

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

October 18, 2022
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Fleischer called the regular meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission to order at 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers at City Hall.

Present: Chair Tania Fleischer
Vice Chair Brenda Williams
Commissioner Ehsaan Mesghali
Commissioner Leora O'Carroll
Commissioner Jeannine Wisnosky Stehlin

Staff: Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Manager
Lee Lawlor, Performing Arts Associate

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Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Fleischer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Receipt of Correspondence

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Manager, reported that no correspondence had been received.

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Public Comment - Items NOT On the Agenda

Chair Fleischer invited public comment.

The following member of the public addressed the Commission:

Alexey Steele, Artist Laureate, provided a report on the recent Art Walk & Roll Festival; discussed the work of the City to preserve art in Culver City; participation of the Artist Laureate Program in a live city event; the continuing General Plan Update process; policies being shaped and developed for the next 25 years; precedent; support of the arts by the City Council; collective experience; the importance of the arts as highlighted in the national emergency; he announced a collaboration between the Los Angeles County program LA vs. Hate and his *Love My Neighbor* project; discussed United Against Hate Week, November 13-19; he invited everyone to a live portrait of Candance Pilgram-Simmons at the Wende Museum on November 13 and the City Council Proclamation presentation on November 14; noted the importance of advocacy by the Artist Laureate; providing visible impacts in the city; collaboration with CCUSD (Culver City Unified School District); the Village Well bookstore; and the importance of ensuring the future of the arts.

Chair Fleischer received clarification that staff would send out a GovDelivery email bulletin for the Wende Museum event and she expressed appreciation to Mr. Steele for his points on policy.

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Consent Calendar Items

None.

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Order of the Agenda

Receipt of Correspondence was considered before Public Comment for Items NOT On The Agenda.

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Action Items

Item A-1

CAC - 1) Consideration of a Concept by Marc Fornes/THEVERYMANY Toward Fulfillment of the City's Art in Public Places Program Requirement for The Culver Studios and The Culver Steps

Beau Basse, LeBasse Projects, discussed The Culver Steps; Hackman Capital Partners; project goals; the artist; the view from the Culver Hotel; engagement opportunities; providing a backdrop for large and small activations; shading; scalability; sightlines; involvement of the hotel in the design process; size of the project; different levels of sculptural engagement; color; and widespread support received for the project.

Discussion ensued between Mr. Basse, staff, and Commissioners regarding color choice; fulfillment of stated goals; the landmark piece; drawing people in to engage with the space; providing shade; the intent for the piece to be an active part of the community; potential use of a gradient color; providing places for people to sit or climb; interactivity; concern that the white color would get dirty; the intentional design to make it difficult to climb; strength of the structure if it is climbed; the process; the timeline; the performance space with the sculpture as a backdrop; vantage points; sightlines; structural supports; a suggestion to project colored lights onto the sculpture if it is white; acoustics; sound; clarification that the sculpture does not contain any sharp edges; concern with glare; graffiti prevention; maintenance; security; lighting; the jacaranda trees used for the inspiration; and concern that if the structure is white it will look like fungi.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER O'CARROLL, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WISNOSKY STEHLIN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION: APPROVE AN ART CONCEPT BY THEVERYMANY TOWARD FULFILLMENT OF THE APPP REQUIREMENT FOR A PROJECT BY HACKMAN CAPITAL PARTNERS LLC AT THE CULVER STUDIOS AND THE CULVER STEPS.

Item A-2

CAC - Consideration of a Concept for a Permanent Art Installation by The Haas Brothers Toward Fulfillment of the City's Art in Public Places Program Requirement for a Project at 3512-16 Schaefer St. and 8570 National Blvd.

Beau Basse, LeBasse Projects, provided background on the project; discussed consideration of the two developments as a single project; restaurant/retail; background of the artists; adding humor, excitement, and memorability to the project; scale; a suggestion that both figures have lighting; budget; going out of pocket rather than meeting the bare minimum; and the finish and color of the sculpture.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding the process and timeline; work with the Planning Commission; the contrast between the characters and the modern industrial building; support for the wholistic approach; lighting; continuity between the characters; visibility; appreciation for the statement made with the playful public art; height exceptions for architectural features; precedent; materials; rigidity of the hanging lights; height of the orbs; Instagram-able moments in the city; and Commissioners expressed eagerness to meet the artists.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WISNOSKY STEHLIN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION: APPROVE AN ART CONCEPT BY THE HAAS BROTHERS TOWARD FULFILLMENT OF THE APPP REQUIREMENT FOR A PROJECT BY REDCAR PROPERTIES LTD. AT 3512-16 SCHAEFER ST. AND 8570 NATIONAL BLVD.

Staff and Commissioners thanked Beau Basse for his work.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Manager, noted the amount of work put into the process by the consultant and the subcommittee.

Public Comment – Items Not On the Agenda (Continued)

Chair Fleischer invited public comment.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Manager, indicated that there was no further Public Comment for Items NOT on the Agenda.

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Items from Members/Staff

Commissioner Mesghali acknowledged that one of his students was present at the meeting.

Commissioners all welcomed and thanked Commissioner Mesghali's student for attending.

Commissioner Wisnosky Stehlin reported attending the Tito's Tacos event; discussed money raised to support the arts in Culver City by the Culver City Arts Foundation; and the Proclamation for Arts and Humanities Month at the October 10 City Council meeting.

Commissioner O'Carroll discussed the success of the Tito's Fiesta Mexicana event on October 4 and money raised for the arts.

Chair Fleischer thanked staff for their hard work on the Performing Arts Grant Program Peer Review Panel held on October 14; discussed the hybrid meeting; increasing access for people and allowing for different perspectives; she thanked Sony Pictures Entertainment for supporting the Performing Arts Grant Program; and she hoped that Culver Arts would continue to support the program as well.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:13 P.M., the Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned to a meeting to be held at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, November 15, 2022.

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SECRETARY of the Cultural Affairs Commission

APPROVED _____

TANIA FLEISCHER
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 Bocchino
CITY CLERK

Date