

## **Arts & Culture Committee Meeting Minutes, 10/11/2019, 12:00-1:50 pm**

**Present:** Alison Timmons (Chair), Ki Russell, Brittany Young, Lori Sams, Sheri Jordan, Shaindel Beers, Margaret Gianotti, Selene Torres-Medrano, and Jean Reiher.

### **Minutes:**

1. Welcome new committee members present today: Brittany Young and Selene Torres-Medrano. Alison mentioned an ASG student in Hermiston who may be interested in joining the committee, and also read a list of students who signed an interest sheet at “Welcome to the Pack.”
2. Agenda: Margaret made a motion to approve the agenda. Shaindel seconded. All say “Aye.” The agenda for today is approved.
3. Review Minutes: Alison asked the committee to review the minutes from the last meeting. Shaindel made a motion to approve the minutes from 05/31/2019 after one typo is corrected. Ki seconded. All say “Aye.” Minutes from the 05/31/2019 meeting are approved.
4. Fall Term Events:
  - a. John Sibley Williams, poet and educator from Portland, at BMCC on Thursday, November 14, 2019. From 12:00-1:50 pm he will be in Ki’s classroom (M-8) for 9 students (WR241/243). We can move to a larger space if he’s doing a reading (perhaps from 1:00-1:50 pm) that may draw a larger crowd. Brittany said that the Library is available. Lori also offered to use the Feves Gallery. Shaindel will bring her class and give her students extra credit for attending. Sheri has 8 students that she may bring to a 1:00 pm reading. Shaindel suggested having refreshments. Jean will take care of that, plus chairs and a mic. Ki got copies of John’s book to give to her students and a copy for the library. Ki mentioned putting up fliers or posters. Ki will forward his press kit to the committee.
  - b. Eastern Oregon Climate Change Coalition: Margaret mentioned their presentation at 6:00-9:00 pm on Wednesday, November 6, 2019 in ST-200 where Dr. Kevin Pogue, Geology Professor at Whitman College, will discuss physiological responses of grapevines to a warming climate and resulting impacts on grapes and wine. He will describe how vineyard and winery practices are already changing in response to climate change. Phillip Schmitz is sponsoring it, but the committee could support it too since it aligns with the 2020 Arts and Culture Festival theme of “Our Changing World.”
  - c. Brittany said that it’s National Novel Writing Month and the Public Library is having “Sit-ins” on Sundays to encourage authors to finish a novel in one month.
5. Winter Term Events: Alison said that programs were cancelled last winter due to the weather, so perhaps we should avoid scheduling events in winter.
  - a. Ki and Shaindel said that one or both of them could do presentations in Pendleton.

- b. Fake news: Shaindel suggested asking Philip Wright, retired BMCC instructor, to do a presentation. Margaret mentioned Tim Mustoe, a local man who could talk about video manipulation to create fake news. She will contact him. Alison suggested Stan or Pete in the Computer Science Department to discuss photo manipulation. She will ask them. Brittany said the Library can provide resources about how to tell if news is fake. Alison mentioned Jennifer Colton-Jones, an instructor in Hermiston. Selene wants to invite a Latino to get a different perspective. Margaret agreed and suggested a panel discussion with people from the East Oregonian (EO), Confederated Umatilla Journal (CUJ), and the Hermiston Herald. Shaindel will contact them. She mentioned that the EO has to check facts before publishing, but My Columbia Basin (under different FCC rules) does not fact-check first, and sometimes publishes incorrect information.
6. Spring Term Events: Arts and Culture Festival, April 20-25, 2020. (Refer to the list from the 05/31/2019 Minutes)
- a. International Diplomacy: Margaret explained that Harriet Isom was raised on a local ranch. She went into Foreign Service and was an Ambassador to Cameroon for many years. She extended an invitation for the BMCC Men's soccer team (two players are from Cameroon) to her home to see her African Art Collection.
  - b. Alison asked Lori to do a hands-on collage project like her "motherhood" project which was done in 10-minute increments carved out of her busy day.
  - c. Lori will talk with Sarah Gardner about Mason bee houses.
  - d. Alison asked Brittany about a "Banned Book" presentation, but Brittany would rather do it next fall during National Banned Book Week, September 22-28, 2020.
  - e. Shaindel said that April is National Poetry Month. Selene has a friend Jordan Chaney who does Urban Poetry. She will contact him.
  - f. Alison liked the idea of a "Maker" space for artists to demonstrate their art and have students participate.
  - g. Mural project: Margaret said that Jason Hogue is the set designer for "Shrek." She asked if the mural would be temporary or permanent. Ki said that the Multi-Cultural area is being re-done, and that maybe a mural could go there. She will ask Dawn Difuria McClendon.
  - h. Margaret noticed that there is no student Rep. here today. Alison will talk with Austin about it.
7. Any Other Business
- a. Alison mentioned Pendleton native Chris Jerome who has a publishing company based in Albany. (There was an article in the EO about him recently.) He does dark fantasy, sci-fi, and graphic novels. Shaindel texted him and invited him to come do a presentation. He said he's interested.

- b. May is Mental Health Awareness Month. Selene said that we can tie that to art. Ki will contact Health and Wellness to partner on something. Brittany said the Library is available for Mental Health presentations. She also requested a Fun Run be tied into it, maybe a “colorful” run where participants get sprinkled with powdered dyes. Alison said that the Writing instructors read many papers from students dealing with mental health issues.
  - c. LGBTQ: Ki suggested that the Diversity Committee to start a “Gay Student Alliance,” or other group to help these students. Margaret suggested getting a Faculty Liaison. Brittany will check the Library for available resources. Alison will contact PFLAG. Maybe have PFLAG have regular office hours in Health and Wellness or the Library where a student can speak to someone privately.
  - d. Banned Books: Lori and Brittany discussed a Banned Book display at the Library. Alison wants a Harry Potter Day with food and costumes in April. (Is that a banned book?)
8. Adjourn 1:50 pm: Shaindel made a motion to adjourn; Alison seconded. All say “Aye.” Meeting Adjourned.
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Next A&C meeting: Friday, November 15, 2019, Room P-132