

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

May 17, 2016
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Klein called meeting of the Cultural Affairs
Commission to order at 7:02 P.M.

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

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Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rich Cherry.

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Public Comment - Items Not On the Agenda

Chair Klein invited public comment.

The following members of the audience addressed the
Commission:

Jim Clarke, Mayor, discussed changing the organizational
structure of the Cultural Affairs Foundation; having the
Foundation become a 501(c)(3); and the Education Foundation
and Centennial models.

Discussion ensued between Mayor Clarke, staff and
Commissioners regarding writing a Memorandum of
Understanding; work with the Commission; allowing more
flexibility; alleviating Brown Act issues; whether the Chair
and Vice Chair would continue to serve on the Foundation;
creation of revised bylaws; staff time involved to research
the matter; scheduling; Commission consensus to agendize a
discussion of the item; discussion with Foundation Board

members; and establishing a subcommittee to discuss the issue.

Dr. Janet Hoult discussed the 501(c)(3) process; offered her assistance; reported that she teaches poetry and is the Honorary Artist Laureate for Poetry of the City; announced the first "Poet Tea" poetry reading at the Senior Center; she reported that there would be a poetry reading focused on Culver City history in September in conjunction with the Centennial; and she reported the production of bookmarks every three months containing listings of events in the City to help engage residents as part of the Centennial.

Chair Klein reported that the Commission had a liaison to the Centennial Committee and she asked non-Commissioner meeting attendees to introduce themselves.

Serena Wright-Black, Human Resources Director, introduced herself.

Carolyn Strauss, Bob Coombs, Sean Finn, Andrew Leist, Brenda Williams, and John Flynn introduced themselves indicating that they were interested in serving on the Commission.

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Presentation

Item P-1

Update on the Transformation of the Former National Guard Armory to a Museum Space for The Wende Museum

Justin Jampol, The Wende Museum, described the unconventional nature of the museum; museum involvement with a show on the Food Network and a show opening at Fondazione Prada in Milan; the new museum home at the former Armory; fine tuning the construction project while finishing the fundraising; competition; bids; differing numbers; the process; delays; the learning process; gifts; permits; items in the collection; collaboration with other organizations; he presented renderings to the Commission; discussed transparency; accessibility; making the full collection accessible at all times; and work with the Veterans Memorial Park community.

Discussion ensued between staff, Commissioners and audience members regarding a proposed bass instrument donation from Commissioner Williams; formation of the museum; the sections of the Berlin Wall; whether there are plans for a restaurant on site; planning and zoning; the ability to have a café; revenue streams; gift shops; and support of ongoing operations.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair Dickter pointed out a missing zero in the \$28,000 figure in the first paragraph of page 6.

Chair Klein expressed concern that Susan Obrow's title was incorrectly noted on page 9 and that she did not see a mention of the Los Angeles County Arts Commission Town Hall in Culver City with the topic of Equity Inclusion.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, clarified that Special Events Coordinator is the title that Ms. Obrow uses in this capacity.

Commissioner Williams pointed out that the LACAC Town Hall meeting was noted on page 3 of the minutes.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR DICKTER AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF APRIL 19, 2016 AS CORRECTED.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

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

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Action Items

Item A-1

Continued Discussion of Proposed FY 2016-17 Cultural Trust Fund Budget for Cultural Affairs, Including Proposed Public Art for the Washington/National TOD Gateway and Higuera Bridge and Bike Ramp Projects

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, discussed the review of the proposed budget last month and the request for additional consideration of two capital improvement projects.

Sol Blumenfeld, Community Development Director, provided background on himself; discussed Transit Oriented Development (TOD); the process behind bringing the train into Culver City; the need to fully park all projects in the City; development rights in the right of way; the triangle site; the demise of redevelopment; the 20 year process; other entitled projects; density bonuses; the streetscape plan; mobility; the significance of the corner of Washington and National Boulevards; the collaborative effort; a contribution from the Cultural Trust Fund to development of the site; possible concepts and artists; lighting; tying the TOD district to the downtown area; and setbacks.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding the preliminary budget; the 1% requirement for the Lowe Enterprise and VCN projects; incentive zoning; public benefit; Commission involvement in the process for a combined gateway artwork; the RFP/RFQ process; CAC subcommittee involvement; the preliminary art budget; the City contribution; the Lowe Enterprises contribution; dedicated public park space; making a good faith effort by appropriating the funds now through the FY 2016-17 budget process; the public right of way; opportunity for input; Access Culver City; and tying the corners together.

Additional discussion ensued between staff, meeting participants and Commissioners regarding the historical significance of the corner; the Centennial; the right of

way; dedications and permits; streetscape; total number of parking spaces; train passenger parking spaces; alternative transit routes; the change to paid parking; having a visitor's center or cultural center at the site; maximizing the community benefit; participation in the entitlement process; the CAC Public Art subcommittee; the importance of attending City Council and Planning Commission meetings; context; installation of a band shell; public space; the agreement for the art component; fulfilling the requirement; in lieu fees; ongoing maintenance costs; and collections management and conservation.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, discussed the Higuera Street Bridge; the retaining wall; the estimate; scheduled ground breaking; preliminary ideas; the process; input; funding; drawings from Public Works; maps; the City Manager's budget; she introduced Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator; discussed the Performing Arts Grant Program; fund administration; administrative overhead; and maintenance.

