

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

August 14, 2007
6:30 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission was called to order at 6:36 P.M.

Present: Chair Luther Henderson
Vice Chair Gayle Smashey
Commissioner Clement Hanami*
Commissioner Ronnie Jayne**
Commissioner Marla Koosed

* Commissioner Hanami arrived at 6:41 p.m.

** Commissioner Jayne left the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

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Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Tom Camarella.

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Item C-1

Consent Calendar Agenda Posting

Moved by Commissioner Jayne, seconded by Commissioner Smashey, and unanimously passed to receive and file the Secretary's Report on the Posting of the Agenda.

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Item C-2

Consent Calendar Meeting Minutes

Moved by Commissioner Jayne, seconded by Commissioner Koosed, and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2007 Adjourned Regular Meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Jayne, seconded by Commissioner Hanami, and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2007 Regular Meeting as written.

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Item A-1

Action Items

Council Chambers Voting System Training

Commissioners were trained on how to use the Council Chambers voting system.

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Public Comment

Mercedes Paz-Slimp, Chairperson of the Culver City Cultural Affairs Foundation, announced members of the newly formed Foundation Board noting that they were very excited about moving forward.

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Item A-2

Consideration of Concepts for Enhancements to the Public Art Section of the City Web Site Including an Interactive Map, a Walking Tour, and a Printed Brochure Providing an Overview of the City's Public Art Program

Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Christine Byers displayed current and proposed website content. Responding to Commissioner inquiries she indicated that a printed brochure would be available by the end of the year and that staff had taken steps to ensure continuity between the website, a brochure and any other materials being produced pertaining to public art.

Responding to Commissioner Jayne, Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers explained that the brochure would include a downtown walking tour of public art because few changes were anticipated in this particular area. She acknowledged that a brochure was static and would need to be updated if there were significant changes to the

ordinance, but she felt it provided something tangible, especially for those without computer access.

Commissioner Hanami reported that the Public Art subcommittee had reviewed everything and he noted that the brochure would be downloadable on the web but also designed for print. He observed that there was not a lot of Cultural Affairs website traffic and he did not feel it would be beneficial to enhance the website without creating something to draw more visitor traffic there.

Responding to Chair Henderson, Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers explained web statistics included in the report and she indicated that web services would be done in-house. She estimated that the brochure would cost about \$15,000 and she reported that additional software would not be purchased to add extra layers to the website. She clarified that funds had been previously approved by the City Council and she discussed possibilities for other funding sources if needed.

Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers asked for any input from the Commission as staff hoped to move forward quickly. She stated that \$15,000 was currently appropriated for the printed brochure which included costs for supplementing the current archive of photographs as deemed necessary. The Commission discussed next steps and it was agreed that staff would work with the Public Art subcommittee.

Moved by Commissioner Smashey, seconded by Commissioner Hanami and unanimously passed to approve the concept of an interactive map featuring public art as presented and discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Koosed, seconded by Commissioner Hanami and unanimously passed to approve the concept for a downtown walking tour of public art with a downloadable printable map as presented and discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Jayne, seconded by Commissioner Smashey and unanimously passed to approve the concept for a printed brochure for the Art in Public Places program as presented and discussed.

Consideration of Proposed Scope of Work and Costs for Restoration of Three Community Murals, and Renewal of Contracts for Continued Maintenance of Certain City-Owned Sculptures and Seven Zoetropes

Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers presented the material of record.

June Walden, Ballona Creek Renaissance, reported working on removing graffiti from the murals, she appreciated that the City valued public art and she pointed out the importance of maintaining the murals.

Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers read an email from Bobbi Gold, Ballona Creek Renaissance Board Member, who expressed support for restoration of the murals. Ms. Gold felt maintenance of the student created murals could be managed if anti-graffiti coatings were maintained.

