

MINUTES
Seattle Music Commission Meeting
Wednesday, 1/19/22, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.
Remote Zoom Call

Commissioners Present: Kitty Wu (Chair), Daniel Pak (Vice Chair), Nick Vaerewyck, Sue Ennis, Casey McKay, Jessica Toon, Anne O’Dowd, Shannon Welles, Terry Morgan, Paula Madrigal, Nate Omdal, Andrew Josyln, Bunnie Moore, Jason Clackley, Adra Boo, Eric Lilavois, Keola Kama, Jovino Santos Neto

Commissioners Absent: Denise Burnside, Joleen Hughes

SMC Staff Present: Alex Rose, Scott Plusquellec

Call to Order: The meeting of the SMC was called to order at 12:07 p.m. by Kitty Wu

Land Acknowledgement: Vice Chair Pak provided the Land Acknowledgment

Public Comment:

- Ethan Anderson – local musician, governor for PNW Chapter of the Grammys, WA Dems rep for 36th district democrats
 - With help of the PNW Chapter of the Recording Academy, looking into guaranteed income programs for artists
 - SF example: <https://sfmayor.org/article/mayor-breed-announces-launch-guaranteed-income-pilot-program-san-francisco-artists>
 - St. Paul example: <https://mspmag.com/arts-and-culture/springboard-for-the-arts-launches-guaranteed-income-pilot/>
 - NY state example: <https://www.creativesrebuildny.org/>
 - NIVA, Musicians’ Union, Recording Academy: Andrew, Jessica, Steven Severin, Nate Omdal, Andy Stokes, Timmie Dolan
 - Trying to propose this via transition team
 - Interest from the Mayor’s Office
 - Challenge to determine who would receive and how to allocate
 - Musicians in particular could greatly benefit
 - Advocacy around this – need an “Ikea kit” for this issue
 - Who are we trying to help, who are we not trying to help
 - Looking for connections in SF – Alex can help
 - Connect with Jessica Toon if you’d like to be part of this conversation
 - Need to address questions of equity – what is a qualifying artist
 - Lots of people have had to move outside of King County (how does SF do this – limited to city limits?)
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rCups Overview – Shannon Welles

- Reusable cups
- Shannon has been working on program about sustainability and reducing waste
- Been in conversation with [R Cup](#), who have been talking with City of Seattle
 - plastic, can be washed and reused thousands of times
 - when cups have reached the end of their lifecycle, they are recycled
- Seattle Public Utilities underspend – \$16-20k – plus matching funding from WA Environmental Council
- Also in conversation with Kate Becker/King County
- suggested cups be branded with Seattle City of Music
 - Is this branding still viable? Do we need a brand update?
 - Example: <https://youtu.be/h-1uSJKOsWE>
 - Need approval of SMC to use
 - Would need to know in the next month
- Trying to get it up and running in the spring

Regular Commission Business

- *Approval of Minutes:*
 - Unanimous Approval of November 17, 2021 Minutes [Sue motions, Jessica seconded]

Mayoral Transition Committee Updates - Kitty Wu

Kitty on the Arts, Culture, Film and Music transition team (along with Kate Becker, Sung Yang, royal alley-barnes, Quinton Morris, Duff McKagan, Dr. Quinton Morris, Manny Cawaling, Melisa Purcell)

- Some major themes
 - Trust with the Mayor's office has been broken
 - COVID having a lasting effect – first to close, last to reopen
 - Safety downtown and citywide
 - Mayor can use his pulpit to influence private sector
 - Private sector likes to highlight the arts/cultural strengths of the city/region, but how else can they support?
 - Does Seattle really care about arts and culture?
 - Not making big investments
 - Flexible funding
 - Naming a cultural ambassador
 - State Dept of Commerce introduced a similar position – could provide good alignment
 - Hiring OFM/Creative Industries Director
 - Building affordable housing
 - Support artists' housing – Seattle needs artists to be able to live in the city (rent, downpayment supports)
 - Supporting Hope Corps

2022 Workplan Round Robin

Kitty: One position currently open, and Pak's position opening up this summer

- Consider more private sector representation

Commissioners are here to try and accomplish something. How to make things happen?

Terry: as a collective, could be more active in the community and socially. Develop fundraising mechanism to be able to produce live music on behalf of SMC and provide grants – support performance opportunities....every holiday, the SMC should produce a show alongside other orgs – get our name out there. See SMC not just as advisors.

