

MINUTES

Seattle Music Commission Meeting

Wednesday, November 19, 2014, 12:15 – 2:00 p.m.

Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5th Avenue

Conference Room 4050/4060

Commissioners Present:

Jody McKinley (presiding), Ricardo Frazer, Wyking Garrett, Holly Hinton, Alex Kochan, Ben London, DeVon Manier, Joan Sandler, Nicole Jon Sievers, Jon Stone, Karen P. Thomas, Marcus Womack, Nadine Zgonc

Commissioners Absent:

Adrian Burton, Megan Jasper, Emmy Jordan, Tom Mara, John Roderick, Patty Isacson Sabee

SMC Staff Present:

Kate Becker, Mikhael Mei Williams, Julie Borden

Call to Order:

The thirtieth meeting of the SMC was called to order at 12:15 p.m. by Jody McKinley

Public Comment:

Michael Smith (Mike Stage)

Make Music Day (Ed and Ramona)

- Gigs4U feels the Make Music Day is a good fit with their work
- Currently looking for funding – welcome ideas and resources
- Events in different cities are super-simple to elaborate, depending on desires of community
- Expecting budget to come in at minimum \$40k, maximum \$100k
- June 21, 2015 event date

Rob Solomon (Bach in the Subways)

- March 21, 2015 event date (Bach's birthday)
- 108 cities in 39 countries have signed up to participate
- List of already planned venues and musicians
- Looking for additional musicians
- Exclusive worldwide preview on day before at Benaroya Hall lobby
- Gathered list of endorsers and supporters – welcome additions
- Welcome all kinds musicians, any genre
- Have gotten support of KING FM
- Would be helpful if Commissioners are willing to post flyers where musicians will see them

Approval of Minutes:

Unanimous Approval of 9/17/14 Minutes

Welcome Office Staff

Mikhael Mei Williams, Creative Industries Advocate

Open Commission Positions

- Two seats open, one Mayor-appointed, one Council-appointed
- Mayor will appoint Hollis Wong-Wear, currently finishing paperwork and will be scheduled for Council confirmation
- Executive Committee will nominate Ed Pearson and Michael Compton to Council for selection
- Several Commissioners' terms will expire in 2015. All are eligible for extension if desired.

Committee Updates**Executive Committee****Initiative Ownership**

- Music Commission is a working group (not just advisory), so it is important to have clear understanding of who is committed to what work
- Intent of having initiative "owners" is to have leaders who set visions and goals with team
- Have opportunity to better organize tasks and to measure success
- Commissioners are invited to let Chairs know what their particular interests are and to discuss level of commitment
- Interest in reviving and refocusing work with Chamber – Ricardo

Amending SMC Work Plan

- 2020 Vision includes City of Musicians, City of Live Music, City of Music Business
- Commission has opportunity to be deliberate regarding support and growth of live music, nightlife, festivals
- Large Seattle area employers have identified cultural scene as being important to attracting top talent— Commission could work to leverage support
- Could organize survey/inventory of existing venues and their issues, including who owns
- Also look more closely at Arts Districts and how they are related to work
- Concerns about noise levels in City and complaints from residents; revive work around "protecting" existing nightlife areas from issues that arise as residences are developed
- City is looking at additionally restrictive noise ordinances; important for Commission to be involved in these policy discussions
- Executive Committee will continue discussion and make decisions of how to move forward with work

Policy + Communication**City of Music User Experience**

- Success story from artist: In 2-3 months has earned over \$16,000
- Have 5 areas for music, including a new one being added pre-security
- Pearl Jam exhibit will likely open early next year
- Sonic Highways episode focusing on Seattle and much of it filmed in the Sub Pop store will premier Friday, Nov. 28 on HBO

City of Music Branding and Collateral Material

- Mikhael is working to make plan for expanding communications about Commission
- Looking at how to tell stories of initiatives, Commissioners

- Finding best ways to communicate via website, social media, other

Youth + Community

New Committee Process with Arts Commissioners

- First two meetings have been quite successful
- Arts Commissioners are bringing fresh ways of looking at projects, additional resources
- Working well and planning to continue partnership

The Creative Advantage

- Holly continuing to find ways to connect people involved with CA to share information with PTAs, other groups
- There is now music/art education in 70 schools that had not had music/art classes since the 1980s
- Holly will circulate some additional stats
- There have been several issues in the leadership of Seattle Public Schools; so far Creative Advantage has stayed on track.
- New website has launched CreativeAdvantage.com

Career Day

- Arts Commissioners have stepped up to help with outreach and transportation
- Some concern that March 11 date is not going to work for venue and for transportation, may move to April

Roadshow Community Summits

- Partnering with Langston Hughes
- Event date set for January 31st, preceded by a focus group on Sat. Dec. 20th
- Partners include: Hack the CD, Vitamin D, Seattle Black Arts Alliance
- Arts Commissioners have offered to help with neighborhood activation toolkit, hoping to distribute at event; planning to collaborate with Matt Richter at OAC

Internship Program

- Have received hundreds of applications, including international
- Beginning application review this week

OFM Updates

2013-2014 Annual Report

- Mikhael advises to finish up and publish as-is this year since it is so late
- Will plan for design work and improved format for next year

Dance the Dream

- Successful event, lots of participation
- Organizer just produced similar event in Ferguson
- Documentary about project for PBS will include Seattle

Onebeat

- US State Department's musical initiative that brings artists from around the world for a residency in the US; write, produce and perform together
- Want to bring to Seattle as it is the City of Music and is an incubator of new ideas

- Found Sound Nation is organization that uses music for community development
- Onebeat brings 25 musicians from 40 potential countries chosen by State Department; varied genres, young musicians (19-35)
- Participants are working to use music to make their communities and the world better places
- Participants spend part of the residency together working and then take the workshops, performances on tour
- Excited to have more partnerships
- Sort of a reversal model of the usual cultural diplomacy; rather than exporting our great musicians, bringing world musicians together to explore how to use music to reach communities; often using technology in innovative ways
- Many success stories from participants developing programs that make differences in their home countries
- Program began in 2012, have had about 82 fellows participate; receive hundreds of applications and select 25
- Interested in Seattle because it is an emerging center for music, technology hub, innovative city; good opportunity for Seattle companies to have access to these musicians; informational exchange among Seattle organizations and fellows; Seattle is a creative center for filming and story telling
- Project was initially funded for 2 years, have been renewed for 2 more and expect to continue beyond
- Small group of fellows but have big impact on communities they visit and then their home communities after the residency
- Ideas for specific outputs: public performances free to attend; collaborating with local artists and partners; audio and video productions highlighting Seattle; creative public engagement; create opportunities for fellows to create social enterprise and connect with funders (new for Seattle)
- Considering Seattle for residency portion (2 weeks), but also for part of tour (probably 1 week)
- Program includes 5 US fellows; applications accepted in January
- Funding from State Department has been cut and is currently \$400k, have developed potential program enhancements depending on amount of additional funding that can be secured

Music Safety Summit

- Tabled

Meeting Adjourned

Future Music Commission Regular Meetings:

- **Wednesday, February 18, 2015**
- **Wednesday, April 15, 2015**
- **Wednesday, June 17, 2015**
- **Wednesday, September 16, 2015**
- **Wednesday, November 18, 2015**