

MOSCOW ARTS COMMISSION



Lauren McCleary
Commission Chair

~Minutes~

Megan Cherry
Staff Liaison

<http://www.ci.moscow.id.us/452/Moscow-Arts-Commission>

**Tuesday
September 8, 2020**

5:00 PM

**Council Chambers
206 E. 3rd St.**

WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE

Vice-Chair Gilmore called the meeting to order.

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m.

PRESENT: Christine Gilmore, Vice-Chair; Cynthia Barnhart; Robert C. Caisley; Katherine Clancy; Sonja Foard; Aaron Johnson; Linnea Sheneman; Sandra Stoops; Donna Woolston

ABSENT: Lauren McCleary, Chair (excused); Diane Walker; David Wilson

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Megan Cherry, Staff Liaison; Anne Zabala, Council Liaison; Kelly Jennings, Community Events Programs Coordinator

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Reading of the Mission Statement

The mission of the Moscow Arts Commission is to enrich the community by celebrating and cultivating the expression of all art forms and culture.

Values:

- Recognize and promote artists' value by creating opportunities for work to be experienced.
- Facilitate and promote the social, educational, and economic value of all art forms and culture in the community.
- Provide leadership and act as a resource in the conversation of all art forms and culture with partner agencies, city leaders, and the community.

Stoops read the Mission Statement and Values.

2. Approval of Moscow Arts Commission August 11, 2020 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Woolston moved that the minutes from the August 11, 2020, be approved as presented; Clancy seconded the motion. The motion passed with no abstentions.

3. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes)

This meeting is open to the public, but will be held by Zoom in order to respect social distancing protocol. City Hall will be open to the public during the Commission meeting and anyone wanting to attend or speak during the public comment item, should go to the Arts Office on the first floor. The meeting is subject to social distancing protocols as recommended in Governor Little's Stay

Healthy Guidelines, so the number of attendees at any one time may be limited, and masks will be required of attendees. If you do not have a mask, a disposable mask will be provided.

Members of the public may speak to the Commission regarding matters NOT on the agenda or currently pending before the Commission. Please state your name and address for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

No members of the public offered comment.

4. Mayor's Arts Awards Artist Award-Maker Recommendation (ACTION ITEM)

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Recommend an artist to create awards as well as identifying up to two alternates, or take such other action deemed appropriate.

Gilmore stated that she was aware of four artists currently under consideration for creating this year's awards: Doyle, Rhodes, Guy, and Hodgkin (poet laureate). Clancy informed the members that artist Guy passed away last week. Gilmore invited discussion of the other artists and raised the question of whether or not an artist who has not received an award yet could be selected to create the award. Woolston stated that she did not believe it would be a problem for a non-recipient artist to be selected as the creator. Woolston deferred to Cherry regarding the matter, and Cherry did not see any concern with a non-recipient creator. Cherry suggested the members make a recommendation for a specific artist, and two alternates.

Barnhart asked if the artwork of a person such as Guy could be purchased posthumously for the art portion of the awards. Clancy referenced that Guy had a son who does not live locally. Woolston added she also had a daughter. Woolston wondered at how it would work to select Guy since the artist selected was commissioned to create the award specifically for the event.

Gilmore asked if Guy could be nominated for an award posthumously.

Johnson joined the meeting at approximately 5:15 p.m.

The group discussed whether artist Casey Doyle could be commissioned to create the art portion of the awards. The question of whether financial need was a point to consider in assigning the commission was a point for consideration. Cherry added there are a number of artists who have placed themselves in the Artist Directory, and there might be some options in that list. Gilmore asked about an appropriate deadline for the members to make a choice and asked Cherry if the October meeting might be an option. Gilmore asked the members how they would like to proceed. Barnhart responded that the selection of the creator was not determined by an artist being in need. Stoops asked Johnson about a grad student he had referred to at the last meeting. He named student Noah Schuerman and shared two images of their work.

Gilmore stated that in the past, artists selected created a series of similar awards, rather than one specific award duplicated for each recipient. She further stated she liked the idea of choosing a grad student.

