



Culver CITY

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MARLA KOOSSED, Vice Chair
SUSAN ANDERSON, Commissioner
MICHELLE BERNARDIN, Commissioner
REGINA KLEIN, Commissioner
JOHN B. WILLIAMS, Commissioner

CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING AGENDA TUESDAY, September 10, 2013

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Cultural Affairs Commission will listen to the public on any item on the agenda or item of interest that is not on the agenda. The Cultural Affairs Commission cannot legally take action on any item not scheduled on the agenda. Such items may be referred for administrative action or scheduled on a future agenda.

If you wish to speak to the Commission, please complete a Speaker's Card and present it to the Secretary before the agenda item is called. You will be called to the podium by name when it is your turn to speak to the Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Persons wishing to speak on agenda items will be called at the time the agenda item is brought forward. Comments will generally be limited to five minutes per speaker; however, a three-minute limit may be declared by the Chair from time to time for agenda items for which many Speaker Cards have been submitted.

NOTE: AT OR ABOUT 11:00 P.M., COMMISSIONERS WILL DETERMINE WHETHER TO CONTINUE WITH DISCUSSION OF REMAINING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA OR TO CARRY SOME/ALL OF THE ITEMS OVER TO A FUTURE MEETING DATE.

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

A total of twenty minutes shall be devoted to audience participation at the beginning of the agenda. Speakers will be called on in the order cards were received by the Secretary. If additional time is needed, the Chair will allow for some at the end of the agenda.

When the Secretary calls your name, please advance to the podium, state your name and city of residence. Speakers must limit their comments to five minutes in length. A three-minute time limit may be declared by the Chair if there are a large number of individuals desiring to address the Commission.

CELL PHONES AND OTHER DISTRACTIONS

Use of cell phones, pagers and other communication devices is prohibited while the Commission meeting is in session. Please turn all devices off or place on a silent alert and leave the Chambers to use. During the meeting, please refrain from applause or other actions that may be disruptive to the speakers and the conduct of City business.

MEETING INFORMATION

Cultural Affairs Commission meetings are regularly scheduled for the second Tuesday of every month. Commission Agenda information is available 72 hours before each meeting.

Cultural Affairs Commission meetings can be viewed live on Channel 35 by most Comcast subscribers. Meetings are also broadcast on the City's Radio Station AM 1690. To view the commission meetings on line please visit <http://www.culvercity.org/webcast>.

ALD

Assisted Listening Devices are available through Cultural Affairs staff.



Agendas are
available on the web @
www.culvercity.org

**REGULAR MEETING
AGENDA
Cultural Affairs Commission**

Tuesday, September 10, 2013

7:00 p.m.

Patacchia Conference Room – Meeting

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL:

**Vice Chair Marla Koosed
Commissioner Susan Anderson
Commissioner Michelle Bernardin
Commissioner Regina Klein
Commissioner John B. Williams**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENT – Items Not On the Agenda

CONSENT CALENDAR *Note: Consent Calendar items are considered to be routine in nature and may be approved by one motion. Public requests to discuss Consent Calendar items must be filed with the Secretary before the Consent Calendar is called.*

C-1. Minutes of the July 9, 2013 Regular Meeting. ***Approve minutes.***

ACTION ITEMS *Public requests to discuss Action Items must be filed with the Secretary before the item is called.*

A-1. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair. ***Select the Chair and Vice Chair.***

A-2. (1) Consideration and Potential Creation of Ad Hoc Subcommittees, Including but not Necessarily Limited to, Ad-Hoc Subcommittee on Update of the Historic Preservation Ordinance; and (2) Assignment of Commissioners to Subcommittees for Fiscal Year 2013/2014. ***Create Subcommittees and Assign Commissioners to Subcommittees.***

PUBLIC COMMENT - Items Not On the Agenda

RECEIPT OF CORRESPONDENCE

ITEMS FROM STAFF

Information on the First Fundraiser for Fiscal Year 2013/2014 Held by the Culver City Cultural Affairs Foundation

ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

ADJOURN

Next Cultural Affairs Commission Meeting
Mike Balkman Council Chambers
October 8, 2013
7:00 PM

September 2013 Public Meeting Tentative Schedule

Date	Day	Time	Location
City Council			
September 9, 2013	Monday	7:00 PM	Council Chambers
September 16, 2013	Monday	6:00 PM	Council Chambers
September 23, 2013	Monday	7:00 PM	Council Chambers
Parks and Recreation Commission			
September 28, 2013	Saturday	9:00 AM	Parks Tour
Planning Commission			
September 11, 2013	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Council Chambers
September 16, 2013	Monday	6:00 PM	Council Chambers
Civil Service Commission			
September 19, 2013	Thursday	7:00 PM	Council Chambers
- Regularly scheduled meetings may be canceled and Special Meetings may be called - Times and dates may be changed. - Meetings may be added or changed			

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

July 9, 2013
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

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

Present: Chair Gayle Smashey
Vice Chair Marla Koosed
Commissioner Michelle Bernardin
Commissioner John B. Williams

Absent: Commissioner Regina Klein (excused)

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Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Matthew Hetz.

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Public Comment – Items Not On the Agenda

Chair Smashey invited public input.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

Chair Smashey wished her fellow Commissioners well for the upcoming year.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Meeting Minutes – June 11, 2013

Vice Chair Koosed questioned whether the property owner had provided an update on required maintenance as indicated in

Item A-2 of the minutes, and she stated that she did not believe she mentioned Foundation fundraising as noted on page 5.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding the availability of the information from Westfield and agreement to review the recording of the meeting to determine whether reference was made regarding Foundation fundraising with the understanding that it would be stricken from the minutes if not mentioned.

{Note from the City Clerk: I have reviewed the recording of the June 11, 2013 meeting and found that the minutes as presented were factually correct. I have added the following for clarification: and Foundation fundraising – but such fundraising may not be focused on fundraising for staffing at this time. With this clarification, the minutes of the June 11, 2013 meeting have been officially filed.}

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER BERNARDIN AND SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR KOUSED THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 11, 2013 REGULAR MEETING WITH POTENTIAL CHANGES AFTER STAFF REVIEW. THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BERNARDIN, KOUSED, SMASHEY, WILLIAMS
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: KLEIN

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Action Items

Item A-1

(1) Administration of the Oath of Office to Appointed/Re-Appointed Commission Member(s); and (2) Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, reported that Commissioner Williams had been reappointed and his Oath of Office was still valid so he did not need to be re-sworn in.

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator/Commission Secretary, administered the Oath of Office to newly

appointed Commissioner Anderson.

Chair Smashey exited the dais.

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, reported that with the absence of Commissioner Klein, the Commission could choose to defer appointing a Chair and Vice Chair.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding whether to proceed on selection of a Chair and Vice Chair or wait until a full Commission is present; the absence of Commissioner Williams from the August meeting; impacts to the operations of the Commission if a choice is not made; procedures; allowing the new Commissioner a chance to get to know the Commission and make an informed vote; subcommittee assignments; and consensus of the Commission to wait until a full Commission is available in September.

The Commission took no action on this item at this time.

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Item A-2

(1) Dissolution of the Ad Hoc Subcommittees on the 2013 Culver City Performing Arts Grant Program, 2013 Community Cultural Plan Update, Art in Public Places Ordinance Update, 25th Anniversary of the Art in Public Places Program, and Standing Subcommittee on Historic Preservation; (2) Consideration and Potential Creation of Ad Hoc Subcommittees on Historic Preservation Ordinance and Program Update and Development of a Fundraising Plan; (3) Creation of the Ad Hoc Subcommittees on the 2014 Performing Arts Grants Program and the Community Cultural Plan Update; and (4) Assignment of Commissioners to Subcommittees for Fiscal Year 2013/2014

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, indicated that action was not necessary to appoint new members but he recommended that action be taken to dissolve the 2013 subcommittees and create new 2013 subcommittees for the Standing Subcommittee - Art in Public Places and the Ad Hoc Subcommittee - 2014 Culver City Performing Arts Grant Program so that they would be able to continue to move forward and not impact things already in motion.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding

whether existing members would continue to serve until reassignments take place in September; the reassignment of the position of the former Chair; the desire of Commissioner Klein to be reappointed on the Ad Hoc

Subcommittee – 2014 Performing Arts Grants; the scheduled meeting for the Standing Subcommittee - Art in Public Places in August; and the desire of Commissioner Williams to serve on the Ad Hoc Subcommittee – 2014 Performing Arts Grants subcommittee.