Jason: maybe one way to do that is to add a show to The Mixer?

Nate: has talked with Scott re cleanliness and sanitation in venues – something that's not punitive, but based on encouraging public health

- Need hot water, soap, adequate handwashing materials
- "goodwill ambassador" style conversations music commissioners can have with venues
- Intoxicated people trash the bathrooms, paper towel dispensers get broken all the time
- Venues are understaffed
- Gender equity issue
- Can Department of Health distribute flyers for venues to post

Jessica: makes sense to have both long term vision (move the boulder up the hill) and short term, more actionable items. Maybe more about how we structure/operationalize, not sure we understand

Pak: if we are an advisory board to the City, do we write out our recommendations to the Office of Film & Music (who's going to do the work?)

Jovino: lumped together as content creators – find language to elevate beyond just providing a service

- maybe this is part of the City of Music vision

Adra: having kits for performers that include items to sanitize the spaces and your instruments where you're performing.

- I'm a connector. Want to make sure people get connected to opportunities. What does the city have going on that I can amplify?

Keola: still figuring out ways to plug in. I'm naturally a problem solver – I could probably help with the tangible, specific issues

Eric: re pipelines for youth, at Career Day internships for recording studios came up a lot in mentoring sessions (culture of fear around internships among studio owners). Can SMC develop long and short term game plans and bring studio owners to the table?

Andrew: advocacy re music licensing -get more money to artists who really deserve it. Want to feel educated about what's going on in the City (e.g. admissions tax)

Casey: 1. Build and create more opportunities for the creative youth and continue to provide resources. 2. Help my peers understand what's real and provide facts so they can better navigate through the industry with a clearer vision.

Anne: workforce development and opportunities to support up-and-coming venues, events and cultural workers

Shannon: current work plan still looks relevant. Wants to address workforce pipeline. We're not doing (unpaid) internships anymore because of lawsuits.

- Connected briefly with Bunnie
- Jason: would be great to connect because Vera has been working on a comprehensive plan
 - Carry liability insurance
 - Been doing this for 20 years
- AEG has a philanthropy and community impact division – Shannon will be meeting with them
- Eric: Sign me up for a mentorship sub committee, and Jason I would love to hear more about the plan you've been working on
- City of Music vision is really important, would love to revisit, articulate what music is that's more than just content creation and economic impact, benefit to community/culture
- Keola: would local radio be a funnel?
- Advocacy also important to me- in terms of connecting to other groups with similar goals and writing letters to elected officials. That's not always visible as "doing things," but it is impactful.

Bunnie: centralize resources, updates like Ashraf's monthly email

- Pak: Monthly SMC newsletter would be a great touchpoint with the community that can hit on all the topics we discussed, from internship/mentorship opportunities, to opening us up to more community connection (perhaps SMC happy hours or panels featuring us), to taking care of our bathrooms, dude.
 - Plus, upping our communications and marketing game has ALWAYS been on our back burner from when I joined in 2017
- And inviting the community to give us feedback on their needs and concerns
- Who's gonna manage our TikTok?
- Any way to get KCTS to include a link in their community spots? Like the Crosscut spots. Also KUOW, KBCS, KNKX

Nick: develop a CRM, add sign ups from Career Days, Roadshows. Programming is intriguing. Mentorship specific to Seattle.

Jessica: An offer: We have a pretty robust Mentorship Program (not internship) at the Academy. Locally, the last few years we've had more students apply than mentors to pair them with. **If you are interested in participating and being paired with a student wanting to develop in your specific field, feel free to connect with me** and I'll give you more info / let you know when our next cycle starts.

Assets and Resources

- Nate starting a spreadsheet of resources, shared with group. Mapping which organizations provide with services. Feel free to contribute.
- Nate shared his [SMC Resource Mapping](#) doc.

Committee Reports

- Executive Committee
 - Will make updates to bylaws and bring to next meeting. Anyone who would like to join this work is welcome.
- Advocacy + Economic Development
 - Working to come up with tangible projects to work on:
 - Qualified guaranteed performing wage
 - Sanitation in venues
 - Resource mapping
- Youth + Community
 - Breaking into smaller groups on issues like cultural community and workforce

Wrap Up

Today is Alex's last meeting as the support staff for the full commission. Many thanks and much love given to her and she promises to return next month for a "surprise".

Meeting adjourned 1:34 pm