

MINUTES

Seattle Music Commission Meeting

Wednesday, April 17, 2019 12:15 – 2:00 p.m.

Seattle City Hall, Boards & Commission Room L280

Commissioners Present: Reese Tanimura (Chair), Jennifer Czeisler, Jerry Everard, Catherine Harris-White, Joleen Hughes, Tony Kiewel, Tim Lennon, Sharlese Metcalf, Nate Omdal, Daniel Pak

Commissioners Absent: Sue Ennis, Ben Hunter, John Roderick, Ben Secord, Nicole Jon Sievers

SMC Staff Present: Meli Darby, Allie Lee, Alex Rose, Scott Plusquellec

Guests: Kate Becker, Elyse Lankford, Ben London

Call to Order: The second meeting of the SMC was called to order at 12:15 p.m. by Reese Tanimura

Public Comment:

- No public comment.

Guest Presenter: Ben London – Black Fret

- Ben London would like to bring the Black Fret project to Seattle to support our creative community, solve the demonetization of music, activate our tech community/newer wealth, and help further artists' careers:
 - [Black Fret](#) is a 501(c)3 tax exempt public charity headquartered in Austin, Texas. Their mission is to enable the creation and performance of new music by Austin's exceptional local musicians and aim to build an endowed institution capable of sustaining over a million dollars a year in grants to Austin musicians. To achieve this, they look for a limited group of dedicated local music fans to become Black Fret Members. Members pay annual dues to fund artist grants and performance fees. Members nominate the bands they love, gather to see them perform in interesting venues all over the city, and vote to allocate Black Fret grants to exceptional artists at the end of each year.
 - Artists are generally selected by donors, advisory board members, prior grant recipients, and KUTX staff
- The goal for Seattle is to raise \$100,000 by the end of 2019 to launch with a goal of granting \$75,000 in 2020. Several mixer events will happen through the end of 2019, and actual shows will start in January (looking at 15-20 shows in year one).
 - \$5,000-10,000 ask of Music Commission, as well as assistance with raising awareness
- **Alex Rose will share Ben's contact with the Seattle Music Commission**

Regular Commission Business:

- Minutes from February approved
 - Catherine Harris-White motioned to approve, Tom Kiewel seconded, all approved (no oppose, no abstain)
- SMC 2019 Parking Pass protocol: Passes will only work in the Sea Park Garage on Wednesdays, strictly between the hours of 11am and 4pm.
- The 2019 SMC Work Plan has been approved. Next steps:
 - Commissioner leads: We are requesting stewardship for action items. Please email preferences to Reese/Alex. → **Reminder will be sent out**
 - Remaining actions items will be assigned as needed
 - Pairs will also work
- Meli signs off as Interim Creative Economy Advocate. Will be continuing work in the Office of Film + Music as the Special Events Program Coordinator
- Honoring Kate Becker
 - Kate looks back at her work with the music commission and underscores the importance of Seattle as the first “City of Music.” Would like for the Music Commission to carry on with branding efforts and be aware that Lisa Herbold and Newell Aldrich from City Council and Dow Constantine from the County are supportive of the Commission and ready to make music happen!

Creative Economy Project Overview

- Reese and Tim give an introduction on how to reimagine the Commission’s work in a timely manner and how it can be aligned with the Creative Economy Project, proposed and led by consultant Vivian Phillips and ARTS Director Randy Engstrom.
 - Approach summary: Bringing together a group of key sector community partners to engage in a process that establishes a new vision and framework for creative industries. Focus is placed on economic opportunity, affordability, and racial equity and community wealth building
 - Internal handout with details provided
 - Creative Economy consultation: Vivian Phillips x Music Commission next Wednesday, April 24, 12:30 - 1:30
 - This meeting will happen during the regular Advocacy + Economic Development committee meeting, but all commissioners are invited. **Alex will send invitation and Creative Economy Report.**
- Thoughts from the Commission:
 - Tony: how do festivals fit in? The lower the threshold to throw those events at neighborhood/community level, the better for artists (getting paid).
 - A subgroup will meet and discuss permitting, police, but also the economic/social/cultural value
 - 20% of SPF30 budget went to policing and fees; Joleen met similar barriers with throwing St Patrick's party at her pub (fees for parking etc.)
 - We need a stronger racial equity lens and need to figure out how to provide resources back to the community/subsidize
 - What exactly do we want to see happening and how do we help make things happen comprehensively rather than fixing things one by one as they happen?

