

MINUTES

Seattle Music Commission Meeting

Wednesday, March 17, 2020 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Zoom Conference

Commissioners Present: Reese Tanimura (Chair), Sharlese Metcalf (Vice Chair), Ben Hunter, Daniel Pak, Joleen Hughes, Kitty Wu, Nate Omdal, Sue Ennis, Terry Morgan, Paula Madrigal

Commissioners Absent: Ben Secord, Jerry Everard

City Staff Present: Alex Rose, Scott Plusquellec, Meli Darby, Meghan Sebold, Chris Swenson, Ashraf Hasham, OED Interim Director Pamela Banks, OED Interim Deputy Director Tina Inay

Guests: Melissa Purcell, Maria Gargiulo, Sarah Wilke, Jodi Ecklund, David Doxtater, Christina Calio, Eric Lilavois, Hope Drummond

Call to Order: The was called to order at 12:05 p.m. by Reese Tanimura.

Public Comment: N/A

Welcome – Reese Tanimura

- Sharlese opened the meeting with recognition of the racialized violence in Asian and Black communities. Sharlese also gave a land acknowledgment.
- Anniversary of lockdown!
- Welcome fellow commissioners and task force members from Film Task Force, Seattle Arts Commission, WANMA, and ASSET and additional guests.

Guest: Office of Economic Development Interim Director Pamela Banks

- Dir. Banks got hired Dec. 2, 2020 – initially as Recovery and Equitable Development Director – position that was budgeted for 1 year.
- Praise and recognize the good work of SMC, OFM, OED.
- Governor moving us to Phase 3 – venues will be able to open at 50% capacity
- Presenting to E-Team today to allow special permits with no police tied to them
- Lived 40 years in Seattle, got swept away by Grammy award winning musician and moved to Atlanta. Splitting time between the two cities.
- Presentation
 - Recovery Vision: Seattle is a vibrant, innovative, diverse city with an inclusive economy that ensures all Seattleites can thrive and share in the new opportunities of the future.

- This work can't be successful unless we all work together – we are all interrelated, interconnected, interdependent.
- Equitable recovery is big circle - within that is 'economic recovery' and 'community resilience'
- Recovery timeframes
 - 70% adult vaccinations before full reopening
 - Immediate strategies - pre-widespread vaccinations
 - Near-term goals - rolling out after 'widespread' vaccination (people likely won't want to come to venues unless we have widespread vaccination)
 - Long-term strategies - downtown recovery is key to this
 - Downtown produces 48% of our tax base, but want to also invest in other neighborhood business districts
- Potential revenue streams for equitable recovery
 - Philanthropy
 - Fed stimulus
 - Reallocating city resources
 - BIPOC investments
 - Public private partnerships
- Community resilience
 - Access to opportunity
 - Incl. learning loss for youth → connecting to Seattle Promise program, and workforce development
 - Community investments
 - The funding for communities and neighborhoods!
- Economic recovery
 - Supporting business + industry
 - ICI Director!
 - Meeting neighborhood needs
 - Stakeholder groups
- Business community (and in general) are saying:
 - Public safety is #1 concern, especially downtown
 - Rent debt
 - Empty office/commercial space
 - How City can permit different uses for those spaces
 - Online buying/digital divide
 - Vaccinations and reoccurrence of virus
 - Commercial liability insurance
 - Tent encampments
- Downtown revitalization strategies
 - Bringing downtown back to life
 - Improving safety
 - Arts/culture/retail innovation and creativity
 - Ensuring key infrastructure projects moving forward (e.g. Waterfront)
 - Bringing workers and patrons back safely
 - Economic engine of Seattle - important for economic revitalization
 - Location-specific strategies addressing
 - Public safety

