

SAC MINUTES | April 27, 2021

HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM

Meeting Open: 4:30 p.m.

Notes taken by Chris Maccini

Board Members Present: Andrew Whitver, Chris Maccini, Chuck Horgan, Madison Bush, Eva Silverstone, Remelisa Cullitan, E.J. Iannelli, Emma Noyes

Staff Members Present: Melissa Huggins, Mika Maloney

Absent: Daniel Lopez, Miguel Gonzales, Patty Tully, Katie Patterson Larson

Opening

- E.J. opened the meeting and called to order.
- Reviewed March Minutes. Eva Motioned to approve. Andrew seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

- None

Programming

- Murals (Mika)
 - Open call for Bike Corral Mini-Murals. Please share: [Bike Corral Mini Murals](#)
 - [Mural Apprenticeship Program](#):
 - Good for new or emerging artists, or established graffiti artists. Will work alongside artists for large public murals this summer. Will prioritize underrepresented artists. No deadline, because we'll keep this list open for future apprenticeships. But the Riverfront Park court mural project is coming up fast. Please share.
 - Mural Workshop: We have a space in an alley downtown where we'll be doing a workshop. Would like to make this an ongoing, maybe once a year thing.
 - Riverfront Park Basketball Court Mural: Will be installed beginning early May. 4-6 week install time. Available to play on mid-June.
 - Chuck asked: How much does a mural cost? Mika: A good rule of thumb is \$10/square foot. \$5 goes to the artist and \$5 for materials/admin. Obviously varies by location, project, etc. But that's a good rule of thumb.
- Library Portable Works Selection (Mika)
 - Selections have been made. Big thank you to everyone who participated on that panel.
 - Public announcement will be made all at once with the permanent public art project. Timeline TBD.
- Chase Gallery (Mika)
 - May: Online selections from permanent collection.
 - June/July: *Hopefully* an in-person show. Depends on city hall opening protocols. If not, it will be online. Either way we'll be participating in Pride Arts Walk.

Grantmaking (Mika)

- SAGA Round 2 opens May 1st. Deadline is June 1st. Shelly is hosting a zoom grant writing clinic next Friday. Contact shelly@spokanearts.org. Anyone can email her and she'll set up a class once there is sufficient interest.

Advocacy (Melissa)

- State budget:
 - Good news! Huge thanks to everyone who advocated with state legislatures. \$25M approved for cultural organization grants. AND they capped the size of organizations to \$5M - meaning it's less likely to be swamped by large organizations from King County. Will be distributed by Department of Commerce. Big win for Eastern Washington!
 - Also money for Humanities Washington and Arts WA for grantmaking, etc.
 - NWMAC received some state funding too.
- American Rescue Plan Funding:
 - Melissa is working on a variety of proposals. Spokane arts is going to ask for:
 - Replenishment of admissions tax to fill that hole from 2020. That decision will likely be made by the City Council and the Mayor's office.
 - Working on a "Street Art" policy with the city. We've made lots of progress in the last two months on this with a new staff person. The idea is that the policy would give neighborhoods and schools the power to request street murals. Spokane Arts would likely administer.
 - Proposal for Spokane County film incentive. This would be essentially a rebate for films made in Spokane County. Working to get this in front of County Commissioners. There are currently at least three major film projects considering Spokane. We're hoping this would help convince them. There's also an apprenticeship program built into the proposed program for folks interested in getting into the industry.
- [Statewide Arts Fund Grant for Nonprofit Recovery](#). Application opens May 10. Free info session May 11.
- Spokane Arts received a grant through Innovia to help support the performing arts this fall, to give a marketing boost to theaters, venues, etc. Hoping to reach out to organizations to brainstorm how/what they'd want us to promote.
- Also received a \$3,000 grant from Spokane Rotary for seating around Sarah Thompson Moore's "The Seeking Place" in Riverfront Park.
- Questions: Chuck: Small Business Shuttered Operating grants? Is that an option for some venues in Spokane? Melissa: Yes. Some are applying for those grants.

Committee Updates from Commissioners

- Design Review (Chuck)
 - New Avista substation downtown on 3rd between Wall and Post. Potential for big murals on the walls surrounding that structure. They've committed to public art on that project.
- Flag Committee (Andrew)
 - Just waiting for votes to come in. Deadline is May 2nd.

New business/ Good of the Commission

- Eva - The Hive artist residency application opens next week. Please encourage people to apply. It will be available via www.spokanelibrary.org. Building will open to the public August 12. Residencies will likely begin in early August.
- Madison - The NWMAC is hiring two teaching artist positions. Please share: <https://www.northwestmuseum.org/about-us/employment/teaching-artist-2021/>
- Melissa - Spokane Public Schools will be hiring 12 new teachers with arts emphasis very soon!
- Andrew - Queer Art Walk is happening this year! First Friday June 4th
- E.J. - Spokane Symphony Streaming Series - If you haven't seen it, the all-access pass is worth it!
- Andrew - The Jundt Museum at Gonzaga is open by appointment. And people have said it's good.

- Melissa - The West Plaza (near Brickwest brewing) is going to start having outdoor downtown events, yoga, music, etc. Willing to offer the space for free to nonprofits. Not sure who the contact person is, either Brickwest or 4 Degrees. Melissa will share soon.
- Melissa: Councilmember Burke and her legislative aide Lara Estaris are exploring whether there are other street names and/or statues & monuments that the city should consider renaming or removing. They asked if any kind of comprehensive list of all statues/monuments owned by the city exists but no one can find one, possibly because most were installed many decades before the arts commission was formed. Their idea is that rather than addressing each problematic piece one by one, there could be one large effort to analyze them all and make recommendations. If/when that happens, they want to ensure representation from the Pacific Islander community, and asked if perhaps the group working toward removing the Monaghan statue would want to join their larger effort. MH reported back to the CAC (Citizens Advisory council) on councilmember Burke's effort; they had questions about intent, representation, and how the city would ensure that the work was accomplished in a way that wasn't re-traumatizing for BIPOC communities. They'd like to continue in their own efforts to remove the Monaghan statue, but if a larger effort got off the ground, they would want to know more detail before agreeing to participate. Councilmember Burke said her next steps were to invite councilmembers Stratton and Wilkerson to support her broader citywide analysis.
- Melissa: the CAC has decided to spend some time researching the history & developing educational materials before going to city council to advocate for removal this fall, hopefully by October. They want to ask local historians to weigh in on the facts and circulate a petition among local businesses before sending a letter to the city council requesting the statue be removed. Melissa shared the CAC draft plan with Emma for comments and CAC will finalize their action plan next month.

Closing

- Motion to close, 5:19 p.m. Unanimous approval without discussion.
- **Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 25**