

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

March 13, 2018
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Dickter called the special meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission to order at 7:06 P.M. in the Cathedral Room at City Hall.

Present: Chair Len Dickter
Vice Chair Jeannine Wisnosky Stehlin
Commissioner Tania Fleischer
Commissioner Zoltan Pali
Commissioner Brenda Williams

Staff: Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator
Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator
Louise Coffey-Webb, Public Art Collections Manager
Serena Wright-Black, Administrative Services Director

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Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Len Dickter.

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Public Comment – Items Not On the Agenda

Commissioner Pali introduced Sehnita Mattison, his nominee to the Culver City Cultural Affairs Foundation Board.

Chair Dickter invited public comment.

The following member of the audience addressed the Commission:

Dr. Janet Hoult congratulated the Cultural Affairs Commission on the approval of the Artist Laureate Program by the City Council at the March 12 meeting and she discussed serving in the interim.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, indicated that consideration of having Dr. Hoult serve until a new Artist Laureate could be appointed would be on the agenda for the March 26 City Council meeting.

Dr. Janet Hoult indicated that she would be willing to serve until an Artist Laureate could be appointed in 2019; she shared copies of several pages from the Centennial Poetry Collection book; discussed using the City logo on the front cover of the book; the need to get an authorization from the City; obtaining releases for items included in the book; she displayed proofs; discussed acknowledgements and inclusion of the Cultural Affairs Commission; and she reported that three of her books had been selected for the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books.

Discussion ensued between Dr. Hoult, staff and Commissioners regarding authorization for use of the City logo; signage in the public right of way; gateway signage; stock images; community reaction to the Artist Laureate vote; and interesting opportunities.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

CAC – Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting of January 16, 2018

Chair Dickter provided a correction to a grammatical error on page 4.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR WISNOSKY STEHLIN THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 16, 2018 AS CORRECTED.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: DICKTER, FLEISCHER, WILLIAMS, WISNOSKY STEHLIN

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: PALI

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

CAC - Consideration of 1) FY 2017-18 Cultural Affairs Work Plan Status Updates; 2) FY 2018-19 Cultural Affairs Work Plan and Budget Priorities; and, 3) Provide Comments and/or Make a Recommendation to the City Manager and City Council, as Appropriate

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, introduced the item and provided an update on the 2017-2018 Cultural Affairs Work Plan.

Louise Coffey-Webb, Public Arts Collections Manager, distributed note pads celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Art in Public Places Program; presented anniversary and program logos; discussed images used; banners; coordination with the Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD); creation of a downtown public art walking tour booklet; public outreach; a mobile app; and maintenance of certain artworks.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, discussed *The Lion's Fountain*; Centennial-themed events; the Marla Koosed/Heidi Duckler 1988 performance series; plans for new temporary art installations celebrating the Art in Public Places Program anniversary; updating the Municipal Code as it pertains to the Historic Preservation Program; and the Artist Laureate Program.

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, discussed the Performing Arts Grant Program; the Cultural Equity Statement; the Open House Program; she introduced new contract employee, Lee Lawlor; discussed Cultural Venue Facility Enhancement; items donated by Sony Pictures Entertainment; the acoustical study and proposal; lighting and stage improvements; Culver City Connect; and separation of the Cultural Affairs Foundation from the City.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding the zoetropes in downtown; public interaction with *The Lion's Fountain*; renovation of Veterans Memorial Auditorium; and hiring a theatre consultant.

Commissioner Pali introduced and provided background on Sehnita Mattison, his nominee to the Cultural Affairs Foundation Board.

Sehnita Mattison discussed her path to becoming involved in the community.

Discussion ensued between Ms. Mattison, staff and Commissioners regarding changes to the Cultural Affairs Foundation; composition of the Foundation Board; the number of members; and challenges.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, and Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, discussed the Cultural Affairs Work Plan for FY 2018-2019.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, discussed upcoming development projects in the City; payments to the Cultural Trust Fund; and development cycles.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding subcommittee involvement in the Historic Preservation Program Ordinance update; the 25th Anniversary of the Performing Arts Grant Program; Open House; facilitating an electronic relationship with local groups; data collection; the Creative Economy Report; linking groups; coordination; growing the creative economy; the Cultural Data Project; diverse applicants; bringing groups to Culver City; offering technical assistance to organizations; utilization of the cultural data; the facilitator; appreciation for the support to hire additional staff; department budget

presentations; the budget process; the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Gateway Project; attendance numbers for the 1988 performance series; contact information for attendees; City policy regarding use of personal contact details; ensuring clarity with donations at events and information collection; the process for the update of the Historic Preservation Program Ordinance; designation categories; the California Environmental Quality Act; incentives; use of the subcommittees to ease the burden on staff; partnership with West Los Angeles College; use of a facilitator; the CCUSD Community Arts Team; apprenticeships; *The Creative Edge* conference; the Robert Frost Auditorium; connecting K-12 arts education; a suggestion to create a joint subcommittee and a School District Liaison; the City Council subcommittee; the dearth of venues in the City; the Performing Arts Grant Program; ongoing discussions with the CCUSD Arts Coordinator; a suggestion that a Cultural Affairs Commissioner join the City Council CCUSD Liaison Committee; the ability of Commissioners to attend those meetings; School Board advisory committees; facilitating dialogue; interesting partnerships formed by stakeholder groups; sharing facts and information; appreciation for the change of meeting venue; and communication between Commissioners.

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Public Comment – Items Not On the Agenda (Continued)

Chair Dickter invited public participation.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

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Receipt of Correspondence

Louise Coffey-Webb, Public Art Collections Manager, reported that no correspondence had been received.

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Items From Staff

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, announced upcoming performances by Performing Arts Grant recipients and she distributed fliers for Kontrapunktus, a new grantee.

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Items from Commissioners

Commissioner Williams discussed an event by Angela Thompson; the Wende Museum; and a book signing at Arcana Books.

Vice Chair Wisnosky Stehlin discussed the separation of the Cultural Affairs Foundation from the City; the Ovation Awards; the New American Theatre venue in Hollywood; she invited the community to participate in the CCUSD Arts Education Planning Workshop on March 20 at the Middle School; and she discussed a suggestion that the City give 1% of the Cultural Trust Fund to arts programs for the CCUSD.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding the Art in Public Places Program requirement; building permit valuations; discussions with the City Attorney; restrictions for using Cultural Trust Fund money; broad community benefit; the Performing Arts Grant Program and the Robert Frost Auditorium; facility agreements; the Jazz Bakery; school fees in conjunction with development and construction permits; and clarification that the school district receives more money on average from development than is paid into the Cultural Trust Fund.

Commissioner Pali discussed the Colburn School of Music and reported attending the Thomas Small event.

Commissioner Fleischer discussed the Artist Laureate Program; welcomed Ms. Mattison to the Cultural Affairs Foundation Board; reported attending the Culver City Symphony concert at Veterans Auditorium; discussed the District Music Concert; and she announced the District Arts Workshop coming up.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding the Colburn School of Music; violins; and projects done by Commissioner Pali.

Chair Dickter thanked staff for the keynote at West Los Angeles College; discussed his work on the Probation Project for the Los Angeles County Arts Commission; and reported attending the recent Heidi Duckler Dance Theatre performance.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 9:50 P.M., the Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned to a meeting to be held at 7:00 P.M. on April 17, 2018 in the Mike Balkman Chambers at City Hall.

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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
CITY CLERK

Date