

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

May 16, 2017
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Dickter called meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission to order at 7:01 P.M. in the Mike Balkman Chambers at City Hall.

Present: Chair Len Dickter
Commissioner Zoltan Pali
Commissioner Jeannine Wisnosky Stehlin
Commissioner John B. Williams

Absent: Vice Chair Rich Cherry

Staff: Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator
Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator
Louise Coffey-Webb, Public Art Collections Manager

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Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Brenda Williams.

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Public Comment – Items Not On the Agenda

Chair Dickter invited public comment.

The following member of the audience addressed the Commission:

Dr. Janet Hoult discussed her appointment as Honorary Artist Laureate for Poetry; the ad hoc Artist Laureate Subcommittee; her activities as Honorary Artist Laureate; Subcommittee work on the development of a process and procedures for the Artist

Laureate designation; City Council consideration of the guidelines before the end of the Centennial year; she indicated that she would be out of town next month; and she thanked staff and the Commission for their work.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Meeting Minutes

Chair Dickter thanked the City Council for the joint session with the Commission on April 18.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PALI THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JOINT CITY COUNCIL/CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION MEETING OF APRIL 18, 2017.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: DICKTER, PALI, WILLIAMS, WISNOSKY STEHLIN
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: CHERRY

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

1) Updates and Discussion Relating to the Creative Economy Report of Culver City; and 2) (As Desired) Appoint a Second Commissioner to the CAC Ad Hoc Creative Economy Report Subcommittee

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, noted that Chair Dickter would be up for reappointment to the Commission in June.

Chair Dickter reported that Vice Chair Cherry and Commissioner Williams would be stepping down as Commissioners; discussed the Creative Economy Report and thanked staff for their efforts; reported that Otis would be unveiling the County of Los Angeles Creative Economy Report on May 18; discussed partnerships with the County; pointed out that Culver City is the first small City to work with the LAEDC to create such a report and to develop policy, programming and promotional recommendations from the report; and he reported positive response from outreach.

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, reported that Laura Zucker of the Los Angeles County Arts Commission had been complimentary and would post the Culver City Creative Economy report to share with the wider community; indicated that she had facilitated communication between Chair Dickter and the Executive Director for the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department; and she reported attending the Los Angeles Arts Funders meeting noting that the link to the Culver City Creative Economy Report had been shared with them.

Chair Dickter discussed promotion of the report; Los Angeles County engagement of their constituencies and the public; adapting Los Angeles County methods for use in Culver City; the Creative Economy Report Subcommittee; the request from Council Member Sahli-Wells to hold a launch for the project; he noted that the Commission is in flux and would have new members in July; and he discussed the need to fill the vacancy on the Creative Economy Subcommittee left by Vice Chair Cherry.

Commissioner Pali volunteered to take Vice Chair Cherry's place on the Creative Economy Report Subcommittee.

Chair Dickter discussed the work of the Creative Economy Report Subcommittee; encouraged maintaining a collaborative, deliberative process, using the expertise that everyone brings to the Committee; and he noted that Commissioner Pali, brings his knowledge of the arts and business to the process.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY CHAIR DICKTER BY THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION APPOINT COMMISSIONER PALI TO SERVE ON THE AD HOC CREATIVE ECONOMY REPORT SUBCOMMITTEE THROUGH THE END OF FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: DICKTER, PALI, WILLIAMS, WISNOSKY STEHLIN

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: CHERRY

Chair Dickter noted that Vice Chair Cherry also served on the Public Art Subcommittee, but as there is no business to be done in the next 60 days, there is no need to appoint anyone before then.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding updates on the Creative Economy Report and the intersection with Los Angeles County, and skill sets for long and short term objectives.

Chair Dickter reported on meeting with the Chamber of Commerce; noted the desire of the Chamber of Commerce to be involved; and he discussed upcoming meetings with the Downtown Business Association and other arts partners.

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Public Comment – Items Not On the Agenda (Continued)

Chair Dickter invited public input.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

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Receipt of Correspondence

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, reported that no correspondence had been received.

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Items From Staff

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, announced upcoming Performing Arts Grant Program performances including the Symphonic Jazz Orchestra on May 20 in the Rotunda Room at Veterans Memorial Building; the Westside Youth Orchestra performance also on May 20 at Park Century School; the Culver City Chamber Orchestra Centennial Celebration Concert on May 27 at Turning Point School; a performance by Benita Bike's Dance Art at the Senior Center on June 4; and she reported that Sony Pictures Entertainment would be contributing \$15,000 to the 2018 Performing Arts Grant Program.

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Items from Commissioners

Commissioner Wisnosky Stehlin reported attending a Los Angeles Theatre Town Hall with the Los Angeles County Arts Commission and the Los Angeles Arts Commission at Barnsdall Gallery Theatre where theatre in Los Angeles and the National Endowment for the Arts were discussed; she attended the LA Stage Raw Theatre Awards; discussed the need for an intimate space for theatre in Culver City; and she expressed hope that the Black Box Theatre in Veterans Memorial Auditorium would be realized.

Chair Dickter reported attending two performances of *1988* noting that there were two more performances left in the series with information available on the City website, and he encouraged everyone to attend.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 7:28 P.M., the Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned to a meeting to be held at 7:00 P.M. on June 20, 2017 in the Mike Balkman Chambers at City Hall.

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SECRETARY of the Cultural Affairs Commission

APPROVED _____

LEN DICKTER

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.

Jeremy Green
CITY CLERK

Date