



MERIDIAN ARTS COMMISSION MEETING

City Council Chambers, 33 East Broadway Avenue Meridian, Idaho

Thursday, August 12, 2021 at 3:30 PM

MINUTES

VIRTUAL MEETING INSTRUCTIONS

To join the meeting online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87963150508>

Or join by phone: 1-669-900-6833

Webinar ID: 879 6315 0508

ROLL-CALL ATTENDANCE

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lizzie Taylor	<input type="checkbox"/> Maria Tzompa
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Peters, Vice Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jenifer Cavaness-Williams
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natalie Schofield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thomas Vannucci
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bonnie Zahn Griffith, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Raeya Wardle
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leslie Mauldin	<input type="checkbox"/> Joe Borton, Ex-Officio

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

J. Peters made motion to adopt agenda, seconded by J. Cavaness-Williams.

All ayes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES [ACTION ITEM]

1. Minutes from July 8, 2021 Regular Meeting

A. Belnap will amend monthly minutes due to a typo.

T. Vannucci made motion to approve with revision, seconded by N. Schofield.

All ayes

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS [ACTION ITEM]

2. Approve Monthly Financial Statement

J. Peters requested explanation of payments made to Sector 17 since mural location still topic of discussion. A. Belnap explained payments were for the design so even if Meridian's Boise Co-Op is not confirmed as the location, MAC still owns the mural design.

J. Peters made motion to approve the monthly financial statement, seconded by T. Vannucci.

All ayes

REPORTS [ACTION ITEM]

Update: Initial Point Gallery Subcommittee

3. Minutes from July 28, 2021 Initial Point Gallery Subcommittee Meeting
N. Schofield gave a synopsis of the Subcommittee meeting minutes (see Agenda Item #4 and Agenda Item #5).
4. Initial Point Gallery Current and Future Exhibits
N. Schofield reported on the recent gallery installation and that 16 people attended the opening reception. N. Schofield noted the gallery will be open two evenings in September besides during City Hall's regular business hours.
B. Griffith requested explanation of gallery space being used as back-up space for Concerts on Broadway performances. A. Belnap explained that this is still in discussion but will report back on this during the October MAC meeting.
L. Mauldin spoke in favor of using the gallery as a back-up space and gave example of a past concert with out-of-state performers which would have been cancelled if gallery space had not been used. L. Mauldin noted a review of contract language may be needed and requested a copy of the current contract. E. Kane provided explanation of contract language in terms of payment due to artists when inclement weather arises but noted the contract does not address using the gallery space as a back-up at this time.
5. Update on the Selection of Artists for the Initial Point Gallery Schedule 2022
N. Schofield reported that the Subcommittee discussed upcoming gallery artists and worked on filling the 2022 exhibit calendar and creating list of new artists to contact.

Update: Events & Outreach Subcommittee

6. Minutes from July 26, 2021 Events & Outreach Subcommittee Meeting
L. Mauldin gave a synopsis of the Subcommittee meeting minutes (see Agenda Item #7 and Agenda Item #8).
7. Activities Planned for Art Week 2021
L. Mauldin reported groups are lined up to present small classes during Art Week and locations for Art week activities have been selected.
8. Scheduled Performers for Concerts on Broadway
L. Mauldin reported that all bands are booked but working on getting the openers scheduled.

Update: Public Art Subcommittee

9. Minutes from July 27, 2021 Public Art Subcommittee Meeting

J. Peters gave a synopsis of the Subcommittee meeting minutes (see Agenda Item #10, Agenda Item #11, and Agenda Item #12) and noted majority of meeting spent discussing Ten Mile Trailhead Project.

10. Ten Mile Trailhead Next Steps

J. Peters noted the Subcommittee clarified this project, talked through what went wrong, and how to make the process more efficient in the future. J. Peters explained the next Subcommittee meeting will be used to discuss the piece selected and identify any desired amendments/changes to be discussed with the artist. J. Peters will present final project design at a future MAC meeting.

11. Meridian Mural Series Next Steps

A. Belnap reported the Meridian Cycles property mural artist is preparing to do installation in September. A. Belnap reported that she is still waiting to hear from the Boise Co-op Meridian property owners regarding the easement agreement. E. Kane confirmed she has been in touch with the property owners' lawyers and will give them a date to respond on their final decision. A. Belnap will ask Finance about impact of not having a commitment prior to the end of the current Fiscal Year in terms of allotted money for this project. A. Belnap reported that the Meridian Library District's new Unbound library branch has provided a soft agreement to be the next mural location so Subcommittee will draft agreement and plan to start design process this Fall.

12. Public Art Plan Next Steps

J. Peters reported Subcommittee working through the Plan by identifying planning pieces. J. Peters noted Subcommittee will have a workshop in October to discuss ideas and structure for where Subcommittee sees public art in Meridian in the future, and opportunity to brainstorm.

NEW BUSINESS [ACTION ITEMS]

13. Administrative Update: Roles and Responsibilities of the Meridian Arts Commission and the Arts & Culture Coordinator

Presentation given by E. Kane, Deputy City Attorney (see attachment)

B. Griffith opened the floor for questions.

L. Taylor expressed concern over City staff becoming part of the IPG selection process and asked if this would be through expressed interest or simply delegated to participate on selection committee. E. Kane responded that the City staff person would be the Arts and Culture Coordinator serving as the voice of the City.

J. Peters requested explanation of what benefit E. Kane expects or problem that would be solved by having a City staff member participate in deliberations. E. Kane gave example of 2021 IPG submission review and the question of A. Belnap's role

in this process which sparked larger discussion of who does what and what are next steps in MAC's evolution.

J. Peters inquired what happens if MAC members and City staff member disagree on something. E. Kane responded that this is still a collaboration and she is not suggesting the Arts and Culture Coordinator would be in charge but would instead have a vote and be included in the decision-making process and it would be majority rules.

L. Mauldin requested to review the "Next Step Roles – IPG" slide and suggested a shared role between Operational functions and the Subject Matter Expert functions in the selection of artists. E. Kane amended the slide being reviewed – bullet point under Operational functions changed from "Select artists from pool of applications" to "Participate in selection of artists from pool of applications".

B. Griffith stated that she feels the City staff person should be there to support the Commissioners in their art selection roles.

T. Vannucci gave example of Disneyland Nighttime Parade in order to maintain creative intent but meet operational goals. T. Vannucci stated that Commissioners are the subject matter experts with both subjective and objective knowledge and experience which helps the Operations fulfill the mission of the Executives.

T. Vannucci expressed concern that A. Belnap will be put in a bad position between subject matter experts and Executives with E. Kane's current proposal so requested clarity in order to avoid this. L. Mauldin agreed with T. Vannucci that it is not fair to A. Belnap. T. Vannucci stated he is not hearing a solution that addresses how MAC truly collaborates with the City without putting the Arts and Culture Coordinator in jeopardy. E. Kane responded and agreed with T. Vannucci that MAC is more complex than some of the other City Commissions.

L. Taylor noted that ad hoc is not necessarily bad since MAC deals with subjective matters and suggested MAC need not be so compartmentalized to avoid being bound in objectivity.

J. Peters commented on impact to various City staff in terms of MAC's projects. Asked S. Siddoway and A. Belnap to comment on their vision of arts in Meridian and thoughts on how to support that and if MAC can continue to dream big in light of limited resources. S. Siddoway stated that he believes in MAC's mission to nurture the arts in Meridian and it's his goal to help MAC be effective and efficient in achieving that mission even with limited resources A. Belnap needs the ability to work within the resources but that this should not stop conversations of what might be because Parks and Recreation is a solution-oriented department. S. Siddoway stated that he does not see this discussion about roles and responsibilities as a means to take authority away from MAC, but need to clarify and define A. Belnap's role in MAC. Agrees with edit E. Kane made to "Next Step Roles – IPG" slide.

N. Schofield wants to clarify are there Administrative functions or Operational functions that the Commissioners could do more of to support the Arts and Culture Coordinator or are Commissioners solely tasked with Subject Matter

Expert functions. E. Kane responded that she is not closely involved enough to provide that clarification so defers to the Arts and Culture Coordinator. A. Belnap responded that her focus is to increase MAC's and her position's efficiency in order to increase MAC's effectiveness in terms of MAC's mission.

J. Peters suggested the next step be discussions within each subcommittee about where to find efficiencies and how to move forward operationally. L. Mauldin and B. Griffith both agreed with J. Parker's suggested next steps. E. Kane stated that no formal vote necessary to approve next steps – just need Commission's consensus.

NEXT MEETING - October 14, 2021

ADJOURNMENT

L. Mauldin made motion to adjourn meeting, seconded by J. Cavaness-Williams.

All ayes