From: Ronda Schaer
To: Eddy Gomez; Public Comment
Subject: COMMENT TO COUNCIL Fwd: Yountville Arts Commission
Date: Monday, July 18, 2022 2:52:02 PM

Dear Mayor Dunbar, Vice Mayor Dorenbecher and Council Members Mohler, Knight and Tagliaboschi,

I am writing in response to your recent Yountville Arts Commissioner appointments. While I am honored to be re-appointed, I am troubled by the over-all outcome.

I have always been proud to serve under the leadership of Yountville and have held the Town Council Members in the highest regard. I am deeply saddened and disappointed by your rejection of incumbent Commissioner, Robin McGee-Cant and by your appointment of a new applicant. Prior to now, this new applicant has not attended any of our Arts Commission meetings or shown any interest in the work that we do.

During Robin's term on the Commission, she created a viable Performing Arts Subcommittee and worked hard bringing new musical importance to our events and receptions including Art Sip & Stroll and Music in the Park. You confidently approved our new FY22-23 budget adding a specific budget for Performing Arts and now with your rejection of Robin the very program you approved a budget for is eliminated. This makes no sense to me.

I have seen your voting outcome and I am deeply disappointed by the obvious numbers game your votes reflect. Two Council members clearly had pre-arranged votes reflecting favoritism over merit. One of these two Council Members has attended our Yountville Arts events and programs and in particular those that were under my leadership, such as the recent *Legacy of Sally and Don Schmitt.* I regret but accept her opinion of my service as a #2 while the new applicant received a #4.The second Council Member has, to my knowledge never attended any of our Yountville Art Commission events or taken any interest in either our work or our meetings. I understand if a Council Member is not interested in the Arts but it is your responsibility to our community to be informed and vote responsibly. This Council Member voted me #1 while voting the new applicant a #3. An obvious numbers game is reflected in the final voting outcome and so unworthy of a leader of our Town. My feelings are not hurt by either of you. I am, however disappointed in you and your lack of leadership.

Respectfully,

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