

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

June 1, 2023
6:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The special meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission Public Art Subcommittee was called to order at 6:04 P.M. in the Patio Room at City Hall.

Present: Brenda Williams, Vice Chair
Ehsaan Mesghali, Commissioner

Staff: Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Manager

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Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

None.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Approval of Minutes of the March 9, 2023 CAC Public Art Subcommittee Meeting

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MESGHALI AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MARCH 9, 2023 CAC PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING AS WRITTEN.

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

Review and Consideration of Municipal Code Section 15.06.100 et seq. Relating to the Art in Public Places Program

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Manager, introduced the item; discussed criteria for approving art concepts; the focus on the bottom line for many developers; name changes for departments; the percent for art allocation; building permit valuations; research into other areas in California; and changes made in Santa Monica.

Marla Koosed joined the meeting at 6:16 P.M.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding trends; private vs. public development; the fact that there has been no change to the percentage since 1988; the amount of revenue received for the last ten years; state law that entitles developers to request that their money be sent back if it has not been spent; enforcement by the Finance Department; the Mitigation Fee Act; the League of California Cities; restrictions on spending; and the current number of art pieces in the City.

Additional discussion ensued between Ms. Koosed, staff, and Subcommittee Members regarding the difficulty of making a convincing argument on increasing the percentage; fees that developers are being hit with at this time vs. when the program was created; concern with developers lobbying the City Council to suspend the program; making other changes that would have more lasting impacts; removing exemptions for covenanted low and moderate income and senior citizen housing; other cities that have removed similar exemptions; the feeling that everyone should have art; exemptions from the minimum investment; providing a choice; valuation of artwork; requiring regular appraisal of artwork; identification of gaps in the ordinance; materials provided by the developer to evaluate the concept; preliminary budgets; ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) language in the guidelines; QR Codes; art behind glass in a lobby; inaccessibility of the Sony Rainbow; accessibility and

visibility requirements; concern with limiting the artform; sustainability; providing stipends or honoraria; staffing criteria; length of the projects; historic documentation; Historic American Building Surveys (HABS) documentation; internal work that is not seen; the need for quality staff support; AB5 prohibiting hiring contract employees year after year doing ongoing work; institutional knowledge; adding cultural equity language; a request to have the developer concepts be provided before the Subcommittee meeting; the inability to provide materials to the Subcommittee that are not made public; restrictions on the way money can be spent; changes to the economy in the past 30 years; other ways of spending money to invest in the arts; creation of a municipal art gallery; placing temporary art installations in empty buildings to build public support for a gallery; grant programs to support the arts in a different way; money given to arts non-profits in the vicinity of the development; developer responsibilities; grants to non-profits for operational expenses; building in a statute of limitations; having a Culver City based requirement rather than a radius-based requirement; ensuring that Cultural Trust Fund money is spent; aligning with current cultural programming needs and economic demands in the City; the Creative Economy Report; proof of the relationship between arts and culture and economic benefits to the City; ensuring that there are always three full time positions; contract management; work that supports what the Art Fund is about; criteria for approving art concepts; and the need for concrete feedback from Members at the next meeting.

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Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

None.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, the special meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission Public Art Subcommittee adjourned at 7:12 P.M. to Thursday, July 6, 2023.

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

APPROVED _____

Brenda Williams
VICE CHAIR of the Culver City Cultural Affairs Commission
Public Art Subcommittee

Minutes Preparation: Kristi Callan