Jim Lamm, Ballona Creek Renaissance, reconfirmed the letter he wrote in September 2006 supporting the project and pledging the support of the Ballona Creek Renaissance to make the project work. He reported working on two of the murals and he wanted to see continued care and restoration of Culver City's public art.

Mim Shapiro was pleased with the work of the Commission, she offered to help with restoration and she expressed regret that people did not treat the art with respect.

Commissioner Smashey suggested having artists speak to children in schools to educate them that art is not to be vandalized and she received confirmation that the contracts were time and material contracts paid out as actual costs are incurred with a not-to-exceed amount.

Commissioner Koosed was interested in including students in the restoration process and she hoped that thorough written instructions on how to best apply and maintain the protective coating would be included so the Ballona Creek Renaissance community could support that. She felt if the City learned how to maintain the murals correctly, maintenance could actually occur with regularity.

Responding to Commissioner Koosed, Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers discussed the normal lifespan of murals, noting that the Public Art subcommittee supported the proposal because the City had not done due diligence in maintaining the three murals.

Staff and the Commission discussed maintenance estimates and the length of time the budgeted amount would cover and Commissioners expressed strong support for proper maintenance.

Responding to inquiries, Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers indicated that the matter would be brought before the City Council in October and she explained that the artist is usually the first choice for performing restoration work but if they are not available, a qualified conservator might be considered. She added that moving the zoetropes was not feasible from a cost standpoint and she clarified that Lori Escalera indicated that she would honor the costs in her proposal dated September 2006.

Commissioner Hanami commented on the vulnerability of public art and he suggested adding another coating to the artwork in the middle of the term and formulating a plan for long-term maintenance of the City's public art as he was concerned that there was much more art work in the City not yet being addressed.

Responding to Commission suggestions that City staff and the community be involved in the maintenance process, Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers explained liability issues involved with volunteers on City projects and she noted that City staff did not have the resources to maintain the art. She stated that all work had to be done on a contract basis and she acknowledged how fortunate the City had been to have people who had volunteered their time and she hoped they would continue.

Chair Henderson suggested that the Public Art subcommittee formulate a long-term plan to maintain City-owned public art and return with a dollar figure to support that.

Responding to inquiries from Chair Henderson, Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers explained that graffiti abatement was part of a larger City contract for graffiti and when the contractor indicates that they cannot

handle graffiti on artwork the matter comes to Cultural Affairs staff.

Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers reported that when approaching the Council for approval, staff would ask for an amendment to allocate more money to repair the framework supporting *Hanging Gardens* at City Hall as sufficient funds were not available.

Responding to Commissioner concerns, Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers explained contract procedures.

Moved by Commissioner Koosed, seconded by Commissioner Smashey and unanimously passed that the Cultural Affairs Commission recommend the City Council award a contract to Lori Escalera not to exceed \$11,000 for the scope of work submitted in the proposal dated September 20, 2006 with a caveat that it is a one-time effort to extend the life of *Postcards*, *Rivers of the World* and *Day to Night* murals along with graffiti removal and replacement of anti-graffiti coatings.

Moved by Commissioner Smashey, seconded by Commissioner Jayne and unanimously passed that the Cultural Affairs Commission recommend the City Council award a contract to Sculpture Conservation Studio in the amount of \$20,000 for continued maintenance and conservation of several City owned sculptures.

Moved by Commissioner Jayne, seconded by Commissioner Hanami and unanimously passed that the Cultural Affairs Commission recommend the City Council award a contract to Rick Alexander in the amount of \$10,000 for continued maintenance of seven zoetropes.

Chair Henderson called a brief recess from 9:14 p.m. to 9:22 p.m. Commissioner Jayne left the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

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Item A-4

Discussion of Documentation of Sub-Committee Meetings, and Staff and Commissioner Updates

Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers explained new procedures to supplement the new minute format noting that brief written documentation may be provided for staff updates if they are relevant to the work of the Commission or for subcommittee meetings that may not be reflected in detail in the action items.

