

MOSCOW ARTS COMMISSION



Christine Gilmore
Chair

~Minutes~

Megan Cherry
Staff Liaison

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

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

5:00 PM

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

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 5:02 P.M.

IN ATTENDANCE: Christine Gilmore (Chair), David Wilson, Katherine Clancy (Vice Chair), Sonja Foard, Lauren McCleary, Sue Clark, Donna Woolston, Cindy Barnhart (Virtual), Aaron Johnson

ABSENT: Robert Caisley, Sandra Stoops, Diane Walker

OTHER: Megan Cherry (Arts Program Manager), Britnee Christen (Arts Administrative Specialist), Brandy Sullivan (Council Liaison), Donald Stanziano (Moscow, ID)

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.

Mission statement was read by Wilson.

2. Approval of Moscow Arts Commission April 13, 2021 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

PROPOSED ACTION: Approve minutes, amend minutes, or take such other action deemed appropriate.

Clancy moved, Foard seconded to approve the April 13, 2021 minutes as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yays: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

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

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.

Stanziano (Moscow, ID) presented Wild @ Art's "Bread and Bowls" project to the MAC (see handout) and asked the members to consider collaborating with the Moscow Poet Laureate to

include poetry with the bowls. MAC members discussed the topic would be discussed at the next Arts & Education Subcommittee meeting on May 20.

4. MAC Onboarding (DISCUSSION)

- Topic: Third Street Gallery

Clancy presented history about the Third Street Gallery and discussed the different types of exhibitions and artists represented over the years.

5. Third Street Gallery Exhibition Ideas for 2022 (DISCUSSION)

The Third Street Gallery (TSG) opened in September 1997, and since that time it has presented the work of local and regional artists on the second and third floors of City Hall. The TSG currently features new exhibitions on a quarterly basis, a schedule that is contingent upon the City's budget process. MAC members and Arts staff collaborate to determine the structure and topic of each show as well as the artists represented. Members of the public and City staff occasionally suggest ideas for exhibitions; these suggestions are kept in a document for the MAC's TSG subcommittee to review while drafting recommendations for each year's exhibition schedule. The TSG subcommittee's recommended schedule is adopted and operationalized following a majority vote during a regular MAC meeting. At that point, all artist communications, registration processes, music and catering contracts, promotional efforts, and other Gallery operations are implemented by Arts staff.

The Third Street Gallery subcommittee has requested that the MAC review the full history of exhibitions and contribute initial thoughts about what shows might be appropriate for the upcoming calendar year. The Gallery aims to keep audiences engaged by avoiding the repetition of media or thematically-focused exhibitions that have been presented in recent years. Similarly, the Gallery schedule balances the presentation of invitational, juried, open call, and solo/two-person exhibitions. Slots available for exhibition are as follows:

January – March
April – June
July – September
October – December

Johnson stated the exhibition model has shifted from monthly to quarterly. Johnson also explained the Third Street Gallery subcommittee tries to consider a mix of juried, invitational and open call shows, along with single artist and group shows.

Discussion ensued around various potential exhibition ideas, including:

- Indigenous tribal artwork
- An exhibition revolving around family artwork collections and how to start collecting
- Contemporary art collections versus historical family collections
- Instrument makers or modifiers

6. Mayor's Arts Awards Call for Nominations (ACTION ITEM)

The Events and Programs subcommittee has collaborated to create proposed updates to the Mayor's Arts Awards (MAA) call for nominations, which is set to open in March 2022. Proposed changes to the MAA program structure are based upon the reflections and observations of MAC and Arts staff members during the MAA 2020 process. Updates include a formalized selection process for awardees and award makers; adjustments to nominator, awardee, and selection panel member eligibility; and the addition of selection criteria for each award category. A majority vote of MAC members is needed to send this document for the Mayor's approval.

PROPOSED ACTION: Recommend the Mayor's Arts Awards call for nominations, or take such other action deemed appropriate.

Discussion ensued regarding the award maker selection process. This conversation included questions about artist eligibility and automatic consideration in following cycles if their artwork is not chosen. There was also discussion around creating an even playing field for materials submitted through Submittable.

Johnson motioned, Clancy seconded to recommend the Mayor's Arts Awards call for nominations to the Mayor.

Roll Call Vote: Yays: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion Carried

7. Portable Collection Donation (ACTION ITEM)

Five works by artist Pam Overholtzer have been offered as a donation to the City's Portable Collection. Overholtzer comes from a long line of artists with a lifelong passion for design, art and craft. She maintained an interior design practice focused on historic architecture and interiors before returning to college to study architecture at the University of Idaho where she earned a Master of Architecture degree and research-oriented Master of Science degree. The seeds for this project began when Pam first saw Lillian Ottness's well-known book "*A Great Good Country*," and particularly Lillian's sketches of the historic buildings in downtown Moscow. While working on City Hall's Centennial Art Show at the Third Street Gallery as a member of the Moscow Historic Preservation Commission, she had an opportunity to work directly with Ottness's original drawings. Musing about the sketches, Pam sought a way to apply her artistic talent, a penchant for detail-oriented projects, and model-building skills to three dimensional interpretations of Ottness's beautiful sketches in the form of small, multi-dimensional models mounted in shadow boxes. The donation is offered by architect and longtime City of Moscow Planning & Zoning and Historic Preservation Commission member Wendy McClure.

