



ARTS COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

Item 4
September 14, 2021
Regular Business

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

TITLE:	2021 Chair and Vice Chair Elections	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Elect Chair and Vice Chair to serve through the end of 2021.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution

STAFF:	Sarah Bluvas, Economic Development Coordinator	
COUNCIL LIAISON:	n/a	
EXHIBITS:	1. Arts Council Bylaws	

SUMMARY

Article III, Section 2 of the Arts Council Bylaws stipulates that the board elects a Chair and Vice Chair at the Arts Council’s December meeting each year. However, due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on City board operations, the Arts Council postponed 2021 officer elections. Tonight, the Arts Council must elect a Chair and Vice Chair to lead the board through the end of the year.

TIMELINE OF OFFICER DISCUSSIONS & ACTIONS

- December 9, 2020: The Arts Council voted to postpone 2021 officer elections and extend the terms of Chair Erin Vivion and Vice Chair Amy Barnes to April 2021.
- April 14, 2021: The board extended the officer terms again to May 2021.
- May 12, 2021: Chair Vivion and staff discussed the need to resolve the issue by electing 2021 officers but no action was taken.
- June 1, 2021: Mercer Island City Council approved Resolution No. 1598 appointing members to fill vacancies on the City’s advisory boards and commissions. The Arts Council had four open positions but no timely applications, so the City Council did not appoint new members to the board.
- June-August 2021: Per [MICC 3.55.030 \(B\)\(3\)](#), which stipulates that a member can continue to serve until a qualified successor is appointed to the position, Chair Vivion continued serving in Position 7 and in her capacity as Chair, and the City reopened the board and commission recruitment process.
- August 31, 2021: The City Council appointed new Arts Council members to Positions 6 and 7.

OFFICER DUTIES

To conduct board operations through 2021, the Arts Council must elect a Chair and Vice Chair to serve until 2022 officer elections are held in December. As the leader of the board, the Chair:

- Facilitates Arts Council meetings in a fair, efficient, productive, and informative manner.
- Acts as the primary Arts Council representatives to City Council.
- Serves as the primary line of communication to City staff.
- Works with City staff to schedule meetings and develop meeting agendas.
- Appoints committee chairs.

The Vice Chair attends meetings with staff and the Chair and fulfills the duties of the Chair in the Chair's absence.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Elect a Chair and Vice Chair to serve until 2022 officer elections, on or about June 2022.