

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

June 8, 2010
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission was called to order at 7:04 P.M.

Present: Chair Marla Koosed
Vice Chair Clement Hanami
Commissioner Marlyn Musicant
Commissioner Ronnie Jayne

Absent: Commissioner Gayle Smashey

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Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bill Wynn.

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Public Comment - Items Not On the Agenda

Bill Wynn, Film Independent, invited everyone to the Los Angeles Film Festival from June 17 - 27 noting that he would be hosting a film called "A Small Act."

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CONSENT CALENDAR

Item C-1

Agenda Posting

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER JAYNE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MUSICANT, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT COMMISSIONER SMASHEY) TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE SECRETARY'S REPORT ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA.

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Item C-2

Meeting Minutes

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER MUSICANT AND SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR HANAMI, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 11, 2010 REGULAR MEETING. THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: HANAMI, KOOSSED AND MUSICANT
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: JAYNE
ABSENT: SMASHEY

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Action Items

Item A-1

Consideration of Removal of a Public Artwork Entitled, *Menhir No. 2*, from the Property Located at 5660 Sepulveda Blvd.

Chair Koosed invited public participation.

The following member of the audience addressed the Commission:

Mim Shapiro provided background on the approval process for the art work and expressed support for its removal, asserting that the property owner should be responsible for removing the art from the site.

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

Discussion between staff and the Commission included: the valuation of the development project in 1994-95; the 1% requirement for public art; and responsibility for removal of the art work.

Mim Shapiro clarified that the responsibility for the artwork, maintenance, and removal of it belonged to the property owner in perpetuity.

Additional discussion between staff and the Commission included: guidelines for removal and deaccessioning of art work from other cities; costs associated with the removal; what was paid for the art versus what the sculpture was appraised at in 1995; specific language with regard to removal of artwork; standards for deaccessioning and

disposal; setting a precedent; the Commission as stewards of the public art collection in the City; concern with discouraging developers from participating; reducing the value of the City's public art collection through deaccessioning; proceeds from disposal; museum standards vs. standards for public art programs; non-disclosure; the issue of not maintaining the art work as one between the current owner and the former property owner; mechanisms to ensure that public art is included in the title report; longevity of public art and annual inspections; and certificates of occupancy.

Mim Shapiro stated that the artwork was not worthy of approval for that location and exposure to the elements.

Further discussion between staff and the Commission included: serious consideration of a policy to address an aging City art collection; applicability of the artwork to the location when use of the property changes over time; artwork on public property vs. artwork on private property; strengthening the collection vs. community benefit; City guidelines for property maintenance; terminology; re-visiting the art ordinance; past experience with deaccessioning; responsibility of the developer; restoring the artwork; maintenance obligations; and relocating the artwork to another site on the property.

Mim Shapiro suggested that the art be relocated where it would be protected from the weather and less likely to deteriorate.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR HANAMI, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MUSICANT, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT COMMISSIONER SMASHEY) THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION RECOMMEND THAT DDR CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:

1. Dispose of the art work entitled Menhir No. 2 by Daniel Wurtzel and pay an in-lieu fee of \$31,250, minus actual costs for disposal, to the City Art Fund; OR
2. Dispose of the art work entitled Menhir No. 2 by Daniel Wurtzel, and commission new art work for the property at 5660 Sepulveda Boulevard in conjunction with Culver City's Art in Public Places Program requirements with a minimum valuation of \$31,250, minus the actual costs for disposal; OR
3. Restore the art work entitled Menhir No. 2 by Daniel Wurtzel, leave it in its current location on the property at 5660 Sepulveda Boulevard, and continue to maintain it in perpetuity; OR

4. Restore the art work entitled Menhir No. 2 by Daniel Wurtzel and move it to another location within the property at 5660 Sepulveda Boulevard.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER JAYNE, SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR HANAMI, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT COMMISSIONER SMASHEY) THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION AGREE THAT IF DDR CHOOSES OPTION 1 OR 2 ABOVE, THE COMMISSION WILL ALLOW FOR DEACCESSION OF THE ARTWORK FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

1. The art work is excessively deteriorated and its value has been diminished; and
2. The art work was fabricated from materials that had a limited durability when exposed to the elements; and
3. Due to the choice in materials, the maintenance obligation is excessive; and
4. The current siting of the art work is not the most advantageous; and
5. The art work has served its public benefit while displayed in its current location.

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Receipt of Correspondence

Jeremy Green, Cultural Affairs Administration and Special Projects Coordinator, distributed an invitation to 4th of July Fireworks from the Exchange Club, a flyer for the Culver City Chamber Orchestra 2010-2011 season, and an invitation from the Culver City High School Academy of Visual and Performing Arts Gala Benefit on June 12 at the Kirk Douglas Theatre.

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Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

None.

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Items From Staff

Susan Obrow, Performing Arts and Special Events Coordinator, reported

on the success of ARTWALK Culver City and announced recently past and upcoming performing arts events in the City.

Christine Byers, Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator, thanked those who attended the installation of Historical Marker #12 by the Culver City Historical Society at Dr. Paul Carlson Memorial Park on May 22, 2010.

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Items From Commissioners

Commissioner Jayne discussed her experiences at ARTWALK Culver City and thanked Vice Chair Hanami for his service.

Vice Chair Hanami reported attending ARTWALK Culver City and indicated that he had enjoyed serving as a Cultural Affairs Commissioner.

Commissioner Musicant enjoyed attending the installation of Historic Marker #12 and the recent Vox Femina performance, and she reported that Bill Arning from the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston arrived in Los Angeles to attend the American Association of Museums' annual conference a day early specifically to visit art galleries in Culver City.

Mim Shapiro added that Culver City was well represented in magazines on the east coast.

Commissioner Musicant reported on her experiences at ARTWALK Culver City; cited an article in the *Los Angeles Times* on June 6 regarding the role of public art in Los Angeles; hoped the 25th anniversary for Culver City's Art in Public Places Program would be marked by a special event; and she thanked Clement Hanami for his service.

Chair Koosed announced a reading of *Richard and Felix* on June 13 by Center Theatre Group at the Kirk Douglas Theatre relating to City-wide events happening in conjunction with *The Ring Cycle*; encouraged everyone to visit the City website for additional information on cultural events going on in the City; reported attending the Culver City Historical Society's event in Carlson Park; reminded everyone to attend the annual Culver City Historical Society picnic at Vets Park on July 21; congratulated staff on a successful ARTWALK event and discussed her observations of the event; and she thanked Vice Chair Hanami for his service to the Commission.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 9:08 P.M., the Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned its meeting in memory of Albert Vera to a Regular Meeting to be held at 7:00 P.M. on July 13, 2010 in the Mike Balkman Chambers at City Hall.

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SECRETARY of the Cultural Affairs Commission

APPROVED

July 13, 2010

MARLA KOOSSED
CHAIR of the Culver City Cultural Affairs Commission
City of 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, City of Culver City, California and constitute the Official Minutes of said meeting.

Martin R. Cole
CITY CLERK

Date

By: _____

Ela Valladares
Deputy City Clerk