

MINUTES

Seattle Music Commission Meeting

Wed, January 17th, 2024, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

HYBRID Virtual/In-Person

Commissioners Present:

Kitty Wu, Chair, Jason Clackley, Vice Chair, Jessica Toon, Adra Boo, Jovino Santos Neto, Denise Burnside, Bunnie Moore, Shannon Welles, Keola Kama, Nick Vaerewyck, Paula Madrigal, Andrea Freidman, Anne O’Dowd. Kelli Faryar, Nick Turner, Terry Morgan

Commissioners Absent:

Nate Omdal, Andrew Joselyn, Juluis Caesar Robinson, Casey Carter, Eric Lilavois

SMC Staff Present:

Scott Plusquellec, OED

Guests:

Virginie Nadimi, SDOT, Seven Sky, Alan Bryant

Call to Order:

The ORDINAL meeting of the SMC was called to order at 12:06 p.m. by Chair Kitty Wu, with a land acknowledgement.

Public Comment:

None

Update on SDOT Musician Parking Survey:

Virginie Nadimi, SDOT Curbside Management Team, gave update on Parking Survey

- Great response rate, especially from live music venues, essentially heard from all venues in City of Seattle
- Deck of survey responses can be found here: [MPLZ survey results](#)

Question on the ratio of No Park fees to on street parking meters? Virginie to check.

Virginie – love for feedback on survey, what is exciting what is worrisome, what more should be considered?

Jason reviewed SMC next steps:

- he and Kitty are making plans to meet with new Councilmembers, especially Rob Saka, new transportation chair.
- Also check in with Nelson. But seems like there is movement behind it.

Is there a budget block to get this done?

- There may be impact depending on the permit fees.
- Need to figure out who manages the permit, handle applications, etc – would add to cost.

- SDOT needs to identify.

Point - Other costs to security at venues to monitor the no parks, to make sure no one parks.

Nick T – can we also look at helping venues get backlines installed. Might help with musicians not needing to haul in equipment.

Timeline – drafting the legislation can take awhile, and then getting it passed. Hopefully a year, may have a temp one prior.

Final thoughts:

- Yellow parking zones – can anyone park after the time frame?
- New apartment buildings with no parking required.
- Maybe the permit needs to be a paper handed to the musician that doesn't need to be returned, venue prints out – like Seattle Center.

Break for lunch

Breakout Rooms:

Commissioners were divided into three groups – two online in breakout rooms, and one for the in person attendees in the room.

Discussion points:

1. What skill set do I bring to the Commission?
2. How will I meaningfully contribute to the work of the Commission in 2024?
3. What is a tangible, manageable need I see within the music industry that I would like to work on with the Commission?

In Person Group:

Kelli – Was thinking about her work at the waterfront. It's relatively new in way of engaging forks. The work here in the Commission needs to be brought into that work. Where are there opportunities? How do we shine light and give back to places like Vera. Still finding that she is coming in to the commission, where are the main points to connect. Would love to be part of the Revisioning committee. Great to see the components pulled out in the committee work.

Jessica – everyone is still learning what the commission does, commission is evolving as well, and the administration. One of the reasons that we asked these questions. Want people to feel worth. You are not alone.

Jovino – one of my main skills is being old. Longtime musician, but also worked globally. SO, bring that perspective. Like to dream a lot about how things can be. City could be better at being “commissioners” ie commission musicians. City that prides itself as City of Music – how do we wrap in music at places like the streetcar, waterfront. Try to create channels of fluidity. What I can bring to commission – education side

Keola – super inquisitive, good listener, hope that I ask good questions due to inquisitive, problem solving. Bringing those skills to commission. Still interested in the Musician Guaranteed Wage. Feel that can be a game changer and lead other cities.

Shannon – systems thinker, organizer, deep venue knowledge from years of working at venues, good writer, enjoy writing and good at making case statements. Like to be more involved in talking to Council, wrapping up the revisioning, working on the MPLZ project. Am here if you need meetings and writing, am unemployed right now!

Andrea – interested in basic income, connecting to city having a standard wage for musicians. Working on the parking issue.

Jessica – big picture thinker, like puzzles and pulling things apart and put back together. Not super organized with my time. Marketing, Comms, advocacy, still feeling our way about how to be best advocates, many different level of government and each works differently. Love participating in this work. Like to think about how what we talk about affects not only musicians and venues but attendees. Want to continue with revisioning work, getting more investment from corporate side in the arts. Leveraging the commission to pitch that.

Jason – skills- making sure there are fluid cross sections in the creative economy, supporting young artists finding new places to play, actualizing the City of Music vision. Making sure our industry has all the infrastructure it needs.

Kitty – love editing, always be here and present. Want to help bring the visual components that we've lost. Revisioning work done by September.

Group 1 recap:

Nick (SubPop)

Record label experience

Small business side

City government advocacy

** Still trying to figure out committees to see where his passion lies

*** Supporting DIY/grassroots spaces that get often overlooked, practical measures that can benefit musicians (parking, practice spaces, etc), musicians wage conversation

Paula

Composer/musician

Educator

International connections

Non-profit experience

Youth access to resources

** Focus on Career Day, attending more higher advocacy meetings (city/county/govt), Connecting with council members

*** Support/fund youth opportunities to study music- accessible to all youth, advocacy for livable wages for musicians to live and stay in Seattle, advocacy for non-cis men for competitive wages and opportunities to be more representative of women and diverse populations!

Denise

Musician long time

Venue owner and leadership

Developed locations/redesign

Solution-based thinking

**Able to work within teams to reach solutions, still really looking to find what is the most meaningful thing to champion

***definitely willing to work alongside my colleagues here, (absolutely interested in) How do we support musicians more/focusing on musicians more? How do we get more workforce development for musicians? How do we create spaces that are subsidized for recording/creation/etc similar to funding/resources for film? Can vanshare access be rented for overnights and short tours- a collaboration with Metro and musicians? Guaranteed income (actually GRANTS) that than help stabilize musicians in the city

Adra

Vocalist/writer/Performer

Theater experience

Emcee/hosting/public speaking

Business coaching and business resources

** Be the ear and voice for those who are not at the table nor in the room, find where my skills can best be put to use

*** I am still trying to figure out a specific tangible, but we need to be able to afford, live, and strive in Seattle, so I'm interested in how to get us there always

Group 2 – notes not received – need to track down

Full Group reconvenes:

Great exercise. Great to be in person talking to each other.

Adra – what makes the most sense for us to be pushing hard on. Advocacy around people who are not cis men. Living wage. Parking – how do we get the work done.

Nick V– great talk lots of experience we all bring collectively. Relationships we have. Seeing the fruits of our labors is great, understanding how we can affect the change. We can all participate more, speak more, bringing our experience.

Terry – would like to see commission become more publicly visible. Would like a front facing agenda that public can see. Encourage the city to make the arts as visible as possible.

Regular Commission Business: Approval of September minutes – Jessica motioned, Adra seconded, all in favor, none opposed, none abstained

Approval of November minutes – Keola motioned, Adra seconded, all in favor, none opposed, none abstained

Adjourned 1:30