- Good timing with this project as it may cause full cost recovery disruption

Music Career Day Update

- Music Career Day is next Friday, April 26
- This year's goal was to have youth voice and leadership at the forefront
- Programming is done and published online: <https://onereel.org/2019comcdschedule>
- Kate Becker and Randy Engstrom will make opening remarks
- Keynotes are Sol and Emily Nokes; Cameron Lavi-Jones will be youth moderator
- Seeking afternoon programming (1pm – 3pm) volunteers from the Music Commission to help encourage shy youth and bring them to mentors
 - Sharlese will be there
 - Alex/Meli will send out an email reminder
- Promo video is out and circulating
- Kudos to Daniel Pak for starting the Music Career Day discussion at last fall's Youth Roundtables
- Ben London: this event originated out of local Grammy chapter, thank you for carrying the work forward

Seafair Update

- July 4th, 2019 SCCA Seafair Summer 4th of July Celebration @ Gas Works Park
 - Youth based performance non-profit or SMC Youth Round Table to program stage 2p – 5p
 - Programming to be announced Friday June 21 at official kickoff press conference
 - This is an opportunity for SMC Youth Roundtable participants and our community youth organizations to curate a whole stage. Should we have them lead the programming or should we take it on internally (Youth + Community subcommittee)?
- 2019 City of Music @ Seafair Music Ambassador
 - Catherine Harris-White (Sassy Black) was a previous music ambassador and recalls it being a great experience and having fun interaction with crowds. Feels it is underestimated because the event does not attract regular concert-goer crowds and is more family-centered but it is actually great exposure for young artists.
 - SMC to recommendation up to 10 candidates
 - Participation would include:
 1. June 21st, 2019 Seafair Kickoff event @ Space Needle
 2. July 4th, 2019 SCCA Seafair Summer 4th of July Celebration @ Gas Works Park
 3. July 27, 2019 Alaska Airlines Seafair Torchlight Parade
 - a. Pre-parade live performance in TV Zone @ 4th and Pine Seattle
 4. Additional optional events TBD
 - Prefers solos for ease of in and out, groups okay
 - Alex will follow up for recommendations
- City Hall Stage recommendations (for Jenny Ku, Event Coordinator @ ARTS)
 - Needs list of emerging local artists for a 1 hour lunch time concert
 - Larger bands acceptable
 - Paid
 - Alex will follow up for recommendations

Misc. Announcements & Updates

- Langston has space for youth art programming → Alex will send reminder
- [Langston Hughes African American Film Festival](#): 4/25-28
- Mastering the Hustle this weekend (4/20) on [Media Professionalism](#)
- Amazon events people contacted Sub Pop (Tony) about arranging a summer series of music events in Denny Park (Thursdays, 5-8pm window). Might be a potential branding opportunity for City of Music
 - Reese: Talks happening though other organizations as well. Involves community and Parks issues.
- Sasquatch! founder (and former Music Commissioner) Adam Zacks announced [Thing Festival](#) in Fort Worden, Port Townsend, WA: 8/24-25
- Totem Star is actively looking for 1200-2000 sq. ft. space that is 1-2 blocks away from light rail stations. Please send recommendations to Daniel Pak.
- Catherine Harris-White (Sassy Black) just finished her new record!
- Nate (w/ Musicians' Association of Seattle) has been acknowledging artists in need of reeducation in 2019 and is currently involved with consent/bargaining agreements training
- Sue Ennis will be featured on Joleen Hughes' [The Lawyer Who Rocks Podcast](#)
- Joleen Hughes has been appointed to the SIFF board

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm

Future Music Commission Regular Meetings:

2019 Meetings

June 19

September 18

November 13