Vice Chair Koosed invited public comment.

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, suggested that comments submitted by Julie Lugo Cerra be held until September as they pertained to the Historic Preservation subcommittee which would not be acted upon until that time.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER BERNARDIN AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION: DISSOLVE THE AD HOC 2013 CULVER CITY PERFORMING ARTS GRANT, 2013 COMMUNITY CULTURAL PLAN UPDATE, ART IN PUBLIC PLACES ORDINANCE UPDATE, AND THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEES. THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: ANDERSON, BERNARDIN, KOUSED, WILLIAMS
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: KLEIN

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER BERNARDIN AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ANDERSON THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION CREATE AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEES WITH THE FOLLOWING LIMITED SCOPES: 2014 CULVER CITY PERFORMING ARTS GRANT AND THE 2014 CULTURAL PLAN UPDATE. THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: ANDERSON, BERNARDIN, KOUSED, WILLIAMS
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: KLEIN

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER BERNARDIN AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION APPOINT COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS AND COMMISSIONER KLEIN TO SERVE ON THE 2014 CULVER CITY PERFORMING ARTS GRANT PROGRAM AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE. THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: ANDERSON, BERNARDIN, KOUSED, WILLIAMS
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: KLEIN

After a brief discussion between staff and Commissioners it was agreed that assignments for the Community Cultural Plan Update subcommittee and other subcommittees would be made in September.

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Item A-3

Consideration of Relocation of Artwork by Laddie John Dill at The Willows Community School

Vice Chair Koosed invited public comment.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

Christine Byers, Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator, provided a summary of the material of record.

Denise Gutches, The Willows Community School, discussed their program; the Art in Public Places Program requirement; maintenance of artwork; goals; the necessity for relocation of some of the art pieces; and maintaining visual continuity throughout the campus.

Discussion ensued between Ms. Gutches (representative of the Willows School), staff and Commissioners regarding support for the project; location of plaques for the artwork; keeping school records up to date on the artwork owned by the school; institutional knowledge; obtaining more information on the history of the artworks from the artists; information provided to the school on the Laddie Dill commissions; and maintenance required for the Tom Farrage artwork.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER BERNARDIN AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION: APPROVE THE RELOCATION OF THE THREE ART ELEMENTS BY LADDIE JOHN DILL CURRENTLY INSTALLED ON THE SOUTH FACING ELEVATION

OF 8490 WARNER DRIVE (WILLOWS 2) TO THE NORTH FACING
ELEVATION OF 8520 WARNER DRIVE (WILLOWS 4). THE MOTION
CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: ANDERSON, BERNARDIN, KOUSED, WILLIAMS
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: KLEIN

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Item A-4

**Approval of the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for
the 2014 Culver City Performing Arts Grant Program**

Vice Chair Koosed invited public comment.

Susan Obrow, Performing Arts and Special Events
Coordinator, read a written comment submitted by
Commissioner Klein providing an update on the Performing
Arts Grant Program subcommittee.

Christine Byers, Public Art and Historic Preservation
Coordinator, read a written comment from former Chair Gayle
Smashey offering any assistance with questions.

The following member of the audience addressed the
Commission:

Matthew Hetz, Culver City Symphony Orchestra, reported on
the June 6 concert made possible by a grant from the Culver
City Performing Arts Grant program; discussed difficulty
getting coverage from the Culver City newspapers; the Town
Hall meeting; doing more with less; inserting a notice of
performing arts grant performances in the City Manager's
regular column in the newspaper; the importance of
marketing; creating placards to advertise cultural affairs
in the City; and an observation that there is more
publicity in the Culver City newspapers for Santa Monica
events than there is for Culver City events.

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, discussed
support of the arts in Culver City; City outreach for grant
recipients; Mayoral announcements; publicity for community
events; the discretion of independent, privately-owned and
operated newspapers to print what they want to; and the
City Manager's bi-weekly reports.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding editing of the City Manager's report by the newspaper; the Foundation; appreciation to Mr. Hetz for his comments; and the online application process.

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, provided a summary of the material of record.

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, discussed the substantial update to the NOFA document and future updates.

Responding to inquiry from Vice Chair Koosed, former Chair Gayle Smashey suggested that minor corrections and modifications to the application could be handled administratively by staff and she noted that changes made this year were more substantive than in previous years.

Staff and Commissioners expressed appreciation to Gayle Smashey and Commissioner Klein for their work on the process.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR KOOSSED AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BERNARDIN THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION: APPROVE THE 2014 NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY FOR THE CULVER CITY PERFORMING ARTS GRANT PROGRAM. THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: ANDERSON, BERNARDIN, KOOSSED, WILLIAMS
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: KLEIN

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Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

None.

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, noted that Councilmember Clarke was present in the audience to welcome Commissioner Anderson and to witness the proceedings.

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Receipt of Correspondence

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER BERNARDIN AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ANDERSON THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION RECEIVE AND FILE CORRESPONDENCE. THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: ANDERSON, BERNARDIN, KOUSED, WILLIAMS
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: KLEIN

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Items From Staff

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, announced upcoming grant performances from the Culver City Public Theatre on Saturdays and Sundays in Carlson Park from July 13 through August 19, and We Tell Stories at the Culver City Julian Dixon Library on Wednesdays for the month of July.

Christine Byers, Public Art and Historic Preservation Coordinator, discussed upcoming agenda items related to the Art in Public Places program.

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, reported that any interested Commissioners could receive their agenda packets electronically and he noted that Commissioner Anderson would receive her official City email account soon.

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Items From Commissioners

Commissioner Anderson expressed appreciation at being able to serve the community and she was looking forward to working with the Commission to build on what has made Culver City a leader in arts and culture.

Commissioner Bernardin indicated willingness to receive Commission agendas electronically; she reported a Culver City Historical Society fundraiser on July 20 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of an historic speech given by Harry Culver about his vision for a new City; she reported attending the Jazz Bakery grant performance at the Kirk Douglas Theatre; and she welcomed Commissioner Anderson.

Commissioner Williams also welcomed Commissioner Anderson; he expressed appreciation at his reappointment; and he thanked former Chair Gayle Smashey for her guidance.

Vice Chair Koosed welcomed Commissioner Anderson and discussed local press about The Wende Museum, and the first Cultural Affairs Foundation fundraiser of the new fiscal year on July 31 at Akasha restaurant with proceeds going toward *Music in the Chambers*.

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, distributed fliers for the Akasha fundraiser.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:22 P.M., the Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned its meeting to a meeting to be held at 7:00 P.M. on August 13, 2013 in the Mike Balkman Council Chambers at City Hall.

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SECRETARY of the Cultural Affairs Commission

APPROVED _____

MARLA KOOSSED

VICE 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.

Martin R. Cole
CITY CLERK

Date

**City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report**

Meeting Date: 09/10/13		Item Number: <u>A-1</u>	
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM: Selection of Chair and Vice Chair.			
Contact Person/Dept.: Martin R. Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk		Phone Number: 310-253-6000	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☐ No ☒		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☐	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒	Attachments: ☐
Public Notification: Meetings and Agendas – Cultural Affairs Commission (09/05/13)			
Department Approval: Martin R. Cole (09/03/13)		City Attorney Approval: N/A	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: N/A		City Manager Approval: N/A	

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Cultural Affairs Commission select a Chair and Vice Chair.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

At its first regular meeting in July of each year, the Cultural Affairs Commission (CAC) selects a Chair and Vice Chair.

At the July 9, 2013 meeting, the CAC determined to postpone the selection of Chair and Vice Chair as one Member of the Commission was absent from the meeting. The Regular Meeting of the Commission in August 2013 was cancelled.