Section VII.B.2 of the 2021 Public Art Guidelines outlines the following steps regarding the donation of works to the City's Portable Collection:

- a. Donor contacts appropriate City staff to discuss the potential gift, providing photos or the actual artwork.
- b. Arts Program Manager presents consideration of the gift to the MAC. If presented in graphic form, the MAC reserves the right to postpone any decision until the actual artwork is reviewed.
- c. Arts Program Manager (in consultation with MAC and as approved of by City Council) accepts or declines the gift. If accepted, the donor is acknowledged (if requested).
- d. Funds for maintenance are agreed upon by the donor and Arts Program Manager and deposited by the donor into a public art maintenance fund.

The Public Art Subcommittee recommends acceptance of this donation and states a preference for keeping all five works together in a single display location. Staff does not anticipate the need for maintenance funds to support this series. Professional photographs will be needed to document each work, which is a standard part of the accession process. Upon a majority vote by the MAC, staff will bring the donation recommendation for City Council consideration.

PROPOSED ACTION: Recommend acceptance of artwork donation, or take such other action deemed appropriate.

Foard motioned, McCleary seconded to recommend acceptance of artwork donation to City Council.

Roll Call Vote: Yays: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

REPORTS

1. Arts & Culture Education (McCleary)

McCleary reported the subcommittee did not meet so members could watch the April Poetry Relay. The next meeting will be May 20.

2. Events & Programs (Gilmore)

Gilmore reported the subcommittee discussed Artwalk registration progress and the announcement of the poster artist. The subcommittee also discussed tabling dates and an email will be sent out to the MAC to volunteer for the various opportunities. The subcommittee also discussed the 2022 Mayor's Arts Awards call for nomination materials.

3. Public Art (Clancy)

Clancy reported the selected artworks for the ITC Sculpture Garden were installed May 11 and encouraged the MAC members to visit. The Public Art Guidelines were approved by City Council. Cherry added there was a conversation surrounding outdoor lighting for public art. Community Development determined it was appropriate to add City Code guidelines regarding lighting at public art installations and worked to approve a Code amendment through City Council. Going forward public art installations can accommodate lighting with the new guidelines. Clancy stated the subcommittee also discussed ideas about how the MAC can provide the stories of public art in the future. The subcommittee is now working on the Public Art Master Plan which will be inclusive of the portable and temporary collection, which were not included in the previous Master Plan.

4. Third Street Gallery (Johnson)

Johnson reported the Third Street Gallery subcommittee discussed future exhibition concepts. The reception for *Silver & Gold* will be held June 17 from 4-6 p.m. as part of Artwalk. Registration is now open for the upcoming exhibition *Ctrl+P*. Cherry added the subcommittee will be moving forward with developing a proposal for gallery lighting in FY23.

5. Volunteer Hour Tally

Hours will be reported via email.

6. Operational Report

- **Artwalk Registration (Christen)**

Christen stated as of May 11 there are 19 host location registrations (5 non-profits and 15 businesses). There is a total of 28 arts listings: 26 visual art, 1 literary art, and 1 culinary art. Materials have already started being delivered to host locations. While businesses were required to pick up their materials in previous years, this year's implementation of staff deliveries aims to make participation easier for businesses and to connect staff with those participating.

- **Arts Representation Guidelines (Cherry)**

Cherry stated these guidelines are available as a resource to the community for creating relationships that are mutually beneficial. The guidelines cover visual, literary, performing, and culinary arts. The goal is to foster the health of the creative economy and to make the arts and culture a sustainable practice in the community. The development of these guidelines completed a goal in the strategic plan. These will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis. A link to the guidelines will be emailed to the MAC.

Minutes Approved On

June 8, 2021


Clerk/Deputy Signature

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:19 P.M.



Supported by donations from Moscow Wild at Art and a Boise donor, Moscow Wild at Art donated more than \$1200 in meals and to-go art kits to families receiving free meals through Bloom Cafe's Feed A Family initiative this past December. These meals and art kits were directed to families with the assistance of school counselors at the Moscow School District's elementary schools.

Since early March, we have built on this successful program in Moscow and expanded it into Pullman. Mirroring past Empty Bowl initiatives on the Palouse and elsewhere, we set an initial goal to provide 500 ceramic bowls hand painted by local community members to families receiving meals donated by area restaurants, food banks and other community-minded organizations.

How we are accomplishing this goal:

- Identify additional donors to underwrite this effort
- Identify area restaurants and agencies in addition to Oak on Main in Pullman, Bloom Cafe in Moscow, and the Moscow Food Bank that wish to distribute painted bowls with meals
- Identify area schools and agencies that can assist in directing donated bowls to those in greatest need.
- Coordinate with community groups such as Greek Life houses, businesses, faith groups, and others to paint bowls.

Bloom Cafe and Oak on Main have donated more than 10,000 meals to area residents through their Feed A Family and Feeding Our Friends programs, respectively. Since early March, we have been able to distribute nearly 350 hand painted bowls to be included with free meals and food distributed in our communities. Wild at Art donated the first 100 of these bowls, and we will purchase and distribute bowls as we receive additional underwriting support. Heartfelt thanks to those businesses and individuals that have donated in support of this project.

We seek support to reach our initial goal of 500 bowls, and Wild at Art will donate 20 bowls for every 100 bowls that are underwritten thereafter. This project is not "pay to play", however. Underwriters can choose to donate with or without the option of painting bowls, and painters can paint with or without the option of donating. Participation in any manner is welcome.

118 E. 3rd St. Moscow, ID 83843 208.301.2768

getwildmoscow@gmail.com www.moscowwildatart.com

 @MoscowWildAtArt