

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

April 16, 2024
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Williams called the regular meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission to order at 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers at City Hall and via Webex.

Present: Chair Brenda Williams
Vice Chair Leora O'Carroll
Commissioner Tania Fleischer
Commissioner Ehsaan Mesghali
Commissioner Jeannine Wisnosky Stehlin

Staff: Sally Unsworth, Cultural Affairs Manager (via Webex)
Lee Lawlor, Cultural Affairs Analyst

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Pledge of Allegiance

The Cultural Affairs Commission recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Public Comment - Items NOT On the Agenda

Chair Williams invited public comment.

Lee Lawlor, Cultural Affairs Analyst, reported that no requests to speak had been received for Items NOT On the Agenda.

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Receipt of Correspondence

Lee Lawlor, Cultural Affairs Analyst, reported distributing the Culver City Historical Society Newsletter to Commissioners.

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

Receive Summary Report of FY 2024-2025 Cultural Affairs Work Plan Priorities and Provide Comments to the City Manager as Appropriate

Sally Unsworth, Cultural Affairs Manager, thanked staff, Commissioners, and other City representatives for the warm welcome; congratulated Katy Krantz on the "Dear Culver City" event; discussed one-on-one meetings with Commissioners and meetings with staff; APPP (Art in Public Places Program) projects; development of strategies for replacement of bronze historical markers; and she provided a report on Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Cultural Affairs Work Plan priorities.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding appreciation for the report and for the overview of work done and to be done; the May "Mondo" Olympic meeting; appreciation for the Director's experience with community cultural planning; and excitement about potential partnerships to place art in empty storefronts.

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Item A-2

Consideration of Cultural Affairs Commission Regular Meeting Scheduled on May 21, 2024 and Make Recommendation as Appropriate

Sally Unsworth, Cultural Affairs Manager, noted that the regular meeting date conflicted with a City Council budget meeting.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding scheduling; location; potential agenda items for May; the Public Art Subcommittee meeting report-out; potential recommendations regarding the municipal code allocations; an April 12, 2024 Los Angeles Times article about a Supreme Court ruling allowing developers to challenge municipal development fees; concern that a conversation regarding changing the codes could be inappropriate; staff agreement to research and return with additional information; and ensuring that relevant data is considered.

Commissioner Fleischer indicated that she would be absent for the regular May Commission meeting.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding a planned Artist Laureate Subcommittee meeting in June; staff availability; scheduling; noticing requirements; the staff presentation at the City Council budget meeting; the budget meeting with Finance; and staff workload.

MOVED BY CHAIR WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR O'CARROLL AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION:

1. CANCEL THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING ON MAY 21, 2024; AND,
2. CALL A CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING ON THURSDAY MAY 23, 2024 AT 7:00 P.M. IN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

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Public Comment - Items NOT On the Agenda

Chair Williams invited public comment.

Lee Lawlor, Cultural Affairs Analyst, reported that no requests to speak had been received.

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Items from Commissioners/Staff

Lee Lawlor, Cultural Affairs Analyst, reported distributing copies of the new Performing Arts Grant Program performance calendar; discussed upcoming performances in April; promotion; and she offered to reach out to producers if Commissioners were planning on attending and wanted to introduce the event and discuss the Commission.

Sally Unsworth, Cultural Affairs Manager, thanked Katy Krantz and everyone involved in the "Dear Culver City" event.

Commissioner Fleischer thanked Sam Lee for his efforts organizing the "Dear Culver City" event; discussed the vision; extending the exhibition past the June date; the summer concert series; foot traffic; and she expressed appreciation to Lee Lawlor for her list of Performing Arts Grant events.

Lee Lawlor, Cultural Affairs Analyst, noted that dates were subject to change.

Commissioner Wisnosky Stehlin thanked staff for their efforts on the "Dear Culver City" event, and she expressed appreciation to Commissioner Fleischer for her advocacy.

Commissioner Fleischer said that Katy Krantz could be the springboard, and an example for creating a municipal artist in residence program in the city; discussed embedding artists in Culver City government to facilitate communication with the public and help with creative ideas on how to handle City operations; programs in other cities; and she felt that the program would be appropriate for the City.

Vice Chair O'Carroll echoed Commissioner comments; thanked Katy Krantz for her work and for her efforts to involve the community; stated that Katy Krantz had embodied the spirit of community and had not chosen to promote her own art; and she expressed support for having a municipal artist in residence.

Chair Williams echoed previous comments from Commissioners expressing gratitude to staff and to Katy Krantz.

Commissioner Mesghali questioned whether the art had been documented in an organized fashion and he proposed professional photographing of pieces with words derived from the community on them.

Sally Unsworth, Cultural Affairs Manager, discussed the further communications plan to document the piece; programming around the piece; photographs of the work; and filming the poets in various locales around Culver City.

Commissioner Fleischer thanked Katy Krantz for the Dear Culver City books that she distributed to Commissioners.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 7:42 P.M., the Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned to a special meeting to be held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 23, 2024.

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SECRETARY of the Cultural Affairs Commission

APPROVED _____

BRENDA WILLIAMS
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.

Jeremy Bocchino
CITY CLERK

Date