PROCEDURE:

The current Chair of the Cultural Affairs Commission conducts the election of the new Chair. The new Chair then conducts the selection of new Vice Chair. In this particular case, with former Chair Smashey having concluded two terms on the Commission, Vice Chair Koosed shall preside at the meeting and conduct the election of the new Chair.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this proposed action of the Commission.

City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

MOTION:

That the Cultural Affairs Commission:

Select _____ as Chair and _____ as Vice Chair.

**City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report**

Meeting Date: 09/10/13		Item Number: <u>A-2</u>	
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM: (1) Consideration and Potential Creation of Ad Hoc Subcommittees, Including but not Necessarily Limited to, Ad-Hoc Subcommittee on Update of the Historic Preservation Ordinance; and (2) Assignment of Commissioners to Subcommittees for Fiscal Year 2013/2014.			
Contact Person/Dept.: Martin R. Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk		Phone Number: 310-253-6000	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☐ No ☒		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☐	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒	Attachments: ☒
Public Notification: Meetings and Agendas – Cultural Affairs Commission (09/05/13)			
Department Approval: Martin R. Cole (09/04/13)		City Attorney Approval: N/A	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: N/A		City Manager Approval: N/A	

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Cultural Affairs Commission (1) consider and potentially create Subcommittees; and (2) assign Commissioners to Subcommittees for Fiscal Year 2013/2014.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

At its first regular meeting in July of each year, two Commissioners are assigned to two or more of the CAC's subcommittees. Subcommittee meetings are held on an as-needed basis.

At the July 9, 2013 Meeting, the Commission took the following actions:

Dissolved the following Subcommittees:

- Ad Hoc 2013 Culver City Performing Arts Grant
- Ad Hoc 2013 Community Cultural Plan Update
- Ad Hoc Art in Public Places Ordinance Update
- Ad Hoc 25th Anniversary of the Art in Public Places Program

Created the following Subcommittees:

- Ad Hoc Subcommittee – 2014 Performing Arts Grant Program (with Commissioners Klein and Williams serving on this Subcommittee)

City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report

- Ad Hoc Subcommittee – 2014 Community Cultural Plan Update (with commissioners to serve on this Subcommittee to be considered at the September meeting of the Commission)

Note: The Standing Subcommittee on Art in Public Places remains active with Vice Chair Koosed and Commissioner Bernardin currently serving on this Subcommittee.

In general, “ad hoc” subcommittees serve only a limited or single purpose, are not perpetual and dissolved when their specific task is completed. Ad hoc subcommittees do not constitute a “legislative body” and are not subject to the Brown Act. “Standing” subcommittees (e.g., the Public Art Subcommittee), have a continuing subject matter jurisdiction, are considered to be a “legislative body” and are subject to the Brown Act. These subcommittee meetings must be noticed and open to the public.

Proposed Action 1 - Appointments to the Ad Hoc Subcommittee – 2014 Community Cultural Plan Update

At the meeting of July 9, 2013, the Commission created this Ad Hoc Subcommittee. This evening, the Commission is requested to appoint two members to serve on this Subcommittee.

Proposed Action 2 – Creation of and Appointment of Members to the Ad Hoc Subcommittee – 2014 Historic Preservation Ordinance Update

At the meeting of July 9, 2013, the Commission was requested to consider creation of this proposed Ad Hoc Subcommittee and to appoint two members to serve on this Subcommittee. Comments from City Historian Julie Lugo Cerra were received for the item and are attached to this report for your reference.

The Commission is requested to create this Ad Hoc Subcommittee and appoint two members to serve on this Subcommittee.

Consideration of Creation of Other Subcommittees for the 2013/2014 Year

Should the Commission so desire, it may discuss, create and appoint members to any other subcommittees this evening.

**City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report**

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Creation of subcommittees can involve the allocation of staff time (especially standing subcommittees).

