



Ellensburg Arts Commission Agenda

Regular Meeting, 4:00pm

Thursday, March 11, 2021 4:00 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82110892620?pwd=ZVZJRfNrIH5bVVVvZ3NodVBIVHFpUT09>

Meeting ID: 821 1089 2620

Passcode: 940214

Dial by your location: +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Welcome Guests

2. APPROVE AGENDA

3. CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (Limit to three (3) minutes each)

4. GUEST SPEAKER/PRESENTER/CORRESPONDENCE

5. MINUTES APPROVAL

February 25, 2021

6. BUDGET/FINANCIAL REPORT

7. NEW BUSINESS

8. OLD BUSINESS

9. SUBCOMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Funding- Jerry, Cassandra
2. Public Art- Monica, Alex, Jerry - Equity Call Update, Gallery One Open Show Art Selection
3. Advocacy/Public Relations- Monica, Cassandra, Brian
4. Art Walk- Laura

10. UNSCHEDULED BUSINESS

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

12. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting will be held: April 8, 2021



Ellensburg Arts Commission Meeting

Regular Meeting

Thursday, February 25, 2021 2:00 pm

ZOOM Link

Commissioners Present: Alex Eyre, Monica Miller, Jerry Dougherty, Cassandra Town, Brian Kooser, Laura Bobovski

Commissioners/Others Absent: Council Liaison Tristen Lamb

Others Present: Staff Liaisons Josephine Camarillo and Kirsten Sackett

Call to Order: Chair Eyre called the meeting to order at 2:06pm

Guests: None

Approval of Agenda: Add mural proposal.

Motion made by Town to accept agenda; seconded by Bobovski. Motion passed.

Citizen Comment on Non-Agenda Items – None

Guest Speaker/Presenter/Correspondence – Resubmission of EFF scope of work

Approval of Minutes from January 14, 2021: Bobovski motioned to accept minutes. Seconded by Miller. Approved.

Budget/Financial Report-

2021 Budget/Spending Plan presented and discussed. Edits made.

Motion made by Bobovski to approve; seconded by Town. Not necessary to approve. Motion withdrawn.

New Business

1. Retreat Agenda- None
2. Commissioner Applicants- City Council reviewed six applicants for Arts Commission. City will appoint new commissioner at next Council Meeting 3/1/21. Commission would like to hold orientation and include open public meetings trainings
3. Musicians outside vaccine clinics- Possibly look into paying local musicians to entertain outside vaccine clinic; partner with ECR; need to look into performing arts restrictions for the state; EAC will reach out to clinic to start discussion; Miller motions to allocate up to \$1000 to provide music to the vaccine clinics, to fund musicians; seconded by Town.
4. Mural Proposal – Gallery One will be having a street art exhibit in the gallery with Jason Clifton along with other invited NW artists. Would like to replace current artwork in alley with a temporary mural in July. If Landmarks and Design approves, Monica will fill out application. Artist will provide own materials. Mural will still need to comply by Mural Code.

Old Business

1. Bus Shelter Update- glass on its way here, list ready for artwork location.
2. Public Art Call - Rotary Pavilion call to art will close on 2/26/21. Staff will send final submissions to Public Art Committee.
3. Public Art Call - 11th Bus Shelter – Submissions were reviewed and discussed. Artist's statements not adequate and submissions did not address specific call. Should EAC reissue the call? Can EAC

commission a specific artist? Town in favor of Shelly family submission, aspect ratio is wrong size but can be fixed. Kooser refutes that the criteria was not met. Motion made by Eyre to select Shelly art proposal for 11th Bus Shelter; seconded by Miller. Kooser opposed. No abstentions. Motion passed.

