

MINUTES
Seattle Music Commission Meeting
Wednesday, September 15, 2021 12-1:30 p.m.
MS Teams Conference

Commissioners Present: Kitty Wu, Jovino Santos Neto, Sue Ennis, Jason Clackley, Denise Burnside, Jessica Toon, Eric Lilavois, Casey Carter, Daniel Pak, Bunnie Moore, Anne O’Dowd, Nick Vaerewyck, Adra Boo, Keola Kama, Shannon Welles

Commissioners Absent: Terry Morgan, Joleen Hughes, Andrew Joslyn, Paula Madrigal, Nate Omdal

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

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order along with welcome at 12:05 p.m. by Kitty Wu.

Public Comment: (2-minute limit per comment) (12:06 – 6 min)
Quick hello from Jabrii Polk who listened in

City Of Music Career Day recap 12:12-6min)

Our first virtual career day was a success! Great to work with Connors & Co and have such strong representation from the Commission!

- 130 or so “General Admission” registrations, ~80 actively in attendance
- Used the Hopin platform
- 4 panels (2 blocks with 2 simultaneous panels), plus flash mentoring and opportunity fair, MC Da Qween, pre-recorded performance from local artist (and alum of Sound Off! and The Residency) NĚSTRÄ. [More on program here.](#)
- Reflections from Commissioners who took part:

Keola – as a mentor, talked with a young person and someone with more experience

- Panels looked amazing, would have loved to check them out!

Casey - also a mentor, had really deep and meaningful conversations; some were shy and didn’t go on camera – made me miss in-person networking, been continuing in conversation with 3 artists

Jessica – table fair, software was really cool, talked about Grammy U, lots of applications for their internship

Sue – enjoyed mentoring time, long conversations then turned into a little class, talked with a student from Nova High School (“how do you write a song”), had some great follow ups and thank yous

Nick – also a mentor, excited to have the in-person experience

Jovino – had a great time, interesting conversations

Eric – follow up has been tremendous – emails kept coming after the fact

Pak – moderated a panel “Finding Community While Developing Your Craft”, three young artists/creative workers, they were really honest, great to see them giving back now – all have attended Career Day in the past – our work here is so important in bringing up the next generation

Bunnie – a mentor as well, just a few years ago I was an attendee, at 2019 Career Day was tabling with Grammy U, interconnection – talked about Shoreline and Grammy U and could refer students to those tables

Jason – able to pop in and out

- Follow up email to all registrants will include recordings of the panels, link to Road Shows interest form (already got a bit of a response from plugging this at Career Day) – will make sure you get a copy of this email as well
- Next up is Film Career Day on Sat. Nov 6 in partnership with NFFTY
- Kudos to Alex and team!

Connecting & Celebrating: 1-on-1 check ins in breakout rooms (12:30 – 15 min)

New commissioners paired with established commissioners

Group broke out into small groups to give new commissioners a chance to ask established commissioners questions related to joining the commission

Regular commission business: approval of 8/18 minutes (12:45 – 2 min)

Sue moved, Jessica seconded – unanimous approval

Committee updates (12:47 – 13 min)

Question: will this body have a role in reviewing [Bumbershoot RFP](#) responses?

- There’s certainly an economic development angle
- SMC would have to approach Seattle Center about it
 - o Alex f/u with Reese, Adra
 - o Invite Marc Jones to address committee?
 - o Robert Nellams?
- Not just considering it as an operator for the event, but also inviting changes to format, location
- Megan Jasper (former Music Commissioner) sat on RFP review panel for the Key Arena redevelopment
- Lots of history and connections on this commission with Bumbershoot

Just about all new commissioners have chosen a committee to join – thank you!

A+ED needs temporary leadership back up

- Reminder to give folks a heads up if you won’t be able to make a meeting (last A+ED meeting had very low attendance)

- Nate took an organizing job that has pulled him away from SMC for a couple months; we are looking for proxies to stand in for Nate at 9/22 and 10/27 A+ED meetings
 - o Terry has agreed to serve as proxy chair for 9/22
 - o Let's discuss who might be able to do it for 10/27
- Next meeting is Weds 9/22 at 12:30

Y+C introduce new chairs!

- Focus has been on career pipelines to further creative youth development
- Internships, youth roundtables, the mixer
- Digital equity, racial equity,
- Pak no longer the chair, passing the torch to 2021 Y+C co-chairs Jason Clackley and Paula Madrigal
- Next meeting is Weds Oct 6 at noon

People, place, program

- Amazing people in the room, lots of programs, but PLACE is not really addressed
 - o Pak's last year on the commission, would like to think about some structure to support cultural space (maybe via Cultural Space Agency)
 - Where are our young people going to live and create?
 - Follow up with Pak if interested! Possibly create a work group
 - Jason working on establishing a cultural space
 - Adra: Rain City Rock Camp is interested in cultural space as well
 - The Facilities and Equitable Development Committee from Arts Commission has been a joint and many SMC folks have participated.
- At a recent Cultural Space Agency mtg, Matthew Richter shared that Seattle's population is 40% people of color, who only own 6% of arts & cultural spaces

Execs: bylaws reviews

- Y+C has built bridges and invited lots of new people in, which has developed new energy and connections
- However, bylaws say that standing committees are commissioner only committees
 - o Want to update our bylaws
 - o Last amendment happened in 2013
 - o Take a look at the bylaws and send comments to Kitty, Pak, or Alex – Alex send bylaws to all
 - Amending our Bylaws is the beginning of the narrative we write for the future of the SMC
 - Can address things like term limits for committee members, accountability, responsibility

Government updates:

SMC communications

Communications team will be publishing a blog post, updating the website, and sharing social media posts introducing new commissioners – Alex/Shaprece will share out when these are ready (hopefully this week)

City budget

- 9/27 (last Mon of Sept.) Mayor sends her proposed budget to Council
- By mid-October, Seattle Arts Commission submits letter to City Council by regarding proposed ARTS budget (referring to SAC budget priorities letter sent to Mayor in the spring)
- Council develops a list of issues for review during October and November.
 - o During Council's review period, City Council's website will note when they open up their meetings for public comment and advance sign-up is required to do so. The Arts Commission typically shares its funding priorities with community/networks and invites them to participate in public comment.
 - Consider how the Music Commission might have a similar approach
- November – December / Council adopts budget
- [More on the budget process here](#)

CLFR proposals and funding opportunities

- CLFR = Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery, federal recovery funding that the City will be receiving and putting to use
- OED has proposed technical assistance programs for small businesses, permitting support, financial assistance to small businesses
- One of the more specific programs that got approved is a program to pair musicians with non-traditional music spaces – retail stores, cafes and other businesses that have been hit by the pandemic (and wouldn't normally have live music)
 - o pay the artists a living wage
 - o campaign of advertising and promotions to help drive traffic to the businesses
 - o \$140k budget
 - o Aim to start around the holidays

King County grants to creative sector: <https://kingcountycreative.com/home/arts-and-culture-fund/>

Brainstorm outdoor cultural spaces (1:10 – 15 min)

- getting prepared for the rainy season, changes in venue guidelines
- venues that could use the rain as an "aesthetic feature" – e.g. Chihuly, convention center roof over Pike St
 - maybe the Central Library
 - consider HVAC and air quality/safety
 - Pratt Park has covered basketball area – kind of big, maybe programmable on a night that won't displace youth activities – need to arrange for power
 - agree on outdoor covered gyms!
 - Atrium at Pike Place
 - There's a gate now, but under the overpass
 - neighborhoods?
 - Sound Transit stops? Lots of +1s for this

Other countries have music (even on trains), music acts as a part of creating safety in public spaces

10. Next steps (1:25 – 5 min)

- send ideas for outdoor performance spaces to Kitty, Shaprece

- see above for additional highlighted action items

- last 100 days of Mayor Durkan's term

- collective advocacy

- King County vaccination mandates

- King County is issuing a directive requiring proof of vaccination for events over 500. Many producers are already requiring proof of vaccination, so this isn't necessarily new but it does make flow through events more difficult to manage.

- keep an eye out for more on this

- Next full commission meeting agenda

- bylaws? Consider discussing in Executive Session

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.