

MINUTES

City of Aurora
 Cultural Affairs Commission (CAC)
 Wednesday, May 13, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
 Virtual Meeting Hosted through WebEx

Meeting Link:

<https://auroragov.webex.com/auroragov/j.php?MTID=m22ebcf12853710e382d2d61b0e35503a>

Meeting Number: 962 619 643

Password: COA-CAC

Commissioners Present	Mary Mollicone, Sethe Tucker, Maureen Maycheco, Dionne Williams, donnie I. betts, Diane Rothers
Commissioners Absent	Douglas Meares, Auset Maryam Ali
Staff	Midori Clark, Andrea Amonick, Philip Nachbar, Alia Gonzales
Guests	Tone Ellis de Jesus

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:38 p.m.

Action Item: Consideration of Agenda for May 13, 2020

A motion was made by Mary Mollicone and seconded by Maureen Maycheco to approve the Agenda for May 13, 2020. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Item: Consideration of Minutes for March 12, 2020

A motion was made by Sethe Tucker and seconded by Mary Mollicone to approve the minutes as submitted.

Report from Officers

None at this time

Volunteer Hours Forms

Volunteer hours forms were collected.

Discussion Item: 2020 Northwest Aurora Arts Grant Update

Staff presented to the commission information showing that all General Operating Grant recipients have requested to receive their awarded amounts in a lump sum with the exception of DAVA who would prefer to remain with the 50% payment early in the year and 50% payment in the end of the year.

Action Item: Consideration of 2020 Northwest Aurora Arts Grant: Project Grants

Discussion took place regarding the 2020 Northwest Aurora Arts Grants in relation to the project grant awards. Andrea Amonick and Philip Nachbar with Aurora Urban Renewal Authority provided insights regarding project grants being issued. Both individuals stated they will support the guidance from the Commission. Further discussion led to the consensus that all project grants

should be awarded in a single lump-sum payment, however a stipulation would be added to the contract requesting that the award recipient commit to completing a project or program within ACAD prior to December 31, 2021.

A motion was made by donnie to amend the 2020 Northwest Aurora Arts Grant contract to state that the project grants awarded could be used for general operating uses, and that any project grant recipient would consent to completing a project or program with ACAD prior to December 2021. This motion was seconded by Mary and then approved unanimously.

Staff further stated they will work to draft a press release for organizations celebrating the release of the grants and the alterations stating that project grant funds may be used for general operating uses as needed.

Discussion Item: 2021 Northwest Aurora Arts Grant changes

Discussion took place regarding potential changes for the 2021 Northwest Aurora Arts Grant Program. The first concern revolved around potential budget concerns for the next grant cycle. At this time no changes have been announced however the Commission is aware that budget constraints may impact the next grant cycle and will prepare to make adjustments as necessary. Additionally there was discussion regarding potentially changing the award limits for both operating grants and project grants. Options included suggestions such as limiting how many applications one organization can submit, limiting the overall award maximums, and revisiting the requirements for grant applications. The consensus was that there will be a retreat later in 2020 to fully discuss grant options and any changes to the upcoming grant cycle.

Discussion Item: Vacant Commission Positions

Discussion took place regarding the three vacant commission positions. A small number of applications have been received and will be forwarded to the current Commission members for consideration. Interviews will be scheduled in the coming weeks to move this process forward.


Reports from Liaisons

- A. Art in Public Places (Mary Mollicone) – Mary shared a report from Art in Public Places. See Attachment A.
- B. Aurora Fox Arts Center (Douglas Meares) – None at this time.
- C. Art and Business Connection – Diane shared that she was unable to attend the most recent Art and Business Connection meeting and will not be attending further meetings as her term with the group has come to an end.
- D. Staff – Midori shared that the Aurora Fox shared their 2nd live Virtual Theatre event and had over 4000 views. Art in Public Places is also doing increased virtual activity including creating coloring pages while the Aurora History Museum has moved to providing virtual exhibit tours.

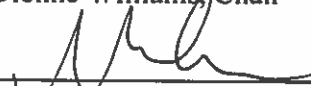
- II. Comments from Commissioners – None at this time.

III. Public Comment – None at this time.

IV. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 8:02 p.m.


Dionne Williams (Mar 2, 2021 14:51 MST)

Dionne Williams, Chair


Midori Clark, Staff

The purpose of the Cultural Affairs Commission is to provide ongoing systematic planning for the development of Cultural Arts activities within the city of Aurora; to assist the many community cultural groups by providing needed overall resources; to stimulate community involvement; and to enhance current cultural activities.

Attachment A

Art in Public Places Commission

Highlights and Action Items through May 6, 2020:

The Commission last met on March 4, 2020, and hopes to be able to meet soon via WebEx. AIPP staff have been working from home since March 23rd.

Significant continued progress:

City Council appointed new Commissioner Vanessa Frazier, and fellow Commissioners welcomed her enthusiastically.

On April 6th City Council approved the art for the Iliff Roundabout. Initial payment to artist Tim Upham has been approved, and he is ready to order materials and begin fabrication. The piece should be installed in the October-December timeframe. As days shorten in the fall, this artwork will be a colorful reminder of the sunshine Aurora residents enjoy.

The application deadline for the next round of Art2C on Havana Street was extended to April 30th, and about 125 proposals were received. The art selection panel may be able to meet in May to select finalists using WebEx enabling public input, as required.

AIPP staff continues to move forward with the exhibition for the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Social media advertising has been created to raise public awareness before the event. If the COA libraries open in June, direct viewing of the artwork will be possible. It will also be presented online.

Maintenance for Wave Gate located at Utah Park and Aspire at the Central Recreation Center has been on hold due to stay-at-home orders. It is hoped that Aspire can be cleaned before the rec center reopens.

The art for Tollgate Crossing is progressing nicely and should be ready for installation in the summer.

AIPP staff are coordinating steps for art selection for Green Valley Ranch East Metro District, including formation of an art selection panel and scheduling of an initial meeting of the panel in late May or June. Again, this meeting will be held using WebEx enabling community input. Staff worked on 4 other metro district and transit-oriented development projects this past month.

While working from home AIPP staff have been able to make progress on producing a new edition of Aurora Creates, developing a searchable database of permanent artworks located in the city, updating the comprehensive printed Collection Guide,

updating the program website, and managing social media accounts to enhance publicity and marketing of COA art pieces and programs.

Impact of COVID-19:

The above report reflects staff's dedication in carrying out the work of the program during a challenging time. Despite considerable uncertainty about when circumstances may allow for more normal work conditions, project timelines have been preserved when possible and staff and Commissioners remain focused on accomplishing tasks on a timely basis. With the need to respond to city revenue losses, staff has responded to a city-wide request for cost savings, analyzing and reporting on expectations for AIPP funding from anticipated construction projects and recommending adjustments. A proposal has been written that meets the requested goals while also preserving jobs and funding for all existing commitments and immediate future plans. Commissioners are appreciative of the extraordinary efforts of the staff in this difficult period and remain intent on supporting the positive work of this vital program. The city can continue to take pride in the delivery of new and revitalized art work in the year ahead.

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