

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

September 14, 2020
4:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The special meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission Public Art Subcommittee was called to order at 4:07 P.M. via WebEx Events.

Present: Zoltan Pali, Commissioner
Brenda Williams, Commissioner

Staff: Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator
Lee Lawlor, Performing Arts Associate

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Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, explained meeting procedures and discussed the order of the agenda noting that Item C-1 would be considered after the Action Items.

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Public Comment - Items Not on the Agenda

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, indicated that no public comment had been received.

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The following item was considered out of order.

Action Items

Item A-1
(Out of Sequence)

Update on a Sculpture Concept by Tomokazu Matsuyama for Ivy Station

Beau Basse, LeBasse Projects, discussed art projects at Ivy Station; the sculpture and mural installations; the engineering and architectural plans; the process of artistic design and engineering; the pylon chosen for the artwork; the need to redesign the concept; color changes; incorporation of feedback from the Cultural Affairs Commission; and the goal to create a substantial landmark sculpture.

Tomokazu Matsuyama discussed development of the project; the core aesthetic; defining local and global: “glocalization”; diversity; merging the past and present; the concept; materials used; different perspectives; and black lines in the mural to complement the red color on the front of the building.

Beau Basse, LeBasse Projects, discussed scale of the project; material samples; color modifications; changes to the mural concept to match the sculpture; the new sculptural plan; engineering; and the addendum.

Lee Lawlor, Performing Arts Associate, indicated that no public comment had been received.

Discussion ensued between project representatives, staff and Subcommittee Members regarding support for improvements made to the project; the reflective quality of the white background; confidence in engineering changes made; texture; clarification that the Sage Vaughn mural would now wrap around the vent shaft; installation of the butterfly sculptures; permit plans for the pylon piece; the completed tile mosaic around the elevator; adjustments made; and the process.

Item A-2

1) Consideration of a Revised Concept for the Entrance Canopy at 11924 Washington Blvd. (Haven); 2) Provide Comments; and, 3) Make Recommendation to the Cultural Affairs Commission

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, introduced the item; noted that the project would require full Commission review prior to approval; and she clarified that the original mural component was no longer part of the project.

Beau Basse, LeBasse Projects, provided background on the Haven project; discussed engineering challenges with the original 2alas proposal; separation of the original artist (2alas) from the project; the canopy at the front of the Haven project; background and experience of the local artist selected: Luna Ikuta; the importance of knowledge of fabrication; the canopy as part of the environment; City review of the specifications and design; material samples; and work with the fabricators to create a custom arrangement of leaves; and scale of the project.

Luna Ikuta provided background on herself; discussed her experience and previous works that were presented to the Subcommittee; taking inspiration from nature; use of unconventional materials; lighting; fabrication; furniture design as sculpture; scale; details; public engagement; the way that objects influence atmosphere; she provided an overview of her concept of the canopy for the site; discussed a sense of peace experienced when engaging with nature; urbanization; day-to-day lifestyle; the pandemic; the reference to the building perimeter; wrought iron work; experience of the viewer; the dimensional tunnel created; the open negative space; shadows; materials used; and scrolls and ornamental 3-D shapes used to soften the angles.

Discussion ensued between project representatives, staff and Subcommittee Members regarding dimensions and placement of the canopy; code compliance; completion of technical specs; material samples; and next steps in the process.

The following members of the audience addressed the Subcommittee:

Alicia Ide, Management Analyst/Public Works, expressed concern with children hanging from the vines or climbing on top of the structure.

Discussion ensued between project representatives, staff and Subcommittee Members regarding preemptive changes made to address such concerns; strength of the iron work; support beams; Building and Safety review of the structural plans; Planning review of siting and entitlements; height of the canopy; climbing hazards; the finish; and color.

Adam Perry, Developer of the Project, discussed completion of the project; enhancement of the neighborhood with neighborhood-serving retailers; he expressed support for the canopy as a sculptural piece; and he thanked everyone for their time and consideration.

Additional discussion ensued between project representatives, staff and Subcommittee Members regarding support for the project; shadows created on the ground; supports; whether to have vines wrapping around the 4x4" metal posts; concern with inviting people to climb up the canopy; and adding ornamental elements to provide a transition between the posts and the roof.

Marla Koosed expressed support for the project; discussed incorporation of lighting into the design; and the relationship of the piece to the building.

Luna Ikuta discussed the canopy and the intent to echo the strong roof lines.

Further discussion ensued between project representatives, staff and Subcommittee Members regarding agreement that the project met required standards; execution; the lack of unanimous consensus; and formulation of additional comments from Commissioner Pali for consideration at a later time.

Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Meeting Minutes

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER PALI, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE APPROVE MINUTES OF THE CAC PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS ON JUNE 22, 2020 AND JUNE 29, 2020.

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Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

The following member of the public addressed the Subcommittee:

Alexey Steele, Artist Laureate for Culver City, discussed Public Art in Culver City; providing more in-depth engagement and a point of communication with residents; complexity of the process; he expressed strong support for the Subcommittee Members and the requirement of material samples; noted the importance of clearly articulating the requirements from the start including sketches, designs and material prototypes; and he expressed appreciation for the in-depth consideration of projects.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission Public Art Subcommittee adjourned at 5:28 P.M.

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Jeremy Green
CITY CLERK of Culver City, California
EX-OFFICIO CITY CLERK of the City Council of Culver City,
California

APPROVED _____

Zoltan Pali
COMMISSIONER of the Culver City Cultural Affairs Commission
Public Art Subcommittee

Minutes Preparation: Kristi Callan