Subcommittee Business

1. Funding – Motion made by Miller to accept new scope of work from Ellensburg Film Festival, Eyre seconds
2. Public Art –discussed earlier in agenda
3. Advocacy/Public Relations – website was updated, Miller thanks legislators for their support of Arts; Valentine's exchange went well; ECR walking tour selected 6 sites. Miller moves to extend audible walking tour to April 2021, seconded by Town. Motion passed.
4. Art Walk – 2021 First Fridays –No updates, how can we go digital? Discussion will continue

Unscheduled Business

Announcements Thank you to those that helped with Gallery 1 variety show. It was a great success.

Next Meeting will be held: March 11, 2021

Submitted by Josephine Camarillo, Staff Liaison Interim

Commissioners: Alex Eyre (Chair), Monica Miller (Vice Chair), Laura Bobovski, Cassandra Town, Jerry Dougherty, Brian Kooser

Retreat:

Next 2 years

Goals for Commission and Committees

EAC Retreat
2/25/2020

Alex noted that the purpose of the retreat was to assess where they are as a commission, and where they want to be in the next two years.

There are 3 commissioners whose terms will expire on May 31 – Brian, Jerry, Alex. Think about whether want to remain on commission for another 2-year term.

Reviewed 2021 Calendar. Monica shared screen to depict calendar.

Discussion on adopting everything on the calendar and determine if it should be their operation plan for the year. Is there anything on the schedule they can't do, or need to reschedule?

Alex called for discussion based on Committee.

Funding Subcommittee – Goals

- Jerry
 - Continue to assess and monitor health of cultural non-profits in town (ensure they can last through COVID ramifications)
 - How to facilitate the non-profits gearing back up and getting into their work.
 - Need to plan for the groups all wanting to get back into the game as soon as possible – all at the same. Can the Arts Commission help re-establish the old rhythm? Or create a new rhythm.
 - Perhaps a new fund could be created for community/CWU outreach and engagement.
 - Fund where faculty in the arts and humanities can apply for projects to encourage town to grow initiatives
 - No programming funding allowance on campus at present
- Cassandra
 - Set goals around writing grants (not just giving out grants)
 - Offer grant application workshops, to help artists understand how to apply for funding
 - Fundraising to achieve the EAC goals
 - Set a goal for funding and hire someone to facilitate
 - Poet Laureate
 - Commissioning of a poetry piece
 - Fund more youth-focused activities
 - Arts education opportunities
 - Funding to artists to provide virtual art lessons?

Public Art Committee

- Jerry
 - Rotary Pavilion project
 - Previous strategy was to look at producing a time-based art festival
 - Performance at N. Alder Street park, or some means of showing the community was a performance based venue could be like.
 - Collaborate with VMT scavenger hunt to create energy
 - The downtown park can also contain a physical art installation
 - The downtown park will also offer capacity for performing arts
 - Outdoor programming in general will be popular as the public begins “getting out” in the community.
 - Help the disenfranchised groups –
 - Help them figure out how their financial model can exist in a community that doesn't have a huge fundraising opportunity for them.

- HOW do they generate revenue? Over the long-term (vs grants that help in the short-term)
- Ie. Dancers in park, on Youtube – that’s not monetized (that’s for the love of art)
- Orgs in Ellensburg don’t have endowments. Ticket revenue has gone away.
- Monica
 - Concurs that the pavilion project is where the focus should go.
 - Should invite partnerships that can be supported through EAC grants.
 - Should encourage projects that are easy to facilitate.

Discussion:

Alex: Will things go back to the previous normal? Will people begin meeting in theatres sitting next to each other at 100% capacity?

Jerry: Need to maintain agility/flexibility in the calendar over the next two years. Can’t be too tied to a calendar that is set today. Thinks the EAC should commit to hosting an arts synchronization meeting once a year - so that groups don’t schedule events on top of each other. Goes back to the idea of a centralized calendar.

Alex: Should the EAC become the central clearing house for all these things to happen?

Cassandra: As Commission reps, and capacity issues, ideas like that could be taken care of by hiring an intern for the EAC. Could do tasks like getting the calendars from each organization, updating artist rosters, getting out Art calls. Capacity for management is needed.

