

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION,
CITY OF CULVER CITY,
CALIFORNIA

February 12, 2008
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission was called
to order at 7:03 P.M.

Present: Chair Luther Henderson
Vice Chair Gayle Smashey
Commissioner Clement Hanami
Commissioner Ronnie Jayne
Commissioner Marla Koosed

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Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mim Shapiro.

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Public Comment - Items Not On the Agenda

None.

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Item C-1

**Consent Calendar
Agenda Posting**

Moved by Commissioner Jayne, seconded by Vice Chair
Smashey, and unanimously passed to receive and file the
Secretary's Report on the Posting of the Agenda.

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Item C-2

**Consent Calendar
Meeting Minutes**

Moved by Commissioner Koosed and seconded by Commissioner Jayne to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2007 Regular Meeting as written. Voting on the motion was unanimous with the exception of Vice Chair Smashey who abstained as she was absent from that meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Smashey and seconded by Commissioner Hanami to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2008 Town Hall Meeting as written. The motion passed unanimously with Vice Chair Koosed and Commissioner Jayne abstaining due to their absence from that meeting.

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Item A-1

Action Items

Consideration of Updates for 2007 to the Adopted Community Cultural Plan

Performing Arts Coordinator and Special Events Producer Susan Obrow presented a summary of the material of record.

Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Christine Byers reported that the entire Cultural Plan was available for download from the City's website.

Commissioners expressed support for the Cultural Plan.

Responding to Commissioner Koosed, Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers provided a summary of the Cultural Affairs Foundation Board meeting on January 29.

Chair Henderson asked that difficulties with the voting and sound system in the Council Chambers be reported to maintenance.

Responding to Chair Henderson, Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers reviewed goals of the Cultural Plan, she reported on progress toward the goals, and she identified which goals were in the five-year target range.

Moved by Vice Chair Smashey, seconded by Commissioner Koosed and unanimously passed to receive and file the adopted Community Cultural Plan as updated with accomplishments for 2007.

Responding to Vice Chair Smashey, Performing Arts Coordinator and Special Events Producer Obrow reported that action items from the Cultural Affairs Foundation Board meeting included formation of an Advisory Committee and creation of Foundation stationery.

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Item A-2

Update of the 2008 Culver City Music Festival

Performing Arts Coordinator and Special Events Producer Obrow provided an update regarding the 2008 Culver City Music Festival and she agreed to provide a written update for the March Cultural Affairs Commission meeting.

Commissioner Jayne expressed disappointment in the process noting that the public was not allowed an opportunity for input and the Commission was bypassed entirely.

Chair Henderson agreed and suggested encouraging the Redevelopment Agency to look at including the Commission in the process for the 2009 series and to consider compiling a list of resources for future RFPs.

Responding to Chair Henderson, Performing Arts Coordinator and Special Events Producer Obrow reported on the RFP process and she explained that the Cultural Affairs Commission's Festivals and Events Subcommittee would be reviewing the proposed program of musical artists from Mr. Mandell and offering recommendations to be forwarded to the Redevelopment Agency Economic Development Subcommittee. She noted that there would be an option to renew Mr. Mandell's contract but that the decision to go out for RFP again would be made at the conclusion of the music festival or in September 2008.

Chair Henderson clarified that his concern was with the process, not with Mr. Mandell, and he was not pleased that the Commission was left out of the process this year.

Responding to Chair Henderson, Performing Arts Coordinator and Special Events Producer Obrow summarized responses from a survey conducted to determine what the audience was looking for.

The Commission asked that their comments concerning the process be conveyed to Community Development Director Blumenfeld and City Manager Fulwood.

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Item A-3

Consideration of Draft Public Art Walking Tour Map

Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers provided an overview of the map.

Commissioners thanked staff for their efforts and discussed changes to make the brochure more user-friendly.

Commissioner Hanami provided a marked-up copy of the brochure to staff.

Much discussion was devoted to the use of colored dots and Chair Henderson suggested producing both a color, and black and white version of the map to address concerns about people who are color-blind.

The Commission agreed that after changes were made the map would go to the CAC Public Art Subcommittee for review. Staff noted that the Commission could revisit the layout of the map after six months if it did not seem to be serving the public well.

Moved by Vice Chair Smashey, seconded by Commissioner Koosed, and unanimously passed that the Commission approve Option 2 of the Downtown Public Art Walking Tour map.