- Empty commercial/office space
 - Activation (programming, beautification)
 - Boarded up buildings is not a good look
- Simultaneously - neighborhood specific strategies
 - Business districts, chambers of commerce, business improvement districts
 - Neighborhood and community groups
- Internal working groups – subcabinets
 - Dept directors or deputy directors
 - Deputy mayors are overseeing various areas of this
- Questions?
 - Hotel occupancy rates are 15% now - what are they usually?
 - 75-95% with conventions in town + cruise seasons
 - What are we hearing from the folx in the tent encampments?
 - Outside of Dir. Banks' lane - but knows that 600 units are coming online soon
 - Hiring regional homelessness director soon
 - Underlying issues need to be addressed in the houselessness epidemic here - mental health, addiction, etc.
 - City needs to get more coordinated with our Workforce Development Council
 - Who is on the downtown revitalization task force?
 - Downtown revitalization - film can help with it - keep that in mind!
 - DSA (John Scholes) really into that too!
 - Pamela would love to set a date to aim for and HAVE A PARTY around it!
 - Or, activations in neighborhoods - need storytelling and communications strategy round those
 - Waiting on stimulus money - helps us put artists back to work

Connecting & Celebrating: 1-on-1 check ins in breakout rooms

- Commissioners and guests had 1:1 conversations to encourage connection outside of the group meeting format.

Regular Commission Business

- Vote on Approval of Minutes from Feb 17, 2021 meeting
 - Sue motioned to approve, Nate seconded, all approved (no oppose, no abstain). Feb. 17 minutes approved.

Committee Updates

Advocacy + Economic Development

- Jason Clackley met with Climate Pledge Arena
- Nate's union job is busy busy! National organizing program from Alaska to Houston to connect to payroll services – hoping to offer public facing W2 payroll services!
 - Hoping to roll out by end of month

- Labor Harmony Agreements exist at a lot of stadiums/arenas – effort to prioritize union jobs
- Maria (chat): ...almost ALL film projects use a payroll service. I've even pay myself via a payroll service. And we have some good ones here, e.g. Talent Services.
- Nate volunteered to organize on behalf of Inspire WA with Manny Cawaling. They had an interesting conversation with state Rep. Noel Frame; asked what we could do next time to advance [HB1058](#) councilmanic legislation. Her answer was that it was framed as an either/or regarding CARES Act funding (competition between nonprofit and for-profit). **We should work to unite nonprofit and for-profit state advocacy for creative economy support.**

Youth + Community Committee

- Shouts out to Ashraf, Kristi and Tina will be taking on more leadership in this committee!
- Meetings are getting larger and larger, and Ashraf has been amazing at bringing in SMEs/guests
 - Denise Montgomery from Culture Thrive guested this month – [slide deck here](#)
- [Y+C work planning Miro board](#) has been wonderful. Priorities:
 1. Increasing youth voice, access to resources.
 2. More intentional partnerships with SPS and advocacy for cultural education
 3. Continuing digital equity work.
 4. Bring back Career Day road shows!
 - Other priorities: increased racial equity work, workforce development
- Ashraf: this Friday at 1:00 digital equity meeting
 - Colleagues from IT dept: David Keyes and Delia Burke
 - Reese: state funding for digital navigators (Equity in Education Coalition leading this work), 25 languages, intersections with workforce development, skill building, and putting creative workers to work

Executive Committee

- Looking back at bylaws, addresssing ways to bring non-Commissioners into committee work
 - Will look at updating the bylaws when Commission is fully seated
- Continuing cross pollination with Arts Commission and Film Task Force

Government Updates

- Alex: SMC nominations moving forward through chain of command to Mayor's Office, still seeking clarity on City Council process for their appointments
 - Thanks to those who reached out to our candidates!
 - Currently 6 mayoral vacancies (+1 this summer), 3 council vacancies (+3 this summer)
- Meghan: Inclusive Creative Industries (ICI) Director hiring and Film Task Force updates
 - Getting Director Banks and Deputy Director Inay up to speed on hiring process, ICI background, history and context of Film Commission legislation
- Scott: tune into Band Together WA tomorrow – solid line up (including Pak!) to support live music across the state via Keep Music Live – [register here](#)
- Scott: Shuttered Venue Operators Grants (SVOG) to open in early April
 - SBA confusion cleared up, so now venues CAN apply to PPP while waiting for SVOG
- Scott: Facilities & Equitable Development (FED) Committee of the Arts Commission – centered on work of Cultural Space Agency PDA – lots of crossover with our work

Meeting Cadence, Misc. Announcements, & Next Steps

Reese: Let's continue with monthly SMC meeting schedule – Alex to extend the calendar series.

Terry: Volunteer Park amphitheater groundbreaking next week. Brand new amphitheater with roof, new bathrooms, etc. to be completed in early fall!

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.