

JOINT MEETING OF THE
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION/CITY COUNCIL,
CITY OF CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

November 19, 2007
5:30 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The joint meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission/City Council was called to order at 5:40 P.M.

Present:

City Council: Mayor Alan Corlin
Vice Mayor Carol A. Gross
Councilmember D. Scott Malsin
Councilmember Steven J. Rose
Councilmember Gary Silbiger

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

o0o

Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Corlin indicated that the Pledge of Allegiance would be said during the City Council meeting.

o0o

Public Comment - Items Not On the Agenda

None.

o0o

Item J-1

Joint Item

A joint meeting of the City Council and the Cultural Affairs Commission to review the Culver City Cultural Plan and the Accomplishments related thereto, discussion of other topics related to the Cultural Affairs Commission, and potential referral of items to the Cultural Affairs Commission and/or the City Council

With the aid of slides, Community Development Director Sol Blumenfeld provided a summary of the Cultural Affairs division's accomplishments in 2007.

Responding to Councilmember Silbiger, Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Christine Byers explained that a complete inventory of public art was included on the City's website; a downloadable map for a self-guided walking tour focusing on public art in downtown would be available soon; a printed brochure on the City's public art program would be available with additional information for both the public and developers; and guided tours, partnering with schools or other organizations, could be explored. She also provided a description of the historic designation plaques, noting that there were several that still needed to be installed.

Councilman Silbiger wanted to see something more extensive in terms of content and visibility with regard to plaques for historic sites, a regular series of events for children and teens, and the number of concerts included in the Culver City Music Festival restored to the level of previous years. He suggested surveying the downtown businesses or the general public to get feedback about the elimination of several of the concerts from the festival; identifying larger venues for concerts and other events; instituting a weekly outdoor summer film series; and increasing the public art requirement for developers from 1% as is common in most cities, to 1.5%.

Responding to Councilman Silbiger, Performing Arts Coordinator and Special Events Producer Susan Obrow reported that staff was working to match Culver City based arts organizations with school programs and also to expand arts in the City.

Council Members and Commissioners discussed the California Cultural Data Project that would make it easier for California based arts organizations to seek grants and to match grantors with grantees.

Chair Henderson reported that arts organizations would be invited to come in and network at the January 8, 2008 annual Cultural Affairs Commission Town Hall meeting.

Councilmember Gross asked about art work at the entrances to the City, she wanted to see more life long learning with programs aimed toward seniors, and she felt "The Art of..." speaker series brought in interesting information and learning to people of all ages. She encouraged a broad outlook noting that ARTWALK Culver City was virtually the only event that was not performing art, she commented on the large amount of money in the Art Fund and she questioned what it would be used for.

Councilmember Malsin suggested that there be an art component to the Veterans Memorial Complex master plan; he questioned what marketing was being done for the east side of the City; he asked about revenue generated from the art galleries; he acknowledged the value of publicity; and he indicated that he wanted to see flexibility for developers with regard to the public art requirement.

Responding to Councilmember Malsin, Community Development Director Blumenfeld indicated that the Redevelopment Agency worked closely with the film industry on coordinating parking and other efforts but marketing was not done to seek out business. He reported that staff was beginning to explore options with respect to that and he suggested that was something they could add to their business web page.

Councilmember Malsin reported attending the film location convention in Santa Monica, he was pleased with increased marketing efforts, and he discussed the cost to repair the "Truth or Fiction" art work with staff.

Responding to Mayor Corlin, Performing Arts Coordinator and Special Events Producer Obrow reported that staff had applied for a grant for the AmVets building but had not been successful at the time and were now seeking other means for renovating the building into a performing arts space.

The group discussed the war memorial proposed for Vets and City Manager Fulwood confirmed that the veteran's group was seeking funding.

Mayor Corlin stated that one reason the City had allowed Sony to have a virtual museum was because they indicated that they would keep it updated but they had not. Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers explained

that a Sony representative had indicated that the virtual museum would be updated soon.

Mayor Corlin stated that he did not want the music series cut back but he did not want the series to run too late in the year.

Chair Henderson questioned whether there was a cap on how much money could be invested in "hard art" from the Art Fund; he was pleased that the Parks and Recreation Department was investigating additional performing arts components at other City facilities and he asked about all the cultural activities currently going on at Vets. He questioned whether other industrial spaces were available that could be converted to a performing arts space; he acknowledged the need for additional focus on life-long learning in the arts; he felt that marketing efforts had succeeded in bringing much attention to Culver City and he felt that encouraging visitors to participate in cultural events was an aspect of economic development.

Chair Henderson felt that additional funds would enable implementation of additional programs and meet goals.

Responding to Chair Henderson, Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator Byers explained that approximately half of the money in the Art Fund was allocated and encumbered for approved work programs. She explained the policies for funding of maintenance of art work, discussed deferred maintenance, and recounted the history of the "Hanging Gardens" supporting framework issue and pending repair work on "Truth or Fiction."

City Manager Fulwood observed that "Hanging Gardens" was a prime example of how costly deferred maintenance could be.

Vice Chair Smashey reported that she had discovered a new Culver City artist to share with staff.

Commissioner Koosed described her experience attending a performance for students at the Kirk Douglas Theatre.

Councilmember Gross indicated that she wanted to see a program addressing literature and poetry.

Commissioner Jayne discussed marketing efforts and their importance and she noted that "Here, Now, There, Then" was an important visual art piece for the west side of town.

Commissioner Hanami reported that the Commission was looking at more stringent standards for the longevity of public art or at putting term limits or life spans on them so the City would not be responsible for taking care of the pieces forever. He noted that the Commission was exploring other opportunities to raise funds with the Cultural Affairs Foundation Board; he reported serving on the public art advisory committee for the Metro Expo Line; he discussed gateways into the City; he was pleased to see support for additional visual art; he agreed with trying to engage the Senior Center and he suggested combining that with youth programs.

Chair Henderson reported on a recent art exhibit at the Senior Center and he suggested including seniors in ARTWALK Culver City.

o0o

Item C-1

Consent Calendar

Agenda Posting

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

o0o

Public Comment - Items Not On the Agenda

None.

o0o

Receipt of Correspondence

Moved by Commissioner Jayne, seconded by Vice Chair Smashey, and unanimously passed to receive and file correspondence.

o0o

Items From Staff

None.

o0o

Items From Commissioners

None.

o0o

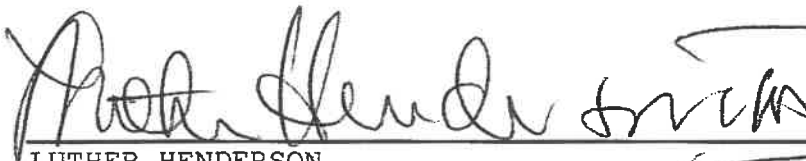
Adjournment

There being no further business, at 6:50 P.M., the Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned its meeting to a Regular Meeting to be held at 7:00 P.M. on December 11, 2007 in the Mike Balkman Council Chambers at City Hall.

o0o

Kristi Callan
Minutes Reporter

APPROVED _____

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Luther Henderson", is written over a horizontal line.

LUTHER HENDERSON

CHAIR of the Culver City Cultural Affairs Commission

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

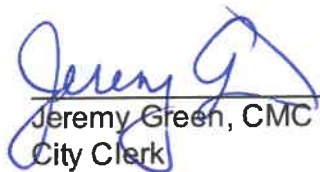
I, Jeremy Green, being the duly appointed City Clerk of the City of Culver City, California hereby depose and declare

The 6 pages of the Cultural Affairs Commission Approved Minutes for the Regular Meeting of November 19, 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

