

MINUTES
Seattle Music Commission Meeting
Wednesday, August 18, 2021 12-1:30 p.m.
Zoom Conference

Commissioners Present: Reese Tanimura (Chair), Daniel Pak, Nick Vaerewyck, Sue Ennis, Denise Burnside, Adra Boo, Eric Lilavois, Casey Carter, Paula Madrigal, Keola Kama, Ben Hunter, Shannon Welles, Jessica Toon, Kitty Wu, Bunnie Moore, Jason Clackley, Terry Morgan, Anne O’Dowd, Nate Omdal

Commissioners Absent: Sharlese Metcalf (Vice Chair), Jerry Everard, Joleen Hughes

City Staff Present: Alex Rose, Karissa Braxton, Shaprece Richardson, Scott Plusquellec

Call to Order: The was called to order at 12:04 p.m. by Reese Tanimura.

Public Comment: N/A

Welcome – Reese Tanimura

Reese welcomed new commissioners and noted that for the first time in a very long time the Music Commission is fully seated. We knew things were challenging before the pandemic. This time has offered an opportunity to reshape and reimagine the city that we can be.

This is Reese’s last full Commission meeting as a sitting member; Reese is rolling off the commission after being Chair for 3 ½, 4 years.

Ben Hunter announced that he is now the artistic director of Folklife

Daniel Pak performed a song to recognize outgoing Commissioners Reese Tanimura (2015-2021), Sharlese Metcalf (2016-2021), Ben Hunter (2017-2021), and Jerry Everard (2016-2021).

Regular Commission Business

Approval of 7/21/21 minutes – Sue Ennis moved and Daniel Pak seconded. Unanimous approval.

Leadership Transitions

Reese moved to nominate Kitty to Chair, Nate seconded – unanimous approval

Reese moved to nominate Pak to Vice Chair, Jessica seconded – unanimous approval

Connecting & Celebrating

Commissioners met in pairs and shared back what they learned about each other. Themes included:

- Songwriting
- Time of transition for the industry
- Making new, deeper connections, increasing networks during the pandemic
- Advocacy
- Fluidity between projects and committees
- Reopening venues amid rising COVID cases
- Visibility/branding for SMC
- Align SMC and Recording Academy around advocacy efforts
- Make info and opportunities more accessible, esp. for younger generation, mentorship
- Unique business models, business incubators
- Collaboration and connections here benefit the community

Overview of Office of Economic Development Recovery Priorities – Karissa Braxton, Dir. of Communications and Strategy, OED

OED is managing just over \$20M for the purposes of investing in economic recovery activities

- Spending beginning this year
- Some of this will be going to new programs, some will expand existing programming
- Trying to meet the most immediate needs
- Straddling recovery and response, given the delta variant

OED priority program areas:

1. Small business technical assistance
2. Direct financial assistance and access to capital
3. Neighborhood recovery investments
4. Commercial affordability investments
5. Workforce development

Q: What funding is available for creative industries?

- Investments that will be specific, and more that are general (workers, small businesses)
- Small biz stabilization fund – approved to open the next round
- New program: trying to get the vacant storefront project up and running in commercial corridors – will create pop-ups and incubator spaces for creative workers
- [Youth web design program](#) – BIPOC owned businesses without a web presence partner with young people who build skills in web design. Benefits to both businesses and the youth are:
 - o Paid workforce development experience, skills development, portfolio building
 - o Businesses adapt to ecommerce expectations, help them stay competitive

Q: Would rent for the pop-up spaces be subsidized by the City, or would the cost be negotiated down? Who pays for that, how does it become more accessible?

- Yes, the city would subsidize. We just received approval and will make sure to share updates with the group
- Note: Jazz nonprofit trying to create a space in the void of Tula's, which closed right before pandemic.

- Scott and Alex can help figure those specifics out

Q: Is the storefront initiative through Shunpike? Or a separate program?

- Follow up

Q: Will there be a continuance beyond September of the Created Commons programming? And could that be combined with the storefront initiative?

- Follow up

Committee Updates

City of Music Career Day – Jaeun Kim

- Jae is posting posters all over Seattle
- Need help recruiting young folks to attend
- Sent out an email to ask folks to share Career Day on your orgs' IGs and FBs
- DM young folks you have in mind

Advocacy + Economic Development

- Next meeting 8/25 at 12:30
- Performances and space – lots of DIY performances will be happening, how to equip people and lower barriers
- IATSE hiring halls

Youth + Community

- Next meeting is 9/1 at noon
- In recent years, focus has included
 - Music and arts education opportunities, career pipelines – e.g. City of Music Career Day and Roadshows
 - SPS Media Arts Skills Centers
 - Youth roundtables
 - The Mixer
 - Racial equity trainings
 - [The CAP Report](#): 30 Ideas for the Creation, Activation & Preservation of Cultural Space
 - Digital equity
- This year created 3 work groups: Antiracist Strategies, Cultural Education, Career Day/Road Shows
- Returning to joint Arts Commission and Music Commission model to include more art forms
- Will need to have a new committee chair or co-chairs, now that Pak is moving to SMC Vice Chair

Pak and Nate working to do more cross-pollination

- Whatever we want to see happen, each of us has the freedom and the ability to bring our initiatives to the committees
- Then need to set priorities

Let's continue the interconnection with the Arts Commission and Film Task Force to **leverage collective voice and advocate for arts, culture, and creative sector:**

- FED (Facilities & Equitable Development Committee of Seattle Arts Commission) – perhaps invite SAC leadership to share info about cultural space
- Opportunities to interact with athletics as well
- Opportunities to interact with Special Events Committee
- Opportunity to reimagine and reset

Reese and Alex have put together some materials to share background and get our wheels turning

- 2018 and 2019 creative economy survey, and regional and national surveys and studies
- Some of the advocacy that we've done around staffing and budgets over the years
- Alex to follow up with new commissioners

Meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.