

# MOSCOW ARTS COMMISSION



Christine Gilmore  
Chair

~Minutes~

Megan Cherry  
Staff Liaison

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

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**Tuesday  
November 9, 2021**

**5:00 PM**

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

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**The meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m.**

## **WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE**

IN ATTENDANCE: David Wilson, Diane Walker, Katherine Clancy (Vice Chair), Sue Clark, Robert Caisley, Aaron Johnson, Cindy Barnhart, Sonja Foard

ABSENT: Christine Gilmore, Lauren McCleary, Sandra Stoops, Donna Woolston

OTHER: Megan Cherry (Arts Program Manager), Amy Petit (Arts Administrative Specialist)

## **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.

The Mission Statement was read by Foard.

### **2. Approval of Moscow Arts Commission September 14 and October 12, 2021 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)**

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

The September minutes were reviewed by the Commission. Barnhart moved, Foard seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. The October minutes were reviewed by the Commission. Foard motioned, Johnson seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

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

No public comment was offered.

### **4. MACtivities Toolbox Art Educator Selection Panel (ACTION ITEM)**

On September 14, the MAC approved the RFQ for MACtivities Toolbox editions 4 & 5. The submission form was open from September 24 to October 29. The Commission discussed potential selection panel members during the October 12 meeting, and voted to table the discussion regarding selection panel membership until the submission deadline passed. One arts educator submitted a proposal for the opportunity, and included an invitation for the MAC to propose another project if desired.

**PROPOSED ACTION:** Approve the MACtivities Toolbox proposal as presented or with advice for revisions, move to re-open the call to arts educators, or take such other action deemed appropriate.

The Commission discussed the MACtivities Toolbox #4 proposal and the sole submission by Rachael Eastman. Eastman proposed an art activity of Blackout Poetry and Clancy provided a sample of the project. Foard stated that Eastman would be willing to develop the MACtivities Toolbox #5 proposal and also raised a concern over which materials would need to be provided or obtained by participants for the Blackout Poetry project. There was a discussion on providing paint and collage materials and the need for Eastman to develop content for differing ages. Cherry suggested a conversation about the content of this proposal and the involvement of current City of Moscow Poet Laureate, Stacy Boe Miller. The input of Miller to the project was considered. The application process for the MACtivities toolbox was discussed with some feeling like it was overwhelming to potential applicants. There was a dialogue about reopening the RFP for a fifth proposal and Cherry confirmed the timeline would be acceptable as reporting on the grant would take place at the end of June.

Johnson moved, Foard seconded to approve the MACtivities Toolbox #4 proposal with Miller's support. If Miller does not support the submission, Eastman would be asked for another proposal. The MACtivities Toolbox #5 RFP form would be reopened to the public. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

#### **5. Portable Collection Deaccession (ACTION ITEM)**

During the October 12, 2021 regular meeting, the MAC discussed implementing the deaccession process for Frank Werner's wooden duck decoy, which was donated to the City Portable Collection by Samuel and Lois Butterfield in 2004. The intent of the proposed deaccession is to present the decoy as a farewell gift for retiring City Supervisor Gary Riedner. The following deaccession structure is stated in the 2021 Public Art Guidelines:

In the event a work of art may need to be considered for removal, sale, trade, or gifting (deaccessioning), the Arts Program Manager (and MAC) shall present the request to City Council. The Arts Program Manager or designee shall state in the request that the artwork is of no further use to the City; the recommendation of whether the artwork should be removed, sold, traded or gifted; the reasoning for the recommendation; and how the recommendation will provide for maximum value with attendant benefits to the citizens of Moscow (I.C. 67-5722, 5732A). Proceeds of a sale shall cover the expenses of the sale with any net revenues deposited into the general account of the City of Moscow.

Commission members requested that City staff research the value of the duck as well as whether another one is available. The Art Spirit Gallery exhibited several of Werner's ducks in 2009, and approximated their value at \$400-\$600. Frank Werner confirmed not only the \$600 value but also his enthusiasm for the deaccession and gifting, noting that the purchase of a similar duck would be possible. He also provided that the duck in the City collection specifically depicts a swimmer, rather than another typical duck behavior, such as turned-head sleeping. He further noted that ducks swim either coyly to attract a mate or to rejoin a flock, and that the viewer is invited to decide for which purpose this particular duck swims. If gifting of the duck is recommended by a majority vote of Commission members, the topic, along with the MAC's reasoning for the recommendation, will be brought to City Council for consideration.

**PROPOSED ACTION:** Recommend deaccession as well as gifting and provide reasoning for such action, recommend against deaccession, or take such other action deemed appropriate.

Members discussed the value of the wooden duck decoy (at \$600) in relation to other employee retirement gifts. Cherry presented research that employees with 15-20 years of service and in good standing have been presented with a \$500 gift card. In the case of Police Department members, their weapon is decommissioned and presented upon retirement. There was also consideration of this

deaccession setting a precedent that it would be common to gift from the City's Art Collection. Caisley asked if the original donors were aware of the deaccession and Cherry noted that they were deceased.

Cherry asked the Commission to state the specific reasoning in recommending deaccession so this gift could be presented to retiring City Supervisor, Gary Riedner. Members indicated that this would be an exception based on length of service, proximity of the art object, and Riedner's longtime support of the growth of the Commission.

Foard moved, Johnson seconded to recommend to the City Council the deaccession of Frank Werner's wooden duck decoy. Pending availability in the budget, the Commission recommends the purchase of another bird decoy for the City's Portable Collection from Frank Werner in FY2023. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

## REPORTS

### 1. Arts & Culture Education (Caisley)

Caisley reported that the special event for Poet Laureate, Stacy Boe Miller, would be postponed due to the pandemic. The idea was considered of pairing the event with another but was decided against. Cherry mentioned that there was a video being created with Miller and Digital Media Specialist, Corey Oglesby. A Zoom meeting was held to introduce Miller to members of the Arts & Culture Education subcommittee and that a formal introduction to the Commission and the public would be forthcoming. Cherry added that the upcoming Un-fancy exhibition would be inclusive of literary submissions. Caisley offered praise to the Commission for selecting an engaging and vibrant Poet Laureate.

### 2. Volunteer Hour Tally (Petit)

Commission members provided their volunteer hours for October.

### 3. Operational Reports

#### Artwalk (Cherry)

Cherry reported that submissions for the Third Street Gallery exhibition, Un-fancy, are currently being accepted until December 4. Members discussed the theme of exalting ordinary objects. Cherry added that there were eight host locations for this month's Artwalk with applications coming in close to the deadline. Last month there were seven host locations with three choosing to participate again. The Box Gallery would feature artist, Casey Doyle. The Artwalk locations for November are: The Third Street Gallery, Moscow Contemporary, Wild at Art, Moscow Chamber of Commerce, University of Idaho Art + Design at Ridenbaugh Hall, Magenta, PCEI, and Bloom.

#### MAC Officer Elections (Cherry)

At the request of City Clerk, the Commission officer elections would be held in January to coincide with other commission elections. In November, the Mayor sends letters to those commission members with expiring terms. Reappointments are proposed at the December City Council meetings. Johnson, Gilmore, and Caisley would be receiving letters and it's unknown if there would be vacant seats on the Commission. There is one vacancy for a non-voting high school student. Those who are interested in joining the Commission, are encouraged to fill out an application and it will be retained by the City Clerk. There are currently two known applications and appointments are at the Mayor's discretion.

## ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

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Christine Gilmore, Chair





