

Art and History Commission

2019-2020
WORK PLAN



SEASIDE
CALIFORNIA

Art and History Commission

Members

- Steven Russell, Chair
- Janie Silveria, Vice Chair
- Francoise Avery
- Michael Wildgoose
- Emily Ventura
- Yolette Merritt
- Emerson Brown

Staff Liaisons

- Dan Meewis, Recreation Director
- Ashley Collick, Recreation Supervisor
- Sandra Grey, Art Director

Mission Statement

To advise the City of Seaside in the advancement, preservation and protection of Historical and Cultural heritage so that this and future generations may know and appreciate the historical resources, places, people, events and the arts which represent the City of Seaside.

Historical Background

The Seaside History Commission was established by the adoption of Ordinance 593 on October 15, 1981.

These two Commissions were combined to form the Seaside Art & History Commission in 2010 by ordinance number 986.

According to the City ordinance, "The Art and History Commission shall have the power, and it shall be the duty of the commission to make recommendations to the City Council and to advise the council in the following matters:

- Pertaining to the encouragement of arts and crafts and historical activities;
- Pertaining to the promotion of programs of artistic merit within the city;
- Pertaining to the collection, promotion, display and preservation of Seaside's historical artifacts;
- Designate, protect, preserve, enhance and perpetuate those structures and areas of historical, architectural and engineering significance;
- Encourage the city systematic collection and preservation of Seaside's historic records and manuscripts. (Ord. 986 § 3, 2010)"

Goals

- Explore funding possibilities from commission goals.
- Maintain a professional, active and educated Art & History Commission for the City of Seaside.
- Identify, protect, preserve and enhance historic and art resources
- Continually support and expand public awareness of Seaside's history, culture and art.
- Recruit, support and promote the exhibition of art within the City of Seaside.

Accomplishments in 2018

- Installed 9 major art pieces at the Oldemeyer Center, Soper Community Center and Pattullo.
- Acquired historical books for the archives.
- Advocated for archive management and storage solutions to City.
- Acquired African American art work from James “Akin” Miller.
- Participated in CSUMB’s Seaside Voices oral history project by contributing approximately 12 community member local interviews.
- Commissioner’s participated in class presentation of Seaside’s local history.
- Finalized Public Art Policy for submission to City Council.
- Participated in first annual Monterey County Archive Crawl.
- Promote annual Seaside Studio Tour event.
- Held seven art exhibits at Avery Art Gallery.
- Acquired 20 Oral Histories of Seaside residents from Monterey County Free Libraries.
- With assistance from CSUMB Service Learning intern, updated list of Oral Histories in the City of Seaside archives, and list of Oral History Transcripts.
- Matched print transcripts with cassette tapes and prepared a set of 19 Oral Histories for digitization.

Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Work Plan

- Develop a Public Utility boxes art project.
- Have all oral history tapes located in Seaside archives digitized to ensure preservation.
- Continue to advocate for archive storage and work space to preserve the City's history, archives and artifacts, enabling us to accept donations of family papers and historical materials.
- Finalize and present to City Council Public Art Spaces policy.
- Refurbish and update the glass cases at Avery Art Gallery.
- Continue to advocate for a building to become a City museum, art gallery and cultural center.
- Take part in every public relation opportunity to expand public awareness of Seaside's history and multi-ethnic culture.
- Create a short, readable (multi-lingual) History of Seaside; then expand this to include "Things to Do in Seaside, "Places to See in Seaside" and "Outside Seaside".
- Create some Seaside history class curriculums for all school grades.
- Provide mini-exhibits for schools.
- Expand and rotate Seaside History section of City's website.
- Develop a Historic Resource Preservation ordinance-backed process as required by the 2018 General Plan that will allow grants applications to fund an inventory of Historic Resources and Historic Designations.
- Work with CSUMB on more Seaside Voices oral histories and develop student capstone projects focusing on Seaside history.
- Collaborate with City, other Commissions and private groups on more public art projects.
- Develop a "digital era clippings" system to maintain a record of current Seaside history.

Ongoing Projects

- Continuous art exhibits at the Walter Avery Gallery, the premier art space on the Peninsula including the largest Youth Art Competition in Monterey County, Adult Art Competition.
- Annual Black History Month exhibit and reception.
- Rotating mini-exhibits in the Oldemeyer Center lobby & senior wing.
- Help prepare and participate in Outdoor Art Events.
- Continued networking with area art associations.
- Working with CSUMB on annual series Seaside Voices Oral Histories.
- Represented on area history groups: Archive Round Table, Monterey County. History Advisory Commission, Monterey Bay Heritage Area planning group.
- Networked with Monterey County Historical Society, planned Marina History Commission, FOAA and FOMA.