Director Sackett talked about the new Community Engagement Process – looking into new online platforms for conducting public outreach. Also explained that a new Public Information Officer will soon be hired. This PIO can work with the EAC to have a better online presence.

Jerry: Person to person engagement cannot replace technology.

Cassandra would like the EAC to be part of the creation of the Comp Plan chapter devoted to diversity, equity and inclusion. Sackett will be working on the new chapter and will bring the EAC into the process.

Advocacy and Public Relations

- Cassandra
 - Website – making progress on that
 - Communications –
 - How does that EAC do that (communicate) better?
 - How to they communicate with the public?
 - How do they share factoids about the importance of arts?
 - How to build community with the arts?
 - How do we get the City to engage with the existing City collection?
 - How do we spotlight the artists in the community?
 - How do arts help with education?
 - Skill building
 - Provide training opportunities for local artists
- Alex
 - His indoctrination into Arts was through his local television station where he grew up.
 - Should the EAC create Arts Talks? Create a weekly video segment?
- Laura
 - Starts with HOW to engage the public
 - Website, social media
- Monica
 - Is the EAC supposed to produce content? Who can we work with in the community?
 - There is already a lot of great stuff happening. But the EAC is failing at connecting all the dots. How can the EAC promote existing work happening?

- Alex: EAC should probably be more content creating. Have a new vision for the EAC, and help people embrace how important arts are for the community.
- Jerry
 - If the EAC needs to be the unifying presence - there are economic development interests; there is a collective on non-profit performing arts in community; arts education underserved; CWU; collection of visual artists in town with solo practices. Jerry doesn't think that they see themselves as part of one ecosystem
 - How can the EAC broaden the ecosystem to include all of these separate enterprises/individuals?
 - Bring them together to craft what this identity should be.
 - There are so many govt processes laid on the EAC that are not the correct processes for arts.
- Alex
 - Conducting a Cultural Assessment is everything.
 - Cassandra – would love to have the C.A., but then what do they do with this?
 - Alex – the EAC needs to decide up front what they want to learn through the C.A.
 - Monica – define the role of the EAC. Have they met their maximum capacity?
 - Does the EAC need to do more?
 - Feels that if the EAC is under the City control, it doesn't feel much like a public process. Maybe it is not the role of the government to dictate the path of the community. Should it be an independent agency that asks the questions.
 - Alex – looking at a really transformative idea.
 - Monica – not sure a Cultural Assessment should be conducted in the government environment.
 - Cassandra – feels that the Cultural Assessment should be a decision made by City Council. Is that something that they (Council) are even interested in learning? If so, there needs to be Staff made available to make things happen.

Discussed idea of creating a new non-profit Community Arts Foundation. What can the EAC define outside of the box?

Brian: Said we should look at the positives moving forward

- The EAC can have a new Facebook page! And they can be creative and fun!

Alex: Resolve on this basic concept? WHO ARE WE? And what are we going to be?

- Does the EAC want to be the little Arts Commission?
- Or be the big hub that connects all the local organizations?

Jerry

- Work with existing organizations like EDA – and go to them with OUR ideas. Would like to partner on these ideas, in order to advance the arts in Ellensburg. (Quit paying for other people's projects! And do our own!)

Alex

Have a new EDA Director, have a new City Manager, a new Public Information Officer – may be an opportunity for a reboot of how the EAC function.

Cassandra

What's the timeline? When will they reconvene to make these decisions?

Monica

Create a community plan, move forward with what they do. Suggested waiting until the fall, to have these bigger picture conversations.

Laura

EDA and Chamber – use EAC marketing money to utilize EDA and Chamber to do marketing. The EAC can funnel information to them to use their existing tools to share projects/do outreach. Use them to help them be a spokesperson/mouthpiece for the EAC.

Monica – meeting takeaway:

Drop existing tasks into calendar. Itemize priorities by committee, give to committees to actualize. Then sit tight - given the current pandemic environment, and turnover in staff.

Submitted by Kirsten Sackett