

**CITY OF REDMOND  
ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION  
MINUTES**

**Thursday, March 9, 2023**

**Commissioners and Staff Participating In-Person and Remotely via MS  
Teams**

Public can listen to meeting by dialing +1 206-800-4590, Conference ID: 372807460#

**6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**

*“Voice the views of the community to Mayor and City Council in reference to all cultural endeavors.”*

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**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Shama Farag  
Cari Scotkin – Chair

**COMMISSIONERS PARTICIPATING REMOTELY:**

Menka Soni  
Neelam Chahlia  
Latha Sambamurti  
Carlos Jimenez

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT AND EXCUSED:**

Anna Zanella  
Helen Teixeira

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Chris Weber, Cultural Arts Supervisor  
Nicole McDonald, Cultural Arts Coordinator

**VISITORS:**

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**I. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME**

Chair Scotkin called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm on March 9th, 2023.

**II. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

None

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Commissioner Sambamurti to approve the February 2023 minutes and seconded by Commissioner Soni. Motion carries.

#### **IV. NEW BUSINESS & GUESTS**

a. Commission Elections — Chris Weber

Mr. Weber gave a quick rundown of how and when elections occur for Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission, how long terms are, and reminded commissioners that the conversation around elections began two months prior.

Nominations were received for Cari Scotkin and Anna Zanella to renew their terms of Chair and Vice-Chair respectively.

Motion by Commissioner Soni to approve the current Chair and Vice Chair to move forward a second term and seconded by Commissioner Sambamurti. Motion carries.

b. Public Art Intensive Eastside Cohort (Motion to Approve) – Nicole McDonald  
Ms. McDonald shared the eligibility criteria for the Public Art Intensive Eastside and shared the artwork of all the applicants. It was recommended that all applicants be approved to participate in the workshops.

Motion by Commissioner Sambamurti was made to approve all applicants for Public Art Intensive Eastside and seconded by Commissioner Soni. Motion carries.

c. Downtown Art Walk Calls (Motion to Approve) – Nicole McDonald

There were two calls: one temporary art during the Art Walk that is for the Public Art Intensive Eastside participants only and another for muralists.

There was a question about whether or not the calls would be shared with local arts organizations.

Motion by Commissioner Sambamurti to both Downtown Art Walk Art Calls and seconded by Commissioner Chahlia. Motion carries.

d. Micro Grant Application (Motion to Approve) – Nicole McDonald

The Micro Grant Application was built around conversations from the past few months discussing a Micro Grant. Eligibility criteria was outlined and Ms. McDonald walked through the application line by line.

Questions were asked around whether or not the applicants had to be from Redmond and what the grant report would look like.

Motion by Commissioner Soni to approve the Micro Grant application and seconded by Commissioner Sambamurti. Motion carries.

- e. Rainbow Crosswalk Art Call (Motion to Approve) – Chris Weber  
Mr. Weber outlined how the Rainbow Crosswalk came to the Commission and reminded the Commissioners about the prior conversations, presentations, and guests that came to talk about this project. A timeline for the project was provided.

A question about location was raised.

Motion to approve the Rainbow Crosswalk Art Call was made by Commissioner Sambamurti and seconded by Commissioner Soni. Motion carries.

## **V. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Staff Report – Chris Weber
  - a. Upcoming Programs include the Poet Laureate’s National Poetry Month Projection on April 29th made with the Teen Center and Redmond STEM Center, and Public Art Intensive Eastside.
  - b. Operations Grantee Meet and Greet happened and grantees will be attending future commission meetings to introduce their organizations.
  - c. Derby Days is in planning mode and staff is gearing up as we get closer to the events dates.
  - d. August 17th is the new Downtown Redmond Art Walk and will need help getting local businesses on board.
  - e. New Commissioners and Youth Advocates will be joining the retreat later in the month and their first official meetings are in April.

## **VI. COMMISSION UPDATES & DISCUSSION**

- a. Talk Time  
Commissioner Sambamurti shared about the Festival of Color happening on March 18th at Marymoor Park. Commissioner Soni shared about another Festival of Color happening in Seattle on March 26th. Both shared tips about what to expect if you are attending for the first time. Commissioner Jimenez shared about an upcoming art exhibition happening at Centro the next evening, March 10th.
- b. Future Agenda Items

## **VII. ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Sambamurti and seconded by Commissioner Soni. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 7:41pm

### **UPCOMING MONTHLY MEETING**

Hybrid Meeting

Thursday, April 13th, 2023

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m