

MINUTES

City of Aurora

CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION (CAC)

Wednesday, September 9, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting hosted through WebEx

Meeting Link:

<https://auroragov.webex.com/auroragov/j.php?MTID=m176f3c0b4b5ebe73ad3ebdb038da0bf7>

Meeting Number: 146 651 6560

Password: COA-CAC

Commissioners Present	Sethe Tucker, Maureen Maycheco, Mary Mollicone, Ree Varcoe, Auset Maryam Ali, Douglas Meares
Commissioners Absent	donnie l. betts
Staff	Midori Clark, Alia Gonzales, Roberta Bloom
Guests	Tone Ellis de Jesus

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:31 p.m.

Action Item: Consideration of Agenda for September 9, 2020

A motion was made by Mary Mollicone and seconded by Sethe Tucker to approve the Agenda for September 9, 2020. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Item: Consideration of Minutes for July 8, 2020

A motion was made by Doug Meares and seconded by mary Mollicone to approve the minutes as submitted.

Action Item: Consideration of Minutes for August 29, 2020

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

Action Item: Art in Public Places: Dawn Fountain Renovation

Roberta Bloom, Public Art Coordinator, provided information about the renovation plans for the Dawn Fountain located on the west lawn of the Aurora Municipal Center. The piece was installed in 2003. Renovations are planned to the plaza area surrounding the fountain to address cracking granite throughout the plaza. These same issues damaged the fountain plumbing, so it has not functioned as a fountain for several years. In conversations about the larger construction project, it was determined that, with the current focus on water conservation and sustainability, a water fountain was no longer consistent with that message. The Dawn Fountain Task Force was convened in September 2019 to work with the artist, Rafe Ropek, to determine how the fountain could be re-envisioned. Members of the Task Force are John Perkins, Senior Project Manager with Public Works and manager of the plaza construction project, Andrew Van Essen, Project Manager with Public Works, Thomas Tully, Superintendent with PROS, John Gebhart, Project Manager with PROS, Tim York with Aurora Water, and Roberta Bloom with Art in Public

Places. They are working in concert with the larger construction project.

The artist's proposal focuses on transforming the fountain into a light sculpture by adding LED lights into the existing basin. The lights will be programmable in both colors and patterns. These waterproof LED lights will be housed under a raised layer of polycarbonate and steel with a pattern that draws the spiraling energy of the sculpture outward toward the plaza.

The AMC plaza renovations are expected to be completed in December 2020. The Dawn Fountain renovations will be installed after completion of the larger construction project. It is anticipated the lights and basin cover will be completed in the first quarter of 2021.

Coincidentally, the artist's lighting concept works nicely with other planned lighting features for the west façade of the AMC.

The budget for this project is \$92,100. Aurora Water is contributing up to 40,000. Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces is contributing 25,000. Public Works is contributing \$25,000. The remaining balance of the project budget as well as the artists design fee of \$3,300 for the proposal development is being covered by Art in Public Places.

Mary proposed a motion for the Cultural Affairs Commission to approve the Dawn Fountain Renovation project as presented by Roberta Bloom. Doug Meares seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Item: Nominate and vote for Chair

Auset Maryam Ali nominated Sethe Tucker for the position Chair for the Cultural Affairs Commission. Mary seconded this nomination. Sethe accepted the nomination. The vote to approve Sethe as the Chair passed unanimously.

Action Item: Nominate and vote for Secretary

Mary self-nominated for the position of Chair for the Cultural Affairs Commission. Auset moved to approve the nomination and Ree seconded. The vote to nominate Mary as the Secretary passed unanimously.

Discussion Item: AuroraTV and Community Outreach

Discussion took place regarding the need for the Cultural Affairs Commission to review the existing bylaws, mission, and values for the Commission. This is a process that began early in 2020 prior to transitioning to virtual meetings. Commissioners will review the existing documents to suggest changes. This will be further discussed and finalized at the October meeting.

Upon the acceptance of these updated documents the Commission will explore opportunities to reach out to the Communications department to explore options to reach out to the community by way of the media.

Action Item: 2020 Northwest Aurora Arts Grant Survey Approval

The commission reviewed a draft copy of a survey to be sent to 2020 Northwest Aurora Arts Grant applicants. Minor suggestions were made regarding formatting for the survey.


Commissioners will receive a second draft copy of the survey for approval. Upon approval the survey will be sent to all applicants by email.

Discussion Item; Social Media Outreach

A motion was made by Sethe to move this item to the October agenda. This motion was seconded by Auset and approved unanimously.

Reports from Liaisons

- A. Art in Public Places (Mary Mollicone) – Mary will share a summary of all current AIPP projects with the Commission by email at a later date. Art2C on Havana is currently undergoing installation. Further updates on this project will be forthcoming.
 - B. Aurora Fox Arts Center (Douglas Meares) – None at this time.
 - C. Art and Business Connection – None at this time.
 - D. Staff – Midori shared that the Aurora Fox Arts Center is opening their season on September 18. This production will follow all health and safety guidelines for both performers and attendees. Midori also shared that the Aurora History Museum is now reopened and reservations are required to visit. The museum is currently exhibiting “Battle for the Ballot” and “Powered by Science”. Aurora Dance Arts has hosted 24 workshops during the month of August and in-person dance classes will resume this week.
- 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 8:28 p.m.


Sethe Tucker (Mar 2, 2021 14:42 MST)

Sethe Tucker, 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.