

**Seattle Film Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, January 22, 2024, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM**

**Seattle Film Commissioners:** Beth Barrett, Laura Jean Cronin, Lowell Deo, Champ Ensminger, Tom Florino, Mark Freid, Michael Huang, Kat Ogden, Melissa Purcell, Anthony Tackett



**Staffed By Office of Economic Development:** Chris Swenson, Taylor Durand-Scaggs

*Note: As always, these are "raw minutes notes" based on the discussion of the 04/22/24 meeting and do not include every word spoken - not a literal transcript - merely a summary of ideas.*

**Call to Order**

1. Roll Call
  - a. Beth Barrett, Michael Huang, Tom Florino are absent today. Their absence is excused due to prior commitments.
2. Land Acknowledgement
3. Public Comment
  - a. None

**General Order of Business**

4. Review and approve 12/18/24 meeting minutes
  - a. Meeting Minutes Approved.
5. Review of past commitments and events
  - a. ATOMIC Georgetown Studios Tour
    - i. Playful, social engineering atmosphere. Tour was enjoyed. There is at least one control room, and it's quite impressive. The overall layout is described as a maze. The largest room spans 2-3 thousand square feet. Someone suggested it could be ideal for music videos but studio is currently very busy, and scheduling would be necessary.
  - b. Business lunch with Puget sound CEO of Salam
    - i. Spoke of economic predictions. President Nintendo spoke which was a one takeaway. Redmond has built a lot of satellites.
6. Preview of upcoming commitments and events
  - a. 2024 City of Seattle Creative Economy Career Day – February 9, 2024
    - i. There are 350 registered attendees, including representatives from commissions who have pre-registered. The event will host major

companies and focus on discussions related to the creative economy, technology, gaming, and others.

- b. Film Day in Olympia – March 7, 2024
  - i. Has been done in the past, arranged by Washington state film commission (FilmWorks). Not a legislations year, more of a awareness year. Going to be virtually. Grabbing a backdrop is highly encouraged. Check Washington FilmWorks website to register.
- c. 2024 AFCI
  - i. August 2024

## 7. Committee and workgroup updates

- a. Executive Committee (Kat Ogden)
  - i. Kat discusses her availability and addresses budget considerations, proposing constructive ways to allocate funds for AFCI. She suggests drafting the ideas and sharing them on Slack.
- b. Economic and Workforce Development (Tom Florino)
  - i. Tom is not in today. Anothony will speak as vice chair of the Committee.
  - ii. Spoke about AFCI discussion in August. Reassess budget funds (Amazon) and wondering how much commission is willing to spend (matching). Amazon is facing layoffs this includes a large pool of creatives looking for work. Connect with local folks who are laid off. This could be advantage to us for workforce development. SIFF is good leveraging amazon IP.
  - iii. Tom suggested that with WA Filmworks on a join study on impact.
  - iv. OED should consider other targets such as people looking for a career change.
  - v. Habor island studios having a workshop for people who are interested in film and camera work. Currently working on flyers. Anthony mentions Local 15 and Local 488 and emphasizes the need for more diversity and stepping in for community engagement. His goal is to create a balanced and welcoming environment. He introduces a peer-to-peer workshop development approach called ad hoc. Anthony offers to bring in individuals for the next meeting.
  - vi. In response to Budi's question about workshop examples, there are mentions of rip electric cameras, steady cam devices, and the involvement of skateboarders and other gadgets.
- c. Policy (Mark Fried)

- i. Priority recommendation went to committee. AI policy is under review and will be workshopped. Will be scheduled for future meeting to be discussed.
  - ii. As part of policy the film commission has not mentioned environmental film adaption. Wants to give examples how others have done it. It is a little time consuming to compost recycle. Companies get green credit and how the city of Seattle can incorporate. Needs a lot of work and had not been discussed. Others mentioned how they have a lot of ideas and want to discuss more. King county is an example of how they helped a company get green credit.
- d. Marketing Branding and Initiatives (Beth)
- i. No updates due to excused absences. Updates from previous meeting was discussed.

## **Presentation**

8. Permit Reform Equity Survey – A/V Consulting
- a. Presentation by equity consultants Alma Villegas and Eliza Carrington on the Permit Reform Equity Survey for A/V Consulting. They have a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) framework and aim to conduct an RSJI analysis to identify future barriers for BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and underserved communities.
  - b. The information shared suggests a focus on addressing educational needs rather than advocating for policy changes.
  - c. Mark Fried expressed a desire to delve more deeply into his comments regarding the presented information.

## **Office of Economic Development**

9. City production office space @ KCTS building (OED)
- a. OED is days away from signing an agreement with Seattle Center to take over the old KCTS / Cascade Media building and turn it into a Creative Industries hub, with the focus on Film first and foremost.
  - b. The area can serve as temporary office space for film productions, industry meetings, SFC gatherings, mixers, and various other purposes. This will play a crucial role in retaining and attracting film productions.
  - c. OED plans to organize a meeting with the SFC and film stakeholders for a tour in the near future.

10. Update on Mixer and RFF Budget

- a. OED is putting together an RFF to find an organization to rethink the Mixer and how it will operate moving forward.

### **Upcoming Events**

- b. SFC Retreat – Tabled

### **Adjourn**