

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

February 21, 2017
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Dickter called the meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Mike Balkman Chambers at City Hall.

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

Staff: Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator
Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator
Louise Coffey-Webb, Public Art Collections

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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.

Dr. Janet Hoult reported on the work of the Artist Laureate subcommittee; discussed establishing the Artist Laureate Program for the City; presented bookmarks with information regarding upcoming events; she read her poem about the upcoming Centennial 5K Run and she announced that her poetry group had been interviewed by NPR.

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

Update and Discussion Regarding FY 2016-17 Cultural Affairs Work Programs and Projects

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, provided a summary of the material of record and introduced Louise Coffey-Webb.

Louise Coffey-Webb, Public Art Collections Management, presented a slide show on Culver City's Public Art; detailed her efforts towards creating a database of local public art; creating a flow chart summarizing the review and approval process for the fulfillment of the City's Art in Public Places Program requirement; and discussed the public art web pages on the City's website.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, expressed appreciation for having Ms. Coffey-Webb join Cultural Affairs; discussed conducting condition inspections of permanent pieces; facilities management; the permitting system; revenue reconciliation; the Cultural Trust Fund; and assistance from the Information Technology Department.

Sol Blumenfeld, Community Development Director, provided an overview of development in the City; he observed mixed public reaction to the increased development in the City; he detailed the Parcel B project; discussed multi-use office and retail; architectural highlights; the Jazz Bakery project; the development within the Transit Oriented District; nine projects in varying stages of completion, recently completed projects including Platform and Access Culver City; requirements that each developer improve streetscapes; prioritizing connectivity from the Expo Line to other areas of the City; the Culver City Market Hall project; the Baldwin

Hotel site mixed-use project; the completed Tilden Terrace project; the Globe Avenue Affordable Housing project in partnership with Habit for Humanity; City funding of multiple projects including the Hayden Tract spur parking lot; and the involvement of Cultural Affairs in the General Plan Update.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners including appreciation for the comprehensive presentation; Parcel B parking and project costs to the City; the timetable for the Culver City Market Hall; overgrown lots at Washington and Centinela; the Jazz Bakery slide; the Parcel B façade change; an Ivy Station project update; potential plans for the Fox Hills area; and the Marshalls' site.

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, provided a Performing Arts Grant Program update and she distributed a calendar of upcoming events and a postcard for the Critical Mass Dance Company Performance.

Sophia Kozak, Critical Mass Dance Company, thanked the Commission and Sony Pictures Entertainment for their support; provided background on her company; announced their upcoming performance, *Arco Iris: The Rainbow Bridge*, at Antioch University on February 24; and she shared a video sample of the upcoming performance.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding support from Sony Pictures Entertainment; the Centennial logo on Centennial themed productions; upcoming performances by grant recipients; information available on the City website; whether inclusion of the Sony logo helps generate interest in events; research; marketing; venues; and ticket purchasing.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, discussed details of public art components to new developments in the City; combined projects with the City of Los Angeles; clarification between Ivy Station and the Ivy Substation; relocation of existing pieces to accommodate new developments; perimeter fencing around *The Lion's Fountain*; the former Culver City Ice Arena pole sign; the Culver Studios Innovation Plan; and historic preservation.

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, provided an update on the Cultural Venue Enhancement Work Program, including the renovation work at Veterans Memorial Auditorium; she

discussed use of the auditorium for the Culver City Unified School District's Front and Center Theatre Collaborative event; the work of Technology Artists; upcoming performances; and additional enhancements planned.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, discussed the West End Hotel; inclusion of the Historic Preservation Program in the upcoming General Plan update; an update on the progress of the Ad Hoc Subcommittee Pertaining to Revising the Structure of the Cultural Affairs Foundation; continued work on bylaws and the Memorandum of Understanding; an update on the efforts of the Artist Laureate subcommittee; the Creative Economy Report; line items for the City budget; Commission input on the General Plan update; and she pointed out that Cultural Affairs was involved with multiple departments in the City.

Chair Dickter expressed appreciation to staff for the thorough presentations and felt it was helpful to detach the presentation from the budget presentation and would lead to more structured and nuanced discussion of the budget.

Commissioner Cherry received clarification regarding Commission involvement in the General Plan Update.

Commissioner Wisnosky Stehlin received clarification on timing and the budget process, and that the joint City Council/Commission meeting would be held on April 18.

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Public Comment - Items Not On the Agenda (Continued)

Chair Dickter invited public input.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

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Receipt of Correspondence

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, reported that no correspondence had been received.

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Items From Staff

None.

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Items from Commissioners

Commissioner Wisnosky Stehlin announced Culver City High School's annual Casino Night at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium on March 4, 2017 and she commended staff on their work at the extravaganza on February 17.

Chair Dickter reported attending a Center Theatre Group panel discussion at Los Angeles City Hall on 50th anniversary celebration plans which may include the Kirk Douglas Theatre; he announced a Center Theatre Group production of *Good Grief* on March 21, 2017; and he reported that he had been invited to serve as a panelist by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission on a grant review program at the end of March.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:49 P.M., the Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned to a meeting to be held at 7:00 P.M. on March 21, 2017.

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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