

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

November 10, 2015
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Klein called the meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission to order at 7:01 P.M.

Present: Chair Regina Klein
Vice Chair Len Dickter
Commissioner Cherry
Commissioner Thomas Small
Commissioner John B. Williams

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Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Matthew Hetz.

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Public Comment – Items Not On the Agenda

Chair Klein invited public comment.

The following member of the audience addressed the Commission:

Dr. Janet Hault, Honorary Artist Laureate, distributed copies of an application for the Centennial Celebration Poetry Contest and Poetry Readings; she wanted the Cultural Affairs Commission involved with the development of criteria for the submission of poems; she discussed the need for a selection committee; the Artist Laureate Program; and support of the Commission.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding coordination with staff to ensure follow-up; active poets interested in collaborating; the Centennial; agreement to add an agenda item to the December meeting on creation of a new

ad hoc subcommittee; and appreciation to Dr. Hoult for her diligence.

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Action Items

Item A-1

Consideration of a Recommendation from the Ad Hoc 2016 Performing Arts Grant Program Subcommittee and a Recommendation to the City Council related to the 2016 Performing Arts Grant Program Awards

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, provided a summary of the material of record.

Chair Klein invited public participation.

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, read a written comment submitted by:

Cindy Bernard, Society for the Activation of Social Space through Art and Sound

The following members of the audience addressed the Commission:

Matthew Hetz, Culver City Symphony Orchestra, thanked the Commission for their support; discussed recent activities of the orchestra; the proposed grant performance at the Kirk Douglas Theatre; and he indicated that additional information is available at www.culvercitysymphony.org

Chair Klein noted that website information would be part of the record for any organization that provided it.

Darin Morris, The Jazz Bakery, provided a history of the organization; discussed the proposed grant performance in June 2016 at the Kirk Douglas Theatre by Poncho Sanchez and his Latin Jazz Band, as well as a workshop with the Culver City High School Academy of Visual and Performing Arts prior to the performance; he discussed plans to build a jazz cultural center next to the Kirk Douglas Theatre; the capital funding campaign; and advance ticket sales.

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, noted the artist change from the original Jazz Bakery proposal due to scheduling conflicts.

Laura Boccaletti, Culver City Public Theatre, expressed appreciation for the support and discussed upcoming events.

Arlene Cardenes, Culver City Chamber Orchestra, expressed appreciation for the award and for Commissioner attendance of their concerts; discussed *Cellomania*; and she announced upcoming events.

Jen Mulder, Vox Femina, expressed appreciation for the support; discussed the proposed grant performance *Harmonious Women Rocking the Universe* on April 24, 2016; and she announced upcoming concerts.

Karen Schetina, Benita Bike's Dance Art Company, expressed appreciation for past and present support from the City; invited everyone to attend upcoming events; and she indicated that additional information was available at www.danceart.org.

Donna Sternberg, Donna Sternberg and Dancers, expressed appreciation for Susan Obrow and the grant, and announced upcoming performances.

Carl Weintraub, We Tell Stories, expressed appreciation for Susan Obrow, provided background on the organization; discussed the Front and Center Theatre Collaborative; announced upcoming events; and he indicated that additional information was available at www.wetellstories.org.

Linda Sanner, Los Angeles Doctors Symphony Orchestra, expressed appreciation for the grant and announced their upcoming grant performance on November 22 at Veterans Memorial Auditorium.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding appreciation to the organizations for their applications and for taking the time to address the Commission; the increased number of applicants; and new grant recipients vs. returning grant recipients.

Amy Campion, Antics, discussed her organization noting that additional information was available at www.anticsperformance.com.

Rebecca Renard-Wilson, Contra-Tiempo Dance Company, expressed appreciation to the City for their continued support; discussed their proposed grant performance at the Ivy Substation; their program; she invited everyone to upcoming performances; and indicated that additional information was available at www.contra-tiempo.org.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SMALL AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2016 PERFORMING ARTS GRANTS AS NOTED IN THE STAFF REPORT.

Chair Klein indicated that the list of upcoming grant performances would be available on the City website; she encouraged grantees to keep Commissioners apprised of upcoming performances; discussed the grant process; and the upcoming Centennial.

Commissioner Williams discussed the Artist Laureate Program to represent different art forms in the City.

Commissioner Small expressed appreciation for the grant program.

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Receipt of Correspondence

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, indicated that no correspondence had been received.

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Public Comment – Items Not On the Agenda (Continued)

Chair Klein invited public input.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

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Items From Staff

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, read the mission statement for the Front and Center Theatre Collaborative; discussed the program; and she indicated that additional information was available at www.ccusdfrontandcenter.com.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, announced that the Commission would be changing its regular meeting day to the third Tuesday of each month beginning in 2016 with the January Commission meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 19, 2016.

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Items from Commissioners

Chair Klein thanked staff for a summary of the history of Cultural Affairs in Culver City at the October workshop and she requested feedback from Commissioners.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding benefits of the workshop; placing an item on the agenda regarding the Artist Laureate Program; creating an ad hoc subcommittee to work on developing the program; timing, priorities, urgency and timeframe; the Centennial Celebration Committee; additional information available at www.culvercity100.org; and money raised by Council Member Clarke to support ideas for the Centennial.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:05 P.M., the Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned to a meeting to be held at 7:00 P.M. on December 8, 2015.

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SECRETARY of the Cultural Affairs Commission

APPROVED _____

REGINA KLEIN
CHAIR of the Culver City Cultural Affairs Commission
Culver City, California

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that, on the date below written, these minutes were filed in the Office of the City Clerk, Culver City, California and constitute the Official Minutes of said meeting.

Martin R. Cole
CITY CLERK

Date