

REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION  
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

October 17, 2017  
7:00 P.M.

**Call to Order & Roll Call**

Chair Dickter called the regular 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 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

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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.

The following member of the audience addressed the Commission:

Dr. Janet Hoult reported on the conclusion of the Centennial Poetry Contest; presented the table of contents for the book; praised the efforts of the senior participants; discussed the cover; noted that elements of Culver City were incorporated into the book; indicated that the foreword would be written by Julie Lugo Cerra; discussed the dedication; inclusion of those involved in the Centennial Committee; her duties as the Honorary Artist Laureate for the City; she expressed hope

that as a representative of the City, the Artist Laureate would encourage people to become more involved in the arts; and she indicated that it had been her honor to serve as Honorary Artist Laureate.

Chair Dickter thanked Dr. Hoult for her work.

Louise Coffey-Webb, Public Art Collections, read written comments submitted by:

Barbara Elwood

Discussion ensued between staff, Commissioners and Barbara Elