



## **AGENDA - SNOHOMISH COUNTY ARTS COMMISSION**

**MEETING DATE:** Monday, October 16, 2023 6:30 PM

Visitors are invited to attend virtually at the link below:

### **ZOOM MEETING LINK:**

<https://zoom.us/j/5942865801>

Meeting ID: 594 286 5801

One tap mobile

+1.253.215.8782 5942865801# US (Tacoma)

+1.206.337.9723 5942865801# US (Seattle)

### **I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**, Nicole Ng-A-Qui, Chair

#### 1. Welcome and Guest Introductions

Commissioners Nicole Ng-A-Qui, Joy Ratzel, Jaym Gates, David Lotz, Lia Blanchard

Staff Annique Bennett, Sharon Swan

Guests Jo Hull with the Pacifica Chamber Orchestra and Jeremy Husby

### **II. MINUTES APPROVAL-** (September 2023) Nicole Ng-A-Qui, Chair

**Motion:** Approve September 2023 meeting minutes, **MSP**

### **III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - Nicole Ng-A-Qui, Chair

#### 1. GWOT Memorial Presentation by Jeremy Husby

Jeremy presented an updated price quote that reflected reduced materials costs. Jeremy worked with the Arlington Cemetary in Washington DC to learn about the required design aspects of the name plaques on military memorials. Jeremy's team is ready to begin this project once the Arts Commission approves their final budget. Once started, this project will not take long to complete (about 40 hours). Jeremy is still working with vendors to get the final costs. Today's proposal reflects an average cost.

Nicole asked if there is a deadline to complete this project. Jeremy remarked that this should be done before next May.

Sharon Swan spoke with CM Nehring about this project and about the bench that is to be included. CM Nehring offered to put \$10,000 towards this project from his interlocal agreement.

Sharon also asked Annique if the original artist would reimburse the County the funds that were meant to be used for the name plaques. Annique clarified that the original artist did fulfill his entire contract with the County and that the name plaques were not included in the original scope.

When Jeremy receives the final price from the vendors, he will email an updated proposal to Annique to share with the commission. Jeremy would like the Arts Commission to decide on the approval of the proposal in a timely manner.

Joy asked if the same vendor would be supplying the bronze and doing the engraving. Jeremy clarified that these will be different vendors. The per-plaque price listed on the proposal is a compiled price divided by 19 (19 different plaques). This includes the price of the sheet of bronze and the cutting. Joy then asked why the vendor preferred water cutting over laser cutting. And she wondered if there is a price difference. Jeremy explained that water jet is generally more expensive, but in this case, the vendor seems to be pricing both of these options similarly at this time.

Lastly, Joy asked about the reasoning behind using a thicker bronze. Jeremy voiced his concern about durability. He also mentioned speaking with the Arlington Cemetary and the Washington State VA about the specific code for memorials of this nature.

Joy asked Annique to clarify more about the artist's contract and the ability to receive the excess bronze scrapes from the original statue. Annique explained that the scope of his contract is clear, and he does not owe anything to the County. She also explained why the artist is unable to complete the name plaques due to issues with equipment.

#### **IV. Committee Reports - Nicole Ng-A-Qui, Chair**

1. Acquisitions and Preservation: Colin Cole (not present)

2. Grants and Funding: Joy Ratzel

Joy is wondering the status of our grants program currently. Sharon responded that she is still unsure of the direction the grants program can take. She will have more answers once the budget process is completed. Sharon and Annique will work together to provide the Arts Commission with clearer directions before the next meeting.

3. Education and Outreach: Kate MacKenzie (not present)

4. Marketing and Community Events: Lia Blanchard

Lia will email the commission with a calendar recommendation. She feels confident that this service will satisfy our needs to maintain a community calendar. The cost is about \$150/month.

Lia is also arranging for an Arts Commission tour of the Denny Juvenile Center. She will send an email to the Commission with the dates proposed.

Nicole asked for the purpose of this tour. Lia explained that they would like to show the commissioners the building and asking for help acquiring art. The aim is to address the trauma that happens in that space, and help to transform it into something more comforting. Joy wondered if the Commission could provide art pieces that are owned by the County to offset

costs. Nicole asked if the Denny Juvenile Center has funding, and Lia suggested that funding would likely need to come from the Arts Commission.

Annique mentioned that the Schack Art Center worked with Denny on an aerosol art project that was very meaningful.

5. Future of Arts and Culture: Kari Johnson (not present)

6. Internal Operations: Jaym Gates

Jaym spoke with Annique about the database that would catalog the County's art collection. She plans to follow up with Annique to continue working on this project. She would like to consider which pieces would be appropriate for the Juvenile Courtrooms.

Nicole suggested organizing a County-wide tour of various public art projects. Jaym is going to send out date options via email. Sharon advised that if this outing would result in a quorum, then the public meeting procedures should be followed.

David asked about a brochure that was produced from the Tourism Office that includes a map of the County's outdoor public art. Jaym asked for a copy. Annique explained that that brochure is out-of-date, and she might have the archived drafts. She will look for those and share them with the Arts Commission.

Annique also explained that not all public art is owned by the County, some of it is owned by various municipalities. She also explained that there can be confusion surrounding County owned art and County owned artifacts. And each distinction has a specific set of rules including where it can be displayed. Jeremy clarified that in 2013, an intern handwrote an inventory and status of every County piece. This is the last time this was done. Jaym remarked on the importance of having a strong understanding of all of these details.

Jeremy warned that previous Arts Commissions have run into issues when trying to track art that was purchased specifically as office décor. He advised that the Arts Commission would do well to focus on the larger pieces that have been commissioned specifically through the Arts Commission.

7. Budget: David Lotz

David asked for a status update on the Arts Commission's current fiscal situation and what the 2024 budget will look like. He is concerned about finding the funding for the Memorial plaques. Sharon updated the Commission that the Parks Dept. recently gave a budget update presentation to the County Council. This included \$50,000 for the Arts Commission in 2024. The County Council did not have any questions about the Arts Commission funding specifically. She is now waiting for the Council to fully approve the Budget, which will happen in November. She does not anticipate the Council will have any changes to the Arts Commission proposed budget.

Nicole asked about the \$15 million that was allocated in 2023 for Parks Construction. Sharon explained that most of these construction projects were exempt.

Annique will speak to Janet about getting specific financial updates for the November meeting. David wonders if there actually is any money left in 2023 that the Arts Commission can spend. He requested that staff provide a monthly financial report.

#### 8. Staff Reports: Annique Bennett, Sharon Swan

Staff went to the NRPA conference last week to receive an award. They got to tour the Texas State Fair which hosted 250,000 people in one day. Sharon showed photos of the art collection on their fairgrounds. She was impressed by their ability to use community spaces to highlight art.

Sharon also updated the Commission on the progress of the Slide Memorial. She showed photos of the progress which included the installation of "Beacon" and the memorial panels designed by Tsovinar Muradyan. Two months of work is left before these pieces will be open to the public.

Annique reported that the IT Department is continuing to look for tools for us to use for cataloging and grant management.

She then reminded Lia, Nicole, David that their appointments on the Arts Commission will be expiring at the end of 2023. Commissioners are allowed to sit for 3 consecutive terms. Lia asked what they need to do if they decide to be re-nominated. Jeremy advised that staff can re-nominate. Lia would also ask what is needed if a commissioner decides not to seek re-nomination. Annique mentioned some paperwork would need to be submitted.

Lastly, Annique updated the Commission that the Creative Economy Dashboard that is hosted on the Arts Commission's website will be updated soon. Annique will pull monthly reports to track specific trends. She also announced that a community in Colorado will be using our approach to study their Creative Economy with Better City.

#### **V. New Business** - Nicole Ng-A-Qui, Chair

#### **VI. GOOD OF THE ORDER**, Nicole Ng-A-Qui, Chair

David reminded the Commission of the Everett Art Walk on the first Thursday of every month.

Nicole is contemplating opening a piano teaching studio. She also offered last-minute tickets to the gala for Marys Place.

**Adjourned.**