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, discussed funding for the Culver City Performing Arts Grant Program and the upcoming Centennial; subcommittee review of the language in the grant application; and, responding to inquiries, she noted that she also manages Veterans Memorial Building and rental operations.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, reported a discussion on a possible public art component in conjunction with the Centennial with Barbara Honig; discussed temporary art installations; the importance of working in a coordinated fashion; and she provided background on herself.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding special events related to Performing Arts Grants; the current budget; appreciation for the presentation from Mr. Blumenfeld; context; understanding the plan; whether the allocation of such a large amount of money for the bridge which has limited visibility is wise; perspective; increased use by cyclists; pedestrian traffic; clarification that delaying approval would require a budget amendment in the future in order to move forward with the project; designs within the concrete;

graffiti and maintenance issues; discussion with Ballona Creek Renaissance; a suggestion to have a supervising artist organize and utilize graffiti artists; actual costs; community input; clarification that the purpose of the conversation is not to choose the project but rather to allocate the money since the project will be breaking ground in January; concern with the significant amount budgeted; the available balance of the Cultural Trust Fund; the need for more study and consideration; ensuring that something can be incorporated after the fact; funding; transportation grant money; possible Foundation Board assistance; the recent loss of the incumbent Public Works Management Analyst who is responsible for obtaining grant money for various projects; the presentation scheduled for the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission meeting; other voices to be included in the process; and agreement to relay the feedback of the Commission to Public Works.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR DICKTER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CHERRY AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION:

1. RECOMMEND THE CITY MANAGER INCLUDE \$300,000 IN THE FY 2016-17 CULTURAL TRUST FUND BUDGET FOR A POTENTIAL WASHINGTON/NATIONAL BOULEVARD TOD GATEWAY ARTWORK; AND
2. REQUEST THAT STAFF BRING BACK TO THE COMMISSION FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION AT A FUTURE DATE THE PUBLIC ART COMPONENT FOR THE NEW HIGUERA STREET BRIDGE AND BIKE RAMP.

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Item A-2

Update on the Cultural Affairs News Column

Chair Klein introduced the item; presented the column; discussed placement; and editing.

Vice Chair Dickter reported writing a teaser article on the Creative Economy Report; discussed providing context for the report; and the possibility of having the Los Angeles Times publish the column.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding promotion of Performing Arts Grant Performances in the column; editing by the newspaper; an observation that the Santa Monica paper provided better coverage than the Culver City News had; and encouragement to everyone to submit events for listing.

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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.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

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Items From Staff

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, announced upcoming Performing Arts Grant performances; she discussed the Los Angeles County Arts Commission Town Hall meeting, focused on cultural equity, at the Veterans Memorial Building on June 18 noting that there are two meetings per each Supervisor's District; and she discussed publicity.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding encouragement to everyone in the arts to spread the word on the event; additional information available at artsequityla.com; excitement that an arts Town Hall would be held in the City; Commission support of the Town Hall meeting; opening remarks; the goal of developing initiatives for cultural equity in the County; signing up for GovDelivery; the electronic mailing list; and the need to RSVP on the website.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, indicated that the public art installation for the Access Culver City project would begin in June, and she reported that the City Council appreciated when Commissioners attend budget sessions.

Serena Wright-Black, Human Resources Director, reported that the City Manager had given her the new title of Director of Administrative Services and that part of her role would be to assist Ms. Byers with the Cultural Affairs Commission.

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Items from Commissioners

Chair Klein thanked Ms. Wright for attending the meeting acknowledging the demands on her time.
Commissioner Cherry received clarification regarding subcommittee openings.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, reported that an email would be going out to Commission applicants regarding interviews conducted at a publicly noticed meeting on May 31; she noted that appointments would be made in June; and she added that the full Commission would not be seated until the July meeting and subcommittee assignments would be addressed at that time.

Discussion ensued between staff, Commissioners and attendees regarding applications for multiple Commissions, and appreciation to applicants for taking the time to attend the meeting.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding meeting schedule; availability; Brown Act issues; publicly accessible locations; agenda items for June; a suggestion to hold a joint meeting with the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission; coordination; resources; and clarification that a meeting of two subcommittees from two different bodies would create a Brown Act issue.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 9:22 P.M., the Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned to a meeting to be held at 7:00 P.M. on June 21, 2016.

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SECRETARY of the Cultural Affairs Commission

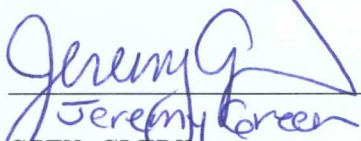
APPROVED 07.19.2016



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.



Deputy Jeremy Green
CITY CLERK

21 JULY 2016
Date