

MOSCOW ARTS COMMISSION



Christine Gilmore
Chair

~Minutes~

Megan Cherry
Staff Liaison

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

Tuesday, August 10, 2021

5:00 PM

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

Meeting called to order at 5:02 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE: Diane Walker, Christine Gilmore (Chair), David Wilson, Sue Clark, Sandra Stoops, Robert Caisley, Donna Woolston, Aaron Johnson, Cynthia Barnhart, Lauren McCleary, Sonja Foard

ABSENT: Katherine Clancy

OTHER: Megan Cherry (Arts Program Manager), Britnee Christen (Arts Administrative Specialist), Brandy Sullivan (Council Liaison), Susan Hodgins (Moscow Poet Laureate)

REGULAR AGENDA

Walker motioned, Clark seconded to move item 6 to below item 3.
Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

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 read by Wilson.

2. Approval of Moscow Arts Commission June 8, 2021 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

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

Walker noted her last name was incorrect and asked to amend that portion of the Minutes from Wilson to Walker.

Woolston motioned, Walker seconded to approve the Minutes with the proposed change.
Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

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.

No public comment was offered.

4. 2022 Third Street Gallery Schedule (ACTION ITEM)

The Third Street Gallery (TSG) subcommittee proposes a slate of exhibitions for the calendar year 2022. This proposal was created following the MAC's review of the history of TSG exhibitions and their discussion on May 11, 2021 about potential direction for the 2022 TSG season. 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. TSG 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. The TSG subcommittee presents the attached schedule after checking for alignment with these goals. All exhibition suggestions from the MAC and the public not pursued during 2022 will be kept in mind for possible development in future years.

Following a majority vote of MAC members to approve the slate of exhibitions, Arts staff will finalize all dates in the Gallery schedule, contact artists and jurors to confirm participation, and will seek MAC or TSG subcommittee advice on artistic direction as needed.

PROPOSED ACTION: Approve the 2022 Third Street Gallery schedule as presented, or take such other action deemed appropriate.

Johnson presented the proposed 2022 Third Street Gallery Schedule. He stated John Larkin and David Herbold were the selected artists for the proposed two-person exhibition.

McCleary motioned, Walker seconded to approve the 2022 Third Street Gallery Schedule as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

5. Moscow Poet Laureate Final Report (DISCUSSION)

Hodgin presented her final report as Moscow Poet Laureate (see attached handout).

5:13 p.m. Foard joined the meeting.

Hodgin suggested that the requirement of the selected poet laureate including "Moscow, Idaho Poet Laureate" on any published work should be reconsidered for future Moscow Poet Laureate candidates.

Hodgin closed her presentation with a reading of her poem entitled *Seen*.

6. Supporting the Arts Card (DISCUSSION)

MAC Members discussed the development of a card that promotes the various ways to support the arts. The concept was initially developed in the Events & Programs subcommittee as a way to encourage community members to support the arts and culture ecosystem. Discussion ensued regarding topics for the card, including: why supporting the arts is important, how/why to

purchase and collect art, ways to appreciate art and support local artists, the power of buying from local artists, fair compensation for art, etc.

REPORTS

1. Arts & Culture Education (McCleary)

The Arts & Culture Education Subcommittee did not meet in July. The next meeting will be August 16 at 5:30 p.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room.

2. Events & Programs (Foard)

Foard reported the Events & Programs Subcommittee discussed how tabling went at the Moscow Farmers Market and items to add for future tabling opportunities. The subcommittee also discussed the Artwalk post-event survey results. Also discussed the development of the Supporting the Arts Card concept.

3. Public Art (Clancy)

Cherry reported the Public Art subcommittee discussed final steps for two public art donations. The subcommittee also discussed developing a slate of projects for the year to help the MAC understand the yearly scope of work for Public Art. Cherry added the subcommittee is working on the Public Art Master Plan update. This update includes a recommendation to include the Public Art Guidelines and the Public Art Maintenance Plan as part of the Public Art Master Plan.

4. Third Street Gallery (Johnson)

Cherry reported the Third Street Gallery subcommittee discussed the 2022 Third Street Gallery proposed schedule—which was voted on by the MAC this evening. Cherry added Facilities has updated the bulbs in both pendant and track fixtures for the gallery lighting on the second and third floor.

5. Volunteer Hour Tally (Christen)

Hours to be reported via email.

