

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

June 11, 2024
6:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The special meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission Public Art Subcommittee was called to order at 6:05 P.M. in the Patio Room at City Hall.

Present: Brenda Williams, Chair
Ehsaan Mesghali, Commissioner

Staff: Sally Unsworth, Cultural Affairs Manager
Sam Lee, Cultural Affairs Analyst

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Public Comment - Items NOT On The Agenda

No requests to speak for Items NOT On the Agenda were received.

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Consent Calendar Items

MOVED BY CHAIR WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MESGHALI AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE APPROVE ITEMS C-1 AND C-2.

Item C-1

Approval of Minutes of the June 1, 2023 CAC Public Art Subcommittee Meeting

THAT CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 1, 2023 CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING.

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Item C-2

Approval of Minutes of the August 24, 2023 CAC Public Art Subcommittee Meeting

THAT CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE AUGUST 24, 2023 CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING.

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Action Items

Item A-1

1) Deaccession a Permanent Artwork, "Sentry", by John Okulick at 4040 Duquesne Avenue; 2) Provide Comments; and, 3) Make Recommendation to the Cultural Affairs Commission

Sam Lee, Cultural Affairs Analyst, provided a summary of the material of record.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding regular recommended maintenance; lack of communication with the artist; difficulty salvaging artwork; the popular trend of fountains in the 1990s; putting in something new to refresh the space; the recommendation to the Cultural Affairs Commission; the deaccession process; the process for a creating a new installation; involvement of the Culver City Police Department (CCPD) in the artist selection process; the general timeline; instigation of the deaccession; rationale for the deaccession; confirmation regarding the cultural significance or lack thereof, of the artist or the piece; maintenance fees; the public process; following guidelines; transparency; the need for a statement of value; use of the ramp by skateboarders; damage to the tiles; the current state of disrepair; the process for public notification; the City-owned artwork; notification rather than discussion; the project budget; re-configuring the area; the dated piece; the original intent of the water feature; support for a recommendation that deaccession goes to the full Commission for consideration; concern with taking someone's work for granted; the need for a report indicating there is no significant value; subjectivity; cost issues; the larger

conversation about the Culver City-owned public art collection; money to conserve artwork that needs major restoration; consideration of deaccessioning pieces in Culver City due to major cost issues and the inability to restore all pieces to their original function; usable life of the pieces; opening space for new projects; staff agreement to provide information about how the deaccession came about and the rationale for deaccession to the Subcommittee prior to meeting with the full Commission; inclusion of a reference to upcoming deaccessions to clean Culver City up for the Olympics and to make way for more well-known artists; and the opportunity to engage in a thoughtful deaccession.

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Items from Members/Staff

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the municipal code; developer fees; the Supreme Court; guidance from the Legal Department before moving forward; follow up with Beau Basse on an artist he had previously presented to the Subcommittee; the timeline for spending Cultural Trust funds; AB1600; the parameters around how Cultural Affairs is funded; support for providing a presentation to the full Commission; confirmation that Sam Lee's contract was extended; support for work to make the position permanent; a suggestion that Lee Lawlor provide a report on the recent Creative Economy Report at Sony for the next Commission meeting; Performing Arts as the leading indicator of growth; use of empty buildings for pop-ups; the shifting economy; creating a local competition for a vinyl wrap of electric boxes leading up to the Olympics; electric boxes in Los Angeles vs. those in Culver City; creating a simple process; challenges with storefront art programs; involvement of the Artist Laureate; Olympics Subcommittee meetings; park areas where wraps would be appropriate; City branding; City communication; building the templates; the World Cup; formulation of a budget in order to make a pitch for funding; Public Art; flexibility with the Temporary Art budget; Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs); partnerships; Olympics funding; other surfaces to wrap; art pop-ups; Instagrammable installations; easing people into more permanent artwork in underserved areas; creating a menu of pre-designs and artists; providing continuity; length of the installation; and making art available to developers with temporary beautification needs.

Sam Lee, Cultural Affairs Analyst, indicated that he would be providing Subcommittee Members with information about Farragut Connector project.

Sally Unsworth, Cultural Affairs Manager, indicated that June 24, 2024 would be her first day in the office in Culver City.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the special meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission Public Art Subcommittee adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

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Jeremy Bocchino
CITY CLERK of Culver City, California
EX-OFFICIO CITY CLERK of the City Council of Culver City,
California

APPROVED _____

Brenda Williams
CHAIR of the Culver City Cultural Affairs Commission
Public Art Subcommittee