.

7.3 Youthful Expressions Update

Arts Coordinator Lagattuta exhibit is up and online that intern made a 3D gallery. Commission Chair Brown asks about marketing. She mentions that City is hiring a Marketing part-time employee, which she hopes will help and will assist the commission. Commissioners can also share with fellow followers. Brown mentions the third way to help with marketing would be to expand the pARTners group to include Port Angeles and Port Townsend hopefully next year.

Commissioner Lofstrom inquired about bulletin board. Arts Coordinator Lagattuta explained that material will either need to be laminated or painted on board. Brown says he has a laminator. Lagattuta followed up with Commissioner Robinson if he is interested in doing a board for Be the I in Kind and Robinson said, yes he is. Lofstrom asks about having a permanent art street banner for when people drive by that includes City Arts info. Commissioner Boudreau suggests Centennial Place. Action: Lagattuta will follow up with the city about this possibility.

NEW BUSINESS

8.1 pARTners Group Meeting Update

Arts Coordinator Lagattuta reported that a film will be made with pARTner members to be released in early March.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None for this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Commission Chair Brown thanks commission for all their hard work and efforts. Brown also thanks Arts Coordinator Lagattuta for all her efforts. Brown commented that he is proud of the art commission's efforts this year and has hope for the future.

MOTION: Vice Chair Horne moved to adjourn meeting. Commission Chair Brown seconded. VOTE: 6 in favor, 0 against. Motion carried. Commission Chair Brown adjourned the meeting at 4:34 p.m.