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Item A-4

Consideration of a Temporary Art Program for City Gateways and Nodes and a Temporary Art Installation in Conjunction with the 2008-2009 California Biennial Exhibition

Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers provided a summary of the material of record.

Commissioners expressed support for the proposed programs.

Commissioners discussed: concerns with committing City funds to the California Biennial project which would

benefit a private non-profit organization from Orange County; the need to focus efforts on the west side of town; support for a temporary art installation to identify entryways, but reluctance to be locked into anything; the prestige associated with being invited to be a venue in conjunction with the 2008 California Biennial; and the need for additional research and information.

Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers reported that the budget for the proposed installation in Culver City in conjunction with the California Biennial was about \$25,000 and the City was not being asked to pay all of this.

Commissioner Koosed urged the Commission to think about continuing the discussion, acknowledging that a lot more information was needed.

The Commission discussed: timing issues, and the importance of being in all the promotional materials if the City decided to participate; the possibility of participating with in-kind support; possible support from the galleries or dealers representing the artist; and concern with being rushed to decision.

Moved by Vice Chair Smashey and seconded by Commissioner Hanami to direct staff to develop a project proposal and budget for a temporary art installation in conjunction with the 2008 California Biennial and to return to the Cultural Affairs Commission for consideration. A roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

Moved by Commissioner Koosed, seconded by Commissioner Jayne, and unanimously passed to direct staff to develop a project proposal and budget for a temporary art program for City neighborhoods, gateways and other spaces and return to the Cultural Affairs Commission for consideration.

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Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

None.

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Receipt of Correspondence

None.

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Items From Staff

Performing Arts Coordinator and Special Events Producer Obrow announced that on March 3, 2008 the Cultural Affairs Division in conjunction with The Actors' Gang and Arts for All District Community Arts Team would hold a Cultural Community meet and greet at the Ivy Substation for professionals in the performing and visual arts to meet representatives of the Culver City School District.

Performing Arts Coordinator and Special Events Producer Obrow reported the successful completion of The Seventh Annual Music in the Chambers series.

Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers provided highlights of the Art Fund Report dated December 31, 2007 that was distributed to Commissioners. She noted that the CAC's Historic Preservation Subcommittee was eager to start a more active dialog on behalf of the Cultural Affairs Commission with the Culver City Historical Society.

Chair Henderson received clarification about encumbered, unencumbered and appropriated funds.

Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers reported that staff would be taking a report to the City Council on February 19, 2008 regarding the maintenance and repair of several art pieces in the City.

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Items From Commissioners

Vice Chair Smashey provided a monthly update on the Arts for All program.

Commissioner Koosed thanked staff for their hard work and reported attending "Bloody, Bloody Andrew Jackson" at the Kirk Douglas Theatre.

Commissioner Jayne reported attending the celebration for the Unusual Suspects who were recently honored in Washington. She complimented the Music in the Chambers

program noting that she had attended the excellent performance by Canadian Brass.

Chair Henderson thanked staff for their hard work on Music in the Chambers and for making things run smoothly for the Commission. He requested that staff provide information on the impacts of the state deficit on the Cultural Affairs budget and he asked for more information on the Architecture of Art symposium scheduled for next year.

Chair Henderson reported attending the Coming Up Taller Awards at the White House and he was pleased and proud that a Culver City group was honored. He reported speaking with the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts who expressed interest in learning more about the arts in Culver City.

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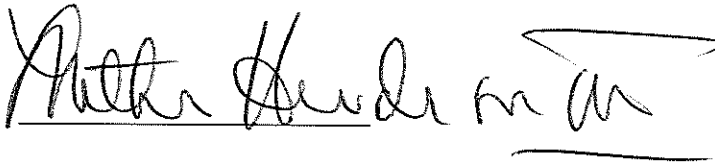
Adjournment

There being no further business, at 9:48 P.M., the Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned its meeting to a Regular Meeting to be held at 7:00 P.M. on March 11, 2008 in the Mike Balkman Council Chambers at City Hall.

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Kristi Callan
Minutes Reporter

APPROVED

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Luther Henderson", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large initial 'L' and a long, sweeping underline.

LUTHER HENDERSON
CHAIR of the Culver City Cultural Affairs Commission