ATTACHMENTS:

Comments from the July 9, 2013 Meeting from City Historian Julie Lugo Cerra

MOTION:

That the Cultural Affairs Commission:

1. Appoint Commissioner _____ and Commissioner _____ to the Ad Hoc Subcommittee – 2014 Community Cultural Plan Update; and,
- 2A. Create the Ad Hoc Subcommittee - 2014 Historic Preservation Ordinance Update; and,
- 2B. Appoint Commissioner _____ and Commissioner _____ to the Ad Hoc Subcommittee – 2014 Historic Preservation Ordinance Update; and,
3. (If Desired) create additional subcommittees and appoint members thereto.

MEETING DATE:

September 10, 2013

AGENDA ITEM:

(1) Consideration and Potential Creation of Ad Hoc Subcommittees, Including but not Necessarily Limited to, Ad-Hoc Subcommittee on Update of the Historic Preservation Ordinance; and (2) Assignment of Commissioners to Subcommittees for Fiscal Year 2013/2014.

ATTACHMENTS

	<u>Pages</u>
1. Comments from the July 9, 2013 Meeting from City Historian Julie Lugo Cerra.	1-2

JULIE LUGO CERRA

4022 Lincoln Avenue, Culver City, CA 90232

Telephone 310 558-3818 Facsimile 310 559-7310 Email julie@cerraenterprises.com

TO: Culver City Cultural Affairs Commission- please read into record
FROM: Julie Lugo Cerra
DATE: July 9, 2013
RE: Item A-2 on the July 9, 2013 Agenda

Dear Cultural Affairs Commissioners:

I think I understand the rationale of changing the Historic Preservation subcommittee to an Ad Hoc committee on one level, and I believe you understand the charge of the Cultural Affairs Commission was to put Art in Public Places (mandated in 1988) and Historic Preservation (mandated in 1991) under a common umbrella. These two areas are clearly defined in our Municipal Code that was updated to reflect the combining of these two committees under a council-adopted Commission. If anything, this action brought the two areas together, to help them accomplish their mandated work. I can say this from experience, as the first chair of the Cultural Affairs Commission.

In order to show your intent, may I suggest that you make it clear, reflected in the record, that this action, if taken, does not diminish the importance of Historic Preservation – and reflect that historic preservation is the other half of the charge of the CAC as originally created....along with Public Art. This is simply to ENABLE the Commission to work on Historic Preservation as mandated.

This is very important, in my opinion, for a number of reasons:

1. The lack of institutional memory in the city, and
2. The fact that the staff and commission have not worked on any level to complete the tasks in this area for several years, despite the fact that it was mandated by the adopted Cultural Plan.
3. Things are falling between the cracks.

We all mourn the demise of our CC Redevelopment Agency, but let us not use it as an excuse to let all the work that has been accomplished be ignored, or stopped. In May, when I prepared a special presentation to the commission on historic preservation, it showed evidence of the positive role historic structures can play economically. (Hull Building, The Culver Hotel, Citizen Building, Ivy Substation, Washington Building.....). Subsequently, at the local TEDx event in June, I was able to show some of the fine examples like the Culver – now Kirk Douglas Theatre that keeps Culver City on the map.

Culver City was established by a visionary Harry Culver, halfway between the Story Building in LA and Abbot Kinney's resort of Venice. This month actually marks the centennial year of his speech at the California Club where he shared that dream. In fact, as you know, Councilmember Jim Clarke will be giving that speech at the California Club on July 20th.....and it is STILL RELEVANT TODAY....(the speech can also be accessed under City History on our city website- I have provided about 100 pages through Culver City IT, to help researchers).

As your council-appointed city historian since 1996, and a founding (still active) member of your Culver City Historical Society, I want to share the frustration of many historic building owners, those who are maintaining them for the right reasons but who feel a lack of support. Council action that was taken in 1991, promising Certified Local Government application, and help through Mills Act funding was ignored which has put historic building owners in limbo. We have recently received inquiries from several who want their structures on the landmark or significant historic list, to protect them, but they cannot seem to find a path through the city process.

I am hopeful the changes in the commission, now under the auspices of our City Clerk's office, will help you get this train back on track. I would also like to say that our most productive work, early on, was in a workshop format, and I believe Martin Cole is very adept in this area. And if you need the help, you know there are many of us who stand at the ready.

Best,

Julie Lugo Cerra