

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

December 8, 2015
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Klein called meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission to order at 7:01 P.M.

Present: Chair Regina Klein
Vice Chair Len Dickter
Commissioner Cherry
Commissioner Thomas Small
Commissioner John B. Williams

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Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Klein.

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Public Comment – Items Not On the Agenda

Chair Klein invited public comment.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Meeting Minutes

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CHERRY THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION APPROVE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF OCTOBER 29, 2015.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: CHERRY, DICKTER, KLEIN, WILLIAMS
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: SMALL

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR DICKTER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SMALL AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION APPROVE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 10, 2015.

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Action Items

Item A-1

1) Dissolution of the Ad Hoc Honorary City Poet Laureate Subcommittee; 2) Creation of an Ad Hoc Artist Laureate Subcommittee; and, 3) Appoint Commissioners to the Ad Hoc Artist Laureate Subcommittee

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, provided a summary of the material of record.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER CHERRY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SMALL AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION DISSOLVE THE AD HOC HONORARY CITY POET LAUREATE SUBCOMMITTEE.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR DICKTER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CHERRY AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION CREATE AN AD HOC ARTIST LAUREATE SUBCOMMITTEE.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding clarification on the focus of the subcommittee; Dr. Hoult's position as Artist Laureate for Poetry and the City's Centennial; staff involvement; duties of Dr. Hoult; exploring and developing the program; the term of the subcommittee; and continuity.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER CHERRY, SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR DICKTER AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION APPOINT COMMISSIONERS SMALL AND WILLIAMS TO SERVE ON THE AD HOC ARTIST LAUREATE SUBCOMMITTEE.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, indicated that she would be in contact with Dr. Hoult who is anxious to move forward.

Chair Klein thanked Christine Byers for her diligent work on the item.

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Receipt of Correspondence

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, indicated that no correspondence had been received.

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Public Comment – Items Not On the Agenda (Continued)

Chair Klein invited public input.

The following members of the audience addressed the Commission:

Daniel Lee, Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee, invited everyone to the MLK celebration on January 16, 2016; he described planned events; and he reported that local civil rights activists were encouraged to participate.

Discussion ensued between Commissioners and the speaker regarding Commission support of the event; clarification that the event would be held at the Senior Center; contact information; clarification that the event is the official City event commemorating the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr.; promotion for the event; the twelve-month timeline; outreach to different groups; coordination with the Mayme A. Clayton Library & Museum and West Los Angeles College; Commission participation; the panel discussion; youth involvement; the theme of the event; and the community service fair.

Charles Babb, provided background on himself and the ACTIVATE Arts Advocacy Leadership Program; reported that he would be presenting to the Cultural Affairs Commission in the future; and he described his project.

Chair Klein reported meeting Mr. Babb as part of the Los Angeles ACTIVATE group and she encouraged him to speak with others present at the meeting.

Discussion ensued between Commissioners and Mr. Babb regarding his introduction of a project in Culver City; bridging the community into being developers of technology rather than just consumers; and concern with families being pushed out.

Denise Neal, Culture International, provided background on herself; relationship building; the Manchester Bidwell Corporation; William Strickland; the Veterans Memorial Complex; and finding a place for everyone.

Discussion ensued between staff, Commissioners and Ms. Neal regarding following the model used by William Strickland; encouragement to Ms. Neal to do additional research and put together a proposal; and encouragement to Ms. Neal to work with and learn from existing non-profit organizations.

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Items From Staff

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, discussed the Culver Studios Comprehensive Plan Amendment scheduled for City Council consideration on December 14; the 700 Corporate Pointe project; the next meeting of the Public Art subcommittee in January 2016 and Commission consideration of the item in February; and the change of the Cultural Affairs Commission's regular meeting day to the third Tuesday of each month starting in January.

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Items from Commissioners

Chair Klein discussed opportunities moving forward; working more collaboratively with the Cultural Affairs Foundation; support of subcommittee work; the recent Foundation Public Relations Subcommittee meeting; outreach; additional participation opportunities; and how to interface with other groups.

Vice Chair Dickter discussed the Public Relations Subcommittee of the Foundation Board; a suggestion to place on an upcoming CAC agenda an item pertaining to publishing a monthly column and other communication tools.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding where the column might be published; consensus to consider the item at the next regular meeting in January; creating a timeline for topics.

Barbara Hoenig, Culver City Centennial Celebration Committee, discussed the importance of collaboration between the Centennial Committee and the Commission; the subcommittee on arts and culture; she indicated that a calendar of meetings would be on the Centennial Committee's website; and the goal to represent all cultures that are part of the City in some way during the Centennial year.

Commissioner Williams observed current difficulties with race relations; the importance of promoting harmony; the multi-cultural nature of the City; concern with anti-Muslim sentiment; and respect for all cultures.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding existing groups in the City that promote inclusivity and respect for all cultures; looking toward the next century; involvement of the Centennial Committee; and bringing the entire community together in celebration.

Daniel Lee suggested an event to bring all religions together for a show of solidarity in Culver City.

Commissioner Williams discussed education to bring about change, and arts events to educate and promote unity.

Chair Klein discussed subcommittee work to ease staff workload; relationship building to support programming; she suggested brainstorming to return with ideas for consideration at the January Commission meeting; and she thanked staff and Commissioners for their work throughout the year.

Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:25 P.M., the Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned to a meeting to be held at 7:00 P.M. on January 19, 2016.

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SECRETARY of the Cultural Affairs Commission

APPROVED _____

REGINA KLEIN
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.

Martin R. Cole
CITY CLERK

Date