6. Operational Report

- Artwalk (Christen): Christen discussed the current planning stages of the expanded Artwalk season. Registration will open in September for the kick-off to expanded Artwalk on the third Thursday of October. Christen also discussed the Outreach Toolkit Checklist handout.
- Library Signage Update (Cherry): Cherry reported that the final location has been determined and the library has taken into consideration the sculpture area. See the agenda packet for a photo of the final location (indicated by the purple rectangle).
- ARP Grant Application (Cherry): Cherry reported the Arts Department is in the process of seeking Council approval to apply for an American Rescue Plan Grant. The grant application is geared toward small to mid-size organizations in rural settings. The initial recommendation to Council is to apply for a \$100,000 grant. The grant funding would be used for general operating support (existing positions, new positions, artist contracts, performance fees, etc).

Meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Minutes Approved On

September 14, 2021


Clerk/Deputy Signature

10 August 2021

Christine Gilmore, Chair
Moscow Arts Commission
City of Moscow Council Chambers
206 East Third Street
Moscow, ID 83843

SUBJECT: Moscow Poet Laureate, 2018-2021, Report

Thank you so much for your faith in me as I carried this word mantle to our City since my appointment under Kathleen Burns. I applied for the position only because of the insistence of my daughter, who hounded me with text messages and that last phone call the evening before the application deadline. I learned from this experience that we sometimes need others to believe in us. No doubt, I am grateful to her as well. I admit the first few months kept me at my keyboard, but the pace of the position took on more meaning for me with the open and trusting dialogue that grew between Megan Cherry and me as she launched her calling as our City's Arts Program Manager; Megan respected my views, respected my recommendations for poetry venues and events, bridging programs for readings and audiences, even including no-host wine bars.

I am thrilled that Poetry Relay lives, perhaps tweaked, especially coming out of the CDC Guidelines with COVID-19. That was my greatest disappointment with my appointment, losing April Poetry Relay 2020, the planned evening of humor, a tribute to my poet friend Ron McFarland for his funny bones. I am especially grateful to the patience and labors of Megan and Britnee Christen, her administrative specialist, and to all you MAC members supportive of that live stream of this year's comeback relay. We made it home and also launched the publicity for Moscow's next Poet Laureate.

Part of your mission recognizes and promotes artists by creating opportunities for their work to be experienced. You accomplished that for me and for so many unknown and known Moscow voices. I am proudest of the Relays recognizing National Poetry Month and for my role with Megan in Wood and Word, the collaboration of artists, bringing out the best in both and bringing out the locals to see the beauty of the arts found through all of our sensory perceptions.

I plan to go forward with my craft, sending out poems for publication and developing tropes for poetry collections. Such stirrings often keep me up at night or out of bed early. I owe you so much for the confidence that you have instilled in me to write and to nurture that gift in myself and in others whose lives have touched mine. Be blessed as you have blessed so many like me.

Sincerely,



Susan Hodgin
Moscow Poet Laureate, 2018-2021

Attachment: Moscow Poet Laureate, 2018-2021, Activities Report

**Susan Hodgins Activities Report
Moscow Poet Laureate
2018-2021**

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2018

- 2018 Artwalk, Moscow-Latah Public Library, Ribbon Cutting for Melissa Cole Public Art , "Inspiration and Pollination" with Mayor Bill Lambert with reading, "Book Chauffeur," June 15, 2018.
- Poetry Reading & Introduction to Moscow City Council, June 25, 2018.
- Poetry Shared & Introduction, Moscow Arts Commission Meeting, a reading, "Taking It All in at East City Park," July 10, 2018.
- "Turned Sheets," Readings, Art Affair, Fairfield Inn & Suites, Moscow, July 18, 2018.
- Collecting, the Ego, and the Brain, "Stuff: What We Collect and Why," Third Street Gallery Exhibit with reading, "First Words," September 6, 2018.
- Caring for Your Collections, "Stuff: What We Collect and Why," Third Street Gallery Exhibit with reading, "Before Fiberglass," October 4, 2018.
- A Library Introduction to Moscow Poet Laureate Susan Hodgins, Readings & Reception, Carol Ryrie Brink Room, Moscow Public Library, October 9, 2018.
- Appaloosa Museum Friends, Appaloosa Museum & Heritage Center readings, "Before Fiberglass" & "Pony Girl," October 24, 2018.
- 2018 The City of Moscow Mayor's Arts Awards, a reading of poems, "But Officer, We Have No Rooster" and "From Soils, a Living Canvas," a tribute to Richard J. Naskali, October 25, 2018.
- "Hands Up," celebrating Moscow's ACLU Public Art Mural at the Moscow Hotel with a reading, "Tending the Locals at the Moscow Hotel," October 2021.
- "Arts in Our Community," the Moscow Chamber of Commerce October Luncheon at the Kenworthy, a reading, "Raising the Dead," October 17, 2018.
- Downsizing, "Stuff: What We Collect and Why," Third Street Gallery Exhibit with reading, "Downsizing, the American Dream," November 1, 2018.
- "Honoring Dick Naskali," the Moscow Garden Club, 4-H Building, the Latah County Fairgrounds, readings, "But Officer, We Have No Rooster" & "From Soils, a Living Canvas," November 14, 2018.
- 2018 Moscow Winter Carnival, Friendship Square, outdoor readings, November 30, 2018.
- Care of Heirloom Textiles, "Stuff: What We Collect and Why," Third Street Gallery Exhibit, with reading, "The Quilter," December 6, 2018.

2019

- April Poetry Relay, April 16, 2019, with Susan Hodgins, Ron McFarland, Daniel Berkner, Terri Gaffney, Georgia Tiffany, and Robert Wrigley; co-founded event with City of Moscow Arts Manager, Megan Cherry, to celebrate National Poetry Month.
- A Poet in Moscow: Meet & Greet Moscow Poet Laureate, Carol Ryrie Brink Room, Moscow Public Library readings, April 25, 2019.

- “Sarah Cynthia Sylvia Stout Goes Green,” a poetry writing workshop for S.T.E.A.M. Day at Russell Elementary School, May 23, 2019.
- 2019 Artwalk Curbside Poetry Workshop, "Sailing with Poetry," June 21, 2019.
- Third Street Bridge Dedication-Gala, "Sailing with Poetry" Revisited, Curbside Poetry, June 29, 2019.
- “Wood & Word,” Third Street Gallery with 13 woodworkers & 13 poets, with reading, “Roots,” October 30, 2019.
- Moscow High School Poetry Out Loud Speech Unit, Melissa Kirkland, November 2019.

2020

- “Wine, Chocolate, & Poetry,” Fifth Annual Potlatch Poetry Night, readings with Susan and D’Wayne Hodgins, Potlatch Public Library, February 4, 2020.
- Idaho State Poetry Out Loud, March 7, 2020, South Junior High Auditorium, Boise, Idaho, with MHS POL Contestant Aariah Coile, a freshman, coached by Susan Hodgins.
- “Dear Moscow” Third Street Gallery Exhibition, 110th Anniversary of Moscow City Hall, formerly the Moscow Post Office, letter submission, December 2020.

2021

- February/March Call for Submission for April Poetry Relay, 2021.
- April Poetry Relay Rehearsal, April 13, 2021.
- April Poetry Relay, April 15, 2021, live-streamed with poets Ron McFarland, Ed Flathers, D’Wayne Hodgins, and hosted by UI professor and poet, Michael McGriff.
- POL Student Referral for Student Panelist for Moscow Poet Laureate Search, June 2021.
- Student Referrals for Moscow Youth MAC, June 2021.
- 2021 Artwalk ribbon-cutting ceremony, “The Box Gallery,” featuring Moscow Poet Laureate Susan Hodgins, promoting applications for 2021-2024 Poet Laureate, June 17, 2021.
- Wild@Art & MAC Collaboration Request, Six Short Poems, Cup/Bowl Depictions, June 14, 2021.
- Poet Laureate Final Report to Moscow Arts Commission, August 10, 2021.
- Moscow Poet Laureate 2021-2024 Selection Panel Team, August 23, 2021.



Outreach Toolkit Checklist

☐ **Are you signed up to receive news about upcoming programs, events, and calls for art?**

If you are not already signed up, visit <https://bit.ly/moscowartsmailinglist> and stay connected through the Calls for Art and Events & Programs mailing lists.

☐ **Forward Calls for Art and Events & Programs news mailings to your friends and family!**

☐ **Follow the City of Moscow Facebook and Instagram Pages**

Keep an eye out for posts about arts programs and events. You can help connect more people to arts programming through liking, sharing, and commenting on Arts Department posts. Feel free to include a corresponding hashtag:

#ThirdStreetGallery

#MoscowArtsCommission

#MoscowIdaho

#UICAA

#UIdaho

#PalousePleinAir

#MoscowArtwalk

#MActivities

☐ **Did Arts staff send social media talking points and images to share?**

These images and talking points are ready to use on social media platforms and in emails.

☐ **Are you part of an organization/club that would like more information or a presentation?**

Contact us in the Arts Department and we can help supply more information or schedule a time to present to your group!