Chair Henderson observed that was the policy in the early days of the Cultural Affairs Commission and he felt the reports would provide valuable updates. He reported making requests for additional information including budget information to provide a record for those who cannot attend Commission meetings. He felt that subcommittee reports would keep the Commission focused and on task.

Commissioner Smashey questioned the value of going through each committee just to say there is no report and Chair Henderson clarified that there would only be subcommittee reports if there was something to report and that could be covered under Items from Commissioners since that is part of the City's mandated structure for the Agenda.

Moved by Commissioner Koosed, seconded by Commissioner Hanami and unanimously passed to recommend brief written summaries of subcommittee meetings and summaries for the record (absent Commissioner Jayne).

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Public Comment - Items Not On the Agenda

None.

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Receipt of Correspondence

None.

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Items From Staff

Performing Arts Coordinator and Special Events Producer Obrow briefly summarized her report.

Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers provided a summary of recent Cultural Affairs developments and activities.

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Items From Commissioners

Commissioner Smashey asked that a date for the next Cultural Affairs Foundation Board meeting be scheduled as soon as possible.

Responding to a suggestion from Commissioner Hanami, Performing Arts Coordinator and Special Events Producer Obrow indicated that staff would look at the budget and see what would be possible in terms of creating a memento for the film festival.

Responding to Chair Henderson, Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers indicated that the net available in the Art Fund was just over \$493,000.

Commissioner Smashey recommended attending the Levitt Foundation Summer Concert series in MacArthur Park with programming Wednesday through Sunday nights.

Chair Henderson a provided brief report on the Grants and Artist Services subcommittee meeting and he was excited about the first meeting of the Cultural Affairs Foundation Board on July 25.

Commissioner Koosed questioned whether a written request was necessary for the Cultural Affairs Foundation Board to meet and she suggested that the Foundation Board meet again soon.

Chair Henderson explained procedures necessary for the Cultural Affairs Foundation Board to call a meeting and while he felt a meeting would be important, he did not think a joint Cultural Affairs Commission/Foundation Board meeting was necessary.

Commissioner Smashey commented that it was for the Cultural Affairs Foundation Board to decide whether they should meet, not the Commission.

Chair Henderson recommended that each Commissioner forward names of possible producers to solicit an RFP from for the Culver City Concert series as an additional resource for staff.

Chair Henderson was looking forward to the *Made in Culver City* film festival and he hoped that staff would follow up with Randy Haverkamp at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences about subsequent festivals for Culver City.

Chair Henderson asked everyone to start thinking about the Town Hall meeting in January 2008, he hoped that the Cultural Affairs Foundation could help put on the next jazz series and he asked that the Commission think ahead to recruit Commissioners with visual and performing arts backgrounds.

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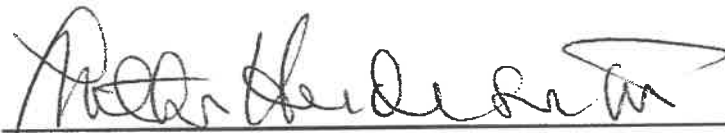
Adjournment

There being no further business, at 9:54 P.M., the Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned its meeting to a Regular Meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m. on September 11, 2007 in the Mike Balkman Council Chambers at City Hall.

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Kristi Callan
Minutes Reporter

APPROVED _____



LUTHER HENDERSON
CHAIR of the Culver City Cultural Affairs Commission

City of Culver City, California
Certification of Documents by the City Clerk

I, Jeremy Green, being the duly appointed City Clerk of the City of Culver City, California hereby depose and declare

The 9 pages of the Cultural Affairs Commission Approved Minutes for the Regular Meeting of August 14, 2007 attached hereto are true and correct copies of documents in the possession of the City of Culver City.

I have affixed the Seal of the City of Culver City, California to indicate they are such true and correct copies.

Certified on this 7th day of March, 2022.

BY:



Jeremy Green, CMC
City Clerk

