

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

September 20, 2016
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

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

Present: Chair Len Dickter
Commissioner Zoltan Pali
Commissioner John B. Williams
Commissioner Jeannine Wisnosky Stehlin

Absent: Vice Chair Rich Cherry

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Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dr. Janet Hoult.

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Public Comment – Items Not On the Agenda

Chair Dickter invited public comment.

The following member of the audience addressed the
Commission:

Kaylene Peoples, Bella Composers, provided background on the
organization; discussed discrimination against women
composers; an article in the *New Yorker* about the struggles
of female composers; and she expressed interest in pursuing a
grant from the City.

Discussion ensued between the speaker, staff and
Commissioners regarding clarification that Ms. Peoples lives
in Los Angeles; Performing Arts Grants; and contact
information for the speaker.

Dr. Janet Hoult presented copies of bookmarks containing information on scheduled poetry readings; she suggested that Ms. Peoples speak with Lloyd Clayton at the Mayme A. Clayton Library & Museum; she announced a pizza and poetry reading on October 8, 2016; reported that she would be reading a poem at the opening ceremonies for the Centennial and she provided a preview; she hoped to see everyone at the Centennial parade; and she was looking forward to additional discussions regarding the Artist Laureate program.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Meeting Minutes

MOVED BY CHAIR DICKTER AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WISNOSKY STEHLIN THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF AUGUST 16, 2016.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: DICKTER, PALI, WILLIAMS, WISNOSKY STEHLIN
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: CHERRY

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Order of the Agenda

No changes to the order of the agenda were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

Consideration of the Deaccession of Two Permanent Public Artworks Located at 10000 Washington Blvd.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, provided a summary of the material of record and read comments submitted by Rich Cherry.

Ashley Calhoun, Isenberg & Associates, discussed the program for the repositioning of 10000 Washington as One Culver; the public artworks to be deaccessioned; the site-specific nature of the fountain sculpture; drought concerns; the five art panels inside the lobby; current status of the corresponding art panels at the elementary schools; and artist support and agreement of the deaccessioning request.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, discussed subcommittee support of the deaccession and due diligence with regard to finding a new home for the panel paintings.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding the two-part process associated with the deaccessioning of existing artworks and new art commission; the timetable for permanent art for the site; and artist interest in the panels.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER PALI AND SECONDED BY CHAIR DICKTER
THAT THE CULVER CITY CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION:

1) APPROVE LBA REALTY'S REQUEST TO DEACCESSION AN ARTWORK BY RM FISCHER (UNTITLED) ORIGINALLY COMMISSIONED UNDER THE CITY'S ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PROGRAM IN 1998 FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 10000 WASHINGTON BLVD.; AND

2) APPROVE LBA REALTY'S REQUEST TO DEACCESSION FIVE PANELS OF AN ARTWORK TITLED, MY MOVIE: PORTRAITS OF MY NEIGHBORHOOD, ORIGINALLY COMMISSIONED UNDER THE CITY'S ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PROGRAM IN 2000 AND INSTALLED AT 10000 WASHINGTON BLVD.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: DICKTER, PALI, WILLIAMS, WISNOSKY STEHLIN
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: CHERRY

Chair Dickter thanked Isenberg & Associates for their due diligence regarding the artwork.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, expressed support for Isenberg & Associates and for having an art consultant involved in the process.

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Item A-2

(1) Discussion and Recommendation to the City Council Regarding Potential Reorganization of the Culver City Cultural Affairs Foundation; and, (2) (If Desired), Formation of an Ad Hoc Subcommittee Focusing on Revising the Structure of the Culver City Cultural Affairs Foundation

Chair Dickter invited public comment.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, read written comments submitted by:

Marla Koosed
Rich Cherry

Chair Dickter discussed the wisdom of recommending that the Foundation become a 501(c)(3); defining the future direction and focus of the Foundation; the task of the Commission; writing a recommendation to the City Council as to whether privatization is the correct approach and if so how to provide maximum value; he noted that the process was just beginning, not ending; and he discussed public meetings on the issue.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding support for the transition; formation of a subcommittee to work on details; the staff component; the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU); bylaws; Commission purview; whether the matter is time sensitive; the ability of the Foundation to continue its work; City Council consideration of the matter; the ability of an MOU to protect initiatives in place; including an MOU as part of the recommendation; different City structures; a suggestion for a joint session with the Foundation; concern that the Foundation would have to raise money to pay a staff members; increasing the

number of Board Members; expectations of new Board Members; staff meetings with new Board Members; concern with hampering the ability of the Foundation to accomplish tasks; responsibility of Board Members vs. staff responsibilities; constraints of the current staffing situation; the need for additional information; changing the organizational structure, not the mission; efficiency; consideration of the Commission recommendation by the Foundation and the City Council; working toward a fast, flexible, empowered, efficient Foundation; ensuring that the Commission is supporting the wishes of the Foundation; the next scheduled Foundation meeting; clarification that if the Commission makes a recommendation, the Foundation will have that at their next meeting; next steps in the process; City Council direction; clarifying that, if feasible, the Commission would like to be part of the process going forward pending City Council direction; and the MOU process.

Mayor Clarke noted that the Commission's input going forward would be welcomed by the City Council.

MOVED BY CHAIR DICKTER AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PALI THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION: RECOMMEND THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS FOUNDATION REORGANIZE AS A PRIVATE NON-PROFIT WITH A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH THE CITY, AND THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION BE PART OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DRAFT MOU AND REVISED BYLAWS.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: DICKTER, PALI, WILLIAMS, WISNOSKY STEHLIN
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: CHERRY

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, indicated that the recommendation would be relayed to the Cultural Affairs Foundation at their next meeting where they will draft their own recommendation to be forwarded to the City Council for consideration at the meeting of October 10, 2016.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding formation a subcommittee.

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Receipt of Correspondence

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, distributed correspondence from the Monarch Theatre Guild to Commissioners.

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Public Comment – Items Not On the Agenda (Continued)

Chair Dickter invited public input.

The following member of the audience addressed the Commission:

Noddy Nweke, Jazz Hands for Autism, distributed brochures to Commissioners on the new organization; provided background on the organization and a schedule of performances; and she asked that any musically inclined autistic adults be referred to the organization.

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Items From Staff

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, reported on upcoming Performing Arts Grant performances in November; the 2017 Performing Arts Grant Program; the number of applications received; money received from Sony Pictures Entertainment to support the program; available funds for 2017; and review of the applications.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, reported traveling to Anaheim to Coast Sign, Inc. headquarters to view the disassembled historical pole sign from the Culver City Ice Arena; she discussed the damage to the sign; restoration options; replicating original features and materials; internal lighting; and materials and fabrication techniques of the 1960s.

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Items from Commissioners

At the request of Commissioner Williams, Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, discussed the Performing Arts Grants program and eligibility requirements, and she clarified that the Mayme A. Clayton Library & Museum would be eligible for a grant.

Commissioner Wisnosky Stehlin reported attending the Culver City Centennial Celebration Committee Arts & Culture Subcommittee; she noted that Centennial Committee members were pleased that the Performing Arts Grant applications contained language encouraging the grantees to incorporate the Centennial celebration into their proposal; she indicated that she would be attending opening Centennial events on September 24; and she provided background on her recommendation for appointment to the Cultural Affairs Foundation Board, Erin Stennis.

Commissioner Pali indicated that he had nominated Brenda Williams to serve on the Cultural Affairs Foundation Board.

Brenda G. Williams provided background on herself and expressed eagerness to work with everyone.

Chair Dickter discussed his previous experience meeting Ms. Williams and expressed enthusiasm for the new Board Members, the Board overall, and for the upcoming Board meeting.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:23 P.M., the Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned to a meeting to be held at 7:00 P.M. on October 18, 2016.

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SECRETARY of the Cultural Affairs Commission

APPROVED _____

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.

Jeremy Green
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Date