

San Anselmo Arts Commission (SAAC)
Monthly Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2021
via Zoom

1. Call to Order: 7:02 p.m.

2. Roll Call: Commissioners/Town Representatives present: Kerrie McHugh, Kathy Edwards, Piper Bruner, Elizabeth Grasso, Kathee Shatter, Addison Bugas, Barbara Shands, Mattie O'Grady (Town Liaison) Dannielle Mauk

Absent: none

3. Approval of February 8, 2021 Minutes: approved

4. Public Expression (non agenda items): none

5. Treasurer's Report: The account balance is \$11,347.00.
Budget: No unexpected expenses upcoming; currently no public music events allowed.

6. Discussion Items:

A. Munny Doll Exhibit

- Amelia and Bice: Proposing outreach to Bay Area working artists (North Bay and East Bay, with focus on Ross Valley) to decorate Munny Dolls in response to COVID. (Ideally about 1 dozen artists.) Would like to stage 1 month show downtown, prefer storefront windows but open to single location, public or private property. Showed website and promotion plans; will do all footwork.
- Could Commission reach out to merchants to see who might be willing to show? Would also appreciate help with marketing. Kathee will help research merchants. Barbara expressed doubts about buy-in from merchants; possible town hall or library display?
- Possible time frame: May or June?
- Public Expression: Laurie Berliner – willing to help with merchant buy-in
- Action to decide on Commission support, April 12 meeting

B. Art on the Avenue

- Michael Feldman's students work up. June Yokel and Janet Jacobs to be installed 3/31.
- Michael's student requested setting up table on a Saturday to sell art with all money going to non profit. OK as long as sidewalk and right of way not blocked, but they need to contact owner for permission.
- Owner has agreed to exhibits through the end of May

C. Sidewalk Project

- Recap: After project approved, Town received email on controversy re artist. With goal to protect artist, Commission decided to move project forward with another artist. During subcommittee meeting, decision rejected by merchant; town agreed to pay artist \$250 cancel fee, as requested by merchant. Merchants requested reconsideration by Town Council; Council made no decision and would like Commission to decide how to move forward.
- Three options can be considered for a vote. 2/3 majority (5 to 2) required to pass
 1. Uphold original decision to use different artist
 2. Reconsider and move forward with original koi fish project and artist
 3. End Commission involvement with this project
- Public Expression: Laurie Berliner – she and other merchants all in favor of going forward with original project. Not concerned about bad publicity for artist; artists come with baggage and it should not effect their work opportunities. His art has value and that should be the only issue.
- Staysea (of Dogville) – dismayed that one person (original email sender) should be able to keep a great project from going forward.
- **Special meeting** for action on this project proposed for Wednesday, March 17, 2021, 7pm. Agreed. Mattie will follow up.

D. Youth Project

- Addie and Piper: Students to create signs on reused political yard signs, answering "What inspired you during COVID?" To be displayed on lawn near HS 1327 for a weekend (or more). Mostly 1327? but will contact Branson and San Domenico about participating. Timeline: due early April; up by late April?
- Signs can be primed and done with paint or markers (contact Kathy for primer) or possibly done on paper/poster board and taped to signs? Needs to be determined.

E. Scholarships

- **Youth in Arts:** Virtual show. \$300 of \$500 will go to students. Director will forward to Kathee names of Ross Valley students. Subcommittee (Kathee, Kathy, Barbara) will meet to judge. Elizabeth will request invoice.
- **Other Scholarships:** Outreach was challenging last year. Addie will reach out to find best contacts to promote. Subcommittee (Kathy, Elizabeth, Piper) will meet to determine decisions on how many/how much/how to promote. Application and flyer will then be revised.

F. Public Art/Process

- Tie-in with mural discussions but needs to address process for all public art, ie., who has final decisions on curation? Final responsibility lies with whom? Etc. Further research on other towns' public art processes would be helpful. Commission decides on Process Master Plan; Town Council needs to approve.
- Mattie to forward update of Resolution re murals as part of this discussion. After we receive, subcommittee (Kathy, Kerrie, Barbara + Mattie) should meet to discuss.

7. Commission Comments & Questions, requests for future agenda items

- Discussion: murals, public art, scholarships, Harmony exhibit
- Action: Munny Doll project, Youth Art project

8. Adjournment: 9:15 pm

Next meeting monthly meeting: April 12, 2021 @ 7pm (via zoom)

Additional special meeting scheduled for March 17th, 2021 @ 7pm (via zoom)