

Oregon City Arts Commission

March 2, 2023

Present:

- Tammy Jo Wilson (Chair)
- Trieste Andrews
- Quire Hugon
- Selena Jones
- Emma Lugo
- Josh Planton

Ann Griffin, Economic Development Coordinator

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 by Commissioner Wilson.

Roll Call

Commissioner Jones participated via Zoom. Commissioner Carlson and Commissioner Buerhing had excused absences. Commissioner Woodward was not present.

Agenda Approved

Public Comment – None.

I. Presentation – Three Rivers Artist Guild (TRAG)

Lynda Orzen was one of the founders of the Three Rivers Artist Guild 16 years ago. She was also a member of the first Oregon City Arts Commission.

She distributed a flyer for the 3rd Spring Fling on 5/6 & 5/7. Working on a new Open Studio tour that will likely take place this October. TRAG is participating in the Art Gallery at First City Celebration in July. TRAG is also working on a business plan to establish a new gallery.

Commissioner Lugo (“Emma”) asked what TRAG’s operating budget is. Response: She know the budgets for the specific projects she is working on; doesn’t have the full organizational budget. Emma also asked, “why do you think the Arts Commission folded last time?” Response: lack of leadership. Need to be a “squeaky wheel.” Lynda reported that TRAG has close to 100 members.

Orzen stated that one important issue is a great need of art resources for young people in the community. Emma Lugo suggested working to find ways to use art to support criminal justice reform, and work like the Criminal Justice Project. She asked about opportunities for TRAG and the Arts Commission to jointly advocate and bring matters to the City Commission.

Commissioner Hugon asked if TRAG could support work the Arts Commission is doing and share information with TRAG members. Answer: yes.

II. Discussion Items

A. Grant Guidelines

Eligibility – the three examples are not the limited to –

- Performing artists
- Visual artists
- Musical art and performance

Grant application should clarify that the goal of the Arts Commission grant program is to support a public art event, art education, visual and performing arts.

Emma asked why do we think that there should be a match. Answer: to demonstrate the applicant's engagement in the project. Commissioner Jones ("Selena") said that it's important to include a good explanation of what a "match" means and that "in-kind" match may be counted. We need to explain how a match can be up of resources such as volunteer time.

Emma also suggested that the Grant Guidelines confirm that this grant proposal could contribute to a larger project.

Emma asked how the Arts Commission would evaluate proposals avoid favoritism. Griffin responded that members of the Arts Commission will be the ones evaluating the grant proposals. Arts Commission members are expected to recuse themselves if there is a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest as they evaluate different proposals.

Commissioner Andrews ("Trieste") asked if an exit report should be required for the larger grants. A summary report should be asked for larger projects, including a narrative explaining how the funds were used.

Commissioner Jones ("Selena") suggested including both images and something to speak to the advancement of the project as a whole.

Add to Question 8 that the grant applicant include specific examples of their past work in the application (images of past artwork, descriptions of past art work).

Emma – do you think we will get people beyond professional artists applying to this grant? Answer: Yes, we should make the proposal accessible to both professional artists and newcomers.

How should we communicate and encourage other people to apply for the grant?

Selena – Can you create a list of organizations that the Arts Commissioners could contribute to? Ann replied yes.

Commissioner Hugon ("Quire") offered to put together a rubric for evaluating submissions. Trieste suggested that the group use an online evaluation framework like the one developed for the Metro Enhancement Grant scoring metric as a guideline. Ann Griffin will provide this to Quire.

Arts Commission agreed on the following schedule for the Arts Grants:

Applications period: March 13 - April 21.

Arts Commission will meet on 5/18 and 6/1 to review applications and make award decision.

B. Goals for next meeting

Replacement art for 7th and Center – finish drafting of the call-for-artists for this project.

Use for extra money from marketing budget.

Considering future Arts Commission budget work

Get final art Commission grant application on the City Commission agenda for 3/15.

Adjournment at 8:32.