

Oregon City Arts Commission Minutes

October 26, 2021

Meeting conducted via Zoom.

James Graham welcomed everyone. This was an important occasion, the first meeting of the Arts Commission in some fifteen years. Matthew Weintraub also on the call.

Roll Call

Emma Lugo
Mary Andrus
Josh Planton
Jenn Woodward
Selena Jones
Tammy Jo Wilson
Karen Buehrig
Tima Carlson
Trieste Andrews

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Graham asked for motion to adopt the agenda as proposed. Emma moved to adopt agenda as presented. Mr. Planton seconded.

Advisory Board

Mr. Graham states that the Arts Commission is an Advisory Board. The Arts Commission is an advocate for the arts in our Community. The Arts Commission may solicit funds to do their work.

Election of Officers

Matthew Weintraub asked if there were any public comments. None were received. Mr. Weintraub explained that the Arts Commission will have a Chair and a Vice Chair. The initial term will be two months, to complete the end of 2021. Elections will then take place in January.

Ms. Carlson: Asked for clarification of responsibilities for the Chair and Vice Chair.

Mr. Weintraub: Chair will work with staff to set the agenda. The Chair will also conduct the meetings. The Vice Chair acts as the Chair if the Chair is not available.

Mr. Graham asked if there were any nominations from the floor.

Ms. Carlson expressed interest in serving as Vice Chair. Ms. Lugo said she could be chair for the remainder of the calendar year. Vi

Ms. Lugo moved to nominate Ms. Carlson as Vice Chair. Mr. Planton seconded. There was a unanimous vote to elect Tima Carlson as Vice Chair.

Ms. Andrus moved that Emma Lugo be the Chair. There was a unanimous vote to elect Emma Lugo as Chair.

Staff Presentation – Past Arts Commission Activities

Mr. Weintraub, Tourism Program Specialist, gave a brief history of past Arts Commission activities in Oregon City. For example, in 2000, the City Commission formed the Arts Commission at its December 20 meeting. A Public Art policy was adopted in February of 2002.

Commission members asked Mr. Weintraub about the Percent for the Arts program. He said that he would share more information with the Arts Commission about the program. He explained that the Arts Commission could study this and potentially make a recommendation to the City Commission.

Mr. Graham shared that the Arts Commission has \$40,000 to promote the arts as an industry. This is available over the next two years. In other words, the Arts Commission has resources to begin. Mr. Weintraub reminded folks that the source of this money is the hotel transient tax – there are some restrictions as to how that money can be spent.

Ms. Lugo said that one of the first action items for this group would be to review past By-Laws and make recommendations. She recommended this as an action at the next meeting.

Each of the Arts Commission members then introduced themselves, explaining their connection to the arts and the reason why they are on this Board.

Lugo – practicing artist for 35 years; primarily a painter.

Andrews – Current president of the Three Rivers Artist Guild. Chaired Oregon City Festival of the Arts for past 5 years. She is stepping down from chairing that Festival in 2022. Would love to have an Arts Cultural Center in Oregon City.

Selena Jones – MFA in sculpture works at the Lake Oswego Festival of the Arts.

Tammy Jo Wilson – visual artist, started a nonprofit to support arts. Glad that arts is thriving in Oregon City, particularly interested in public art. Works at Stephen Crawford Heritage House.

Mary Andrus – Directs Art Therapy at Lewis and Clark, interested in creating bridges, placemaking, using art to help navigate social change.

Jenn Woodward – Degree from MFA in Boston, lifelong artist, looking forward to giving back to the community, started a paper making studio.

Josh Planton – Loves to see everyone coming together for the arts

Karen Buehrig – Has lived in Oregon City for 25 years, a land use planner. Not an artist, more interested in using art for placemaking.

Tima – Has a degree in geology. Loves working in the arts and supporting youth as they learn about the arts. She helped create Souflags nonprofit in downtown Oregon City.

Regular Meeting Date

Discussion. Then Lugo confirmed with the group that the Arts Commission should meet on the third Tuesday of the month as a regular meeting time. General agreement.

McLoughlin NA meets on Monday, so request not to meet on Mon. Third Tuesday is proposed. 7 pm is proposed time.

Communications

This is a time for Commissioners to share updates as to what they are engaged in.

Minutes – Typically, a staff person would take the minutes.

Commissioners then shared their hopes and plans for being a part of the Commission.

Mr. Weintraub told the group that in general they should avoid meetings with 4 or more members of the Commission, as that would then be considered an Arts Commission meeting.

Mr. Planton made a motion to adjourn. All voted in favor to adjourn. Everyone thanked for their service.

Staff will share minutes before the next meeting of the group.