



SEATTLE ARTS COMMISSION
Minutes
Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, March 12th, 2019
Panel Room, King Street Station

Commissioners present: Priya Frank, Sharon Nyree-Williams, Jonathan Cunningham, Ashraf Hasham, Steve Galatro, Cassie Chinn, Dawn Chirwa, Sarah Wilke, Juan Alonso-Rodriguez, Quinton Morris

Staff in attendance: Calandra Childers, Randy Engstrom, Rick Reyes, Kathy Hsieh

Guests: Caress Williams, Jen H. (SAM), Bronson Foster (Live Music Project), Joe (VR/AI Company Applying to the AMP, Dominique Stephens (Mayor's Office)

Call to Order & Introduction (4:09, Recognition of Indigenous Land, Racial Equity)

Send out parking paperwork

Approval of Minutes: Jonathan moves to approve the January SAC Minutes, Sarah seconds the motion. The minutes are approved.

Public Comment: No Comment

Sound Transit 3 + FED Update

Briefing: Sharon Williams, Cassie Chinn

In February, Sharon, Jescelle, and Cassie met with the ARTS commission, Planning Commission, and Design Commission around ST3 with a focus on the CID station, community outreach, and centering racial equity in the process. The realities include that the station is centered around a transportation hub, there are two large publicly held buildings next to it, and it is adjacent to two historic neighborhoods.

The Three Approaches:

- Two Options on 5th Ave
- One 4th Ave Option
 - o Questions around these include how do local businesses and capital buildings play a role in location and how do we recon with a community scope larger than what SDOT is proposing?

Coordination and Discussion was centered around intramodality, racial equity, cultural space, and EDI indicators.

During the FED, the group discussed:



- Wanting to think about the long term impacts (100 year perspective about the site instead of the impacts during construction)
- Transit development as community displacement
- Secure and lift cultural anchors
- Environmental Impact study AND community impact study
- Future stations along the line and potential impact especially around Seattle Center around back to back construction (Key Arena)

SAC Questions / Comments:

How do we help?

- Cassie notes that the other commissions are writing a letter to state what their views are around the project. Knowing the history, Cassie notes that coordination hasn't happened at this level with a racial equity lens and that there are many opportunities to us to engage.

What is the timeline?

- They are currently going through a scoping period. The process needs to go through further leadership and public stakeholder. The hope is that a decision will be made by March 29th.
- Cassie notes that the community prefer the 4th Ave station from the CID perspective.

What is going to happen to the current station?

- They would create a new platform and would have to make this current station that exists a transfer point?

Why were we invited to participate in this?

- We were approached by the design commission. When they started to hear about what King Street Station is and what it will mean to community, they were interested in creating civic infrastructure around this hub. The role this station will play and the role culture will play in relation to the station.

THE ASK: there are different levels in the ask. We can talk about values, things we want them to pay attention to, affirm the coordination among the three commissions, possibly advocate for the 4th Ave Option

For the 29th, Cassie will take a stab at drafting a letter with Sharon and Jescelle. Cassie will coordinate with Calandra to speak to exec committee and Ashraf. Can we share updates by the retreat?

Civic Partners Funding + CIC Update

Briefing: Dawn Chirwa, Jonathan Cunningham, Kathy Hsieh, and Quinton Morris

Kathy goes over the history of Civic Partners which has become an evolution of the signature program that the ARTS Office was created under. As the office has depend its commitment to racial equity and as the pot of money has stayed the same (while the number of applicants has grown), there are a number of organizations that have historically had access to a large amount of funds and the question is around a maximum and how to implement that.

Questions we are asking include:

- How do we lower rates of giving if needed?



- If offices have made RSJ strides, how do we do this in a way that still states the importance of that work?
- How is this messaging done?
- What should the office have with respect to prepping themselves for these conversations (data, relationships, etc.)?
- How do we reimagine the relationship we have in investment in the city while protesting the investments that we need to keep the machine running?

SAC Questions / Comments:

How much money would this free up?

- This would free up around \$146,000 for extra funding

There should be messaging to the tier below those who get the most money so that there isn't shock from them around the possibility of their funds getting lowered

What is the timing situation?

- Timing is important because we will be launching in April

Randy suggests that during the retreat, having the CIC take on this question rigorously. Dawn states that not everyone will be at the retreat. What's the essential question- how do we work with organizations whose funding are getting reallocated for the RSJ efforts

If the organizations are coming to us for financial help for the CIC, what kind of support are we trying to offer? Are we giving ways for them to raise more money or a hand on the back gesture. What are the other ways in which the office is supporting these organizations? What are the other program areas that can support through / for?

Director's Update

Briefing: Randy

- Key Dates:
 - o Press Preview (SEND OUT DATES)
 - o March 23rd community breakfast for artists and curators
 - Knowing how many people are coming through the space is important and being welcoming
 - o March 29: retreat + Mixer
 - o April 16th Creative Occupations share back (SEND OUT SURVEY)
- Festivals and events: had an initial meeting and they are talking about funding, policy
- Viaduct Event: was awesome. 70,000 people
- Arts Commission Retreat: Happening at the same time as the cabinet retreat (thinking about what retreats are, what they're for, and what they can be used for): Create relationships and build relationships, what's the roadmap for the list of deliverables this year and next year, advocacy with Council and community



Chair Report

Briefing: Priya

- How are our different committees playing into the larger strategy is a question to tackle at the Retreat
- Work planning and revisiting the last workplan will be happening at the SAC Retreat
- Switching up committee reports to be different: thinking of each other as thought partners to give feedback and input.
- Commission Proclamation: Sharon wrote up a proclamation for Umeme Upesi that was presented at the service to the family. We should begin to think about who we should issue proclamations to who haven't passed away.