Foard asked how selecting the Moscow Poet Laureate, Susan Hodgkin, would work. Gilmore suggested the Poet Laureate could write a poem that could be framed as the award. Gilmore asked if there would be a conflict with assigning that commission since Hodgkin is already paid an honorarium for being the Moscow Poet Laureate. Cherry replied that the Moscow Poet Laureate is already commissioned to write three poems each year and that, if selected, writing an award poem would be considered one of those three commissions. Woolston suggested an option for framing.

Clancy moved to select Schuerman as first consideration for the commission, Doyle as the alternate, and the Moscow Poet Laureate as the next alternate. Foard seconded. The motion passed with no abstentions. Cherry asked Johnson to forward contact information for Schuerman.

5. Mayor's Arts Awards Selection Process (ACTION ITEM)

Gilmore referenced that Cherry had suggested conducting the Mayor's Arts Awards selection process during a regular MAC meeting, but that the open meeting format might inhibit discussion of nominations. Gilmore invited discussion of how to design the nominating process.

Cherry stated the Education & Programming Subcommittee ("E & P") could make a recommendation to MAC who would in turn recommend to the Mayor. Woolston offered, as a historical perspective, that in the past all MAC members had the opportunity to review the nominations at City Hall and offer comments. These initial comments were then passed to a selection committee that discussed the nominations outside of the open meeting setting prior to forwarding a recommendation to the full MAC. Stoops supported that process. Cherry said that nominations would be submitted via Submittable and that there were a limited number of team seats to facilitate the review process through Submittable. She stated she would confirm the number and pass the number on to MAC, but cautioned the group against creating a subcommittee comprise of a quorum of regular members. Gilmore stated the number of reviewers would be relevant and that five slots would be the maximum allowed.

Gilmore invited volunteers for the selection committee. Clancy, Foard, Barnhart, Johnson, and Gilmore stated they would like to participate; Gilmore noted that is fewer members than the quorum number for the MAC. Gilmore reminded members that MAC would make recommendations and the Mayor would make the final selections. Barnhart suggested the subcommittee should move ahead with reviewing nominations. Gilmore asked if a motion could be presented at the October meeting, which will take place after the nomination are all in.

Johnson raised a concern with someone not being on the subcommittee if they knew the artist. Caisley stated his position that the subcommittee should still be able to participate on the subcommittee and abstain from voting if there is a clear conflict of interest. Woolston explained she had served on the subcommittee in the past and knew everyone who was considered and abstained from specific votes when someone was a close friend or client that could appear to be a conflict of interest. Stoops remarked that the Prichard was likely to be a nominee and she assumed she and Foard would need to abstain for discussion of the Prichard. Cherry said she would need to consult with legal regarding procedures in the event of a potential conflict of interest between any of the nominees and members of the selection committee.

Gilmore stated that the existing Events & Programs subcommittee currently is made up of herself, Dave Wilson, Katherine Clancy. She stated that others who are interested could be added to create the ad hoc selection committee. Gilmore wants to ensure that those not present have an opportunity to participate if desired. She offered to step out if others who were not present wanted to participate.

Woolston encouraged the group to pay attention to future MAC agendas and that if they felt strongly about a topic and were going to be absent they should communicate their position(s) to the Chair in advance of the meeting.

6. Prichard Art Gallery Eligibility for Mayor's Arts Awards

Discuss the question of the Prichard Art Gallery's eligibility for the Mayor's Arts Awards.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Determine the Prichard Art Gallery's eligibility to receive an award, or take such other action deemed appropriate.

Gilmore asked Cherry to present background information on the topic to the group, and Cherry stated there's a conflict of information from what the Prichard recalls and the official MAC records. The question is "If the information from the Prichard conflicts with the MAC's records, is the Prichard eligible?" Woolston explained that in the year the Prichard believed they received an award, there were tokens given to some of the nominees as special recognition, rather than an official Mayor's Arts Award. Gilmore stated that if that is the case, it seems to her that the Prichard is still eligible and that other members seemed to agree. Clancy moved that the Prichard be determined to be eligible for a 2020 Mayors Arts Award. Caisley seconded and the motion passed with no abstentions.

Gilmore raised the possibility of awarding artists with more than one Mayor's Art Award over time, and referenced a policy related to Artwalk that a previous Artwalk poster artist could be eligible again after a five-year span. Clancy supported the idea and suggested it would be supportive of artists to be able to receive an award more than once per lifetime.

Clancy asked when the Mayor's Arts Award began and Cherry answered that according to the City records, the first awards were given in 1998.

REPORTS

1. Palouse Plein Air

Johnson asked Cherry to confirm the number of registrants; she answered there are 25 through today. Half of those are from registrants who live outside the Palouse region. Cherry reminded members that registration closes Thursday, and suggested that if they know people who would like to participate they should have them register as soon as possible. Clancy asked if she could participate with a tissue paper collage. Johnson replied that it's not on the list of accepted media this year. Johnson said he's been asked if digital offerings would be acceptable. Clancy agreed that if there is published criteria, that should stand.

2. Volunteer Hour Tally

Cherry asked members to send their volunteer hours to her.

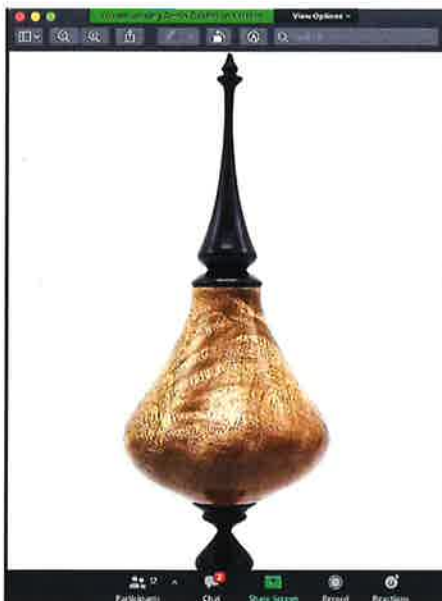
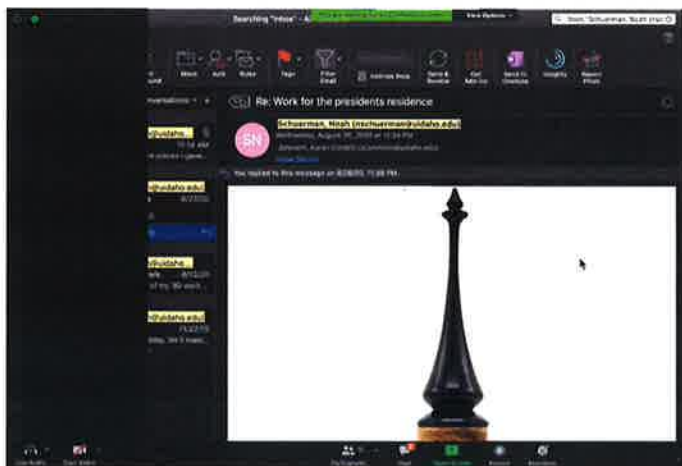
3. Manager's Report

- MACTivities Toolbox #1 have all been claimed.
- CARES Act application was indeed simple to complete and has been completed.
- The Starburst exhibition is installed in the Third Street Gallery. There is a gallery safety plan that includes patrons wearing masks in the gallery and limits group size to six people at a time. Clancy said that there's not information about the small pieces in the case. Cherry replied that she doesn't yet have any sales information from the artist, but they're meeting tomorrow and the item information will be updated after that meeting.
- Cherry announced she would like to restart subcommittees via Zoom in October if that was acceptable to the members. Members agreed it was appropriate, and Cherry stated subcommittee meetings would resume on the current meeting schedule and pick up where they left off in the spring.

ADJOURN

Clancy moved to adjourn, Johnson seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.
ADDENDUM

These two photos of artist Noah Schuerman's work were shared from Johnson's pc screen during the meeting.



Minutes Approved On

OCT 13 2020
Ruthie M Christen
Clerk/Deputy Signature