



## ELLENSBURG ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES

January 9, 2020 4:00pm

Council Chambers Conference Room

**Commissioners Present:** Alex Eyre, Brian Kooser, Jerry Dougherty, Cassandra Town, Laura Bobovski, and Monica Miller

**Commissioners Absent:** Arlein Anderson (unexcused)

**Others Present:** Council Liaison Mary Morgan, Staff Carolyn Honeycutt, and Community Development Director Kirsten Sackett, Members of the public Alder Rabbit, Chris Schambacher, Omar Schambacher

**Call to Order:** Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm

### Approval of Agenda

**Motion to approve agenda for January 9, 2020 meeting of the EAC,** Bobovski; second Town.

**Approved.**

### Approval of Minutes

**Motion approve the minutes of the December 5, 2019 meeting of the EAC,** Town; second Bobovski.

**Approved**

### Citizen Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

- Alder Rabbit introduced himself to the group and was in attendance to observe and learn more about the commission.
- Chris and Omar Schambacher showed the commission an old Star Shoe Repair sign that he would like to restore and place on a building. EAC will discuss at the next meeting.

**Financial Report** – Staff provided updated financials. All 2019 grant reports (other than Night of Contemporary Dance) are in but waiting for a few final documents from some recipients. Staff anticipates all will be paid by the close of the 2019 financials on January 15.

### New Business

- **Commissioner Absences** – Chair Eyre brought up a concern regarding Arlein Anderson's meeting attendance. Arlein requested via email to staff to be absent for both January and February meetings, which when combined with November and December 2019 would make four meetings in a row. Kirsten Sackett explained that the City Attorney would like all absences to be recorded as excused or unexcused for all commissions. The chair can choose to excuse or unexcused an absence on their own or can decide to call for a vote. Eyre would like to discuss meeting attendance with Arlein and will place it on the March agenda.

**Motion to not excuse Commissioner Anderson from the January and February 2020 meetings.** Eyre; second Kooser. Eyre, Kooser, Town, and Dougherty vote yes, Bobovski and Miller abstained.

**Approved.**

## **Old Business – Strategic Planning**

Each committee met to outline their 2020-2022 goals – all of which are listed below. These will be used to create 2021 and 2022 budgets.

- Cultural Assessment and Mapping (does not fit with just one committee)
- Funding Committee
  - Review application and process
  - Increase quality, quantity and diversity of grant applications through workshop(s)
  - Promote applications, tell stories of the grant recipients
  - Promote artists and what the EAC is doing
  - Poet Laureate application
- Public Art
  - Town Center art project
    - 2021 – design, research funding
    - 2022 – implementation
  - Town Based Art (TBA) with pop-ups in the park to build value (2021) – work with Parks & Rec on this
    - Put aside professional development monies to attend Time Based Arts Festival in Portland
  - Steward completion of the new bus shelters
  - Kittitas Valley Juried Arts Show purchase
  - City Collection – refine, promote and document
  - Skate Park mural project with Jason Clifton
- Advocacy / Public Relations
  - Share value of the arts
    - Letters to the editor monthly
    - Reach out to council and community to attend EAC meetings
  - Two grant writing workshops in July – both EAC funding and other opportunities
  - Promote the Arts
    - Manage content of shadowbox going on the visitor center in downtown (work with Chamber)
    - Partner with City Public Relations staff and Parks and Rec staff to promote art happenings
    - Continue and consider growing NWPB ads
    - Tap into existing resources (i.e. Parks and Rec newsletters)
  - Celebrate the Arts
    - Arts Treasure
    - Promote Grant Recipients at Arts Hurrah!
    - Grow Arts Hurrah! Event
  - Attend and provide travel money for Arts & Heritage (February) and Cultural Congress (October)
  - Review promotion budget (mostly NWPB), increase, find new partnerships
- Art Walk
  - Update Google map
  - Investigate App for Art Walk (Jerry will research) – can this be an income generator?
  - Better Promotion of May First Friday Family Arts Walks – needs a refresh
  - Annual Meeting of Venues
  - Art After Hours
  - Begin replacing signage (1/2 – 2021 and 1/2 in 2022)

## **Committee Reports**

1. **Funding** – Updates are in strategic plan
2. **Public Art**
  - Bus Shelters: Payments of \$500 stipends to all 10 artists will be complete for 2019. As soon as Public Works has the shelter chosen we can order the artwork.
  - Elliott installation – Waiting to hear back from Michelle Bibich on a date. We will also continue to work with the school to get the artwork lit.
  - Poet Laureate – would like to announce the new poet laureate at the Poetry Prowl in April. Town will draft an application and get it out to the committee. Dougherty will ask Kathy Whitcomb to serve on the review committee with Joe Powell as backup.
  - Plaques – no updates
  - Skate Park Mural - Eyre will meet with Jason Clifton. Staff reminded Alex to Eyre to review the art policy.
3. **Advocacy** – Arts & Heritage day is February 5<sup>th</sup>.
4. **Art Walk** – Hotel Windrow would like to be on the art walk but has not sent back the form. Staff will work on invoicing venues.

## **Unscheduled Business:**

- none

**Adjourned** Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:00 pm.

**Next Meeting** Thursday February 13, 2020

**Drafted:** 1/16/2020

**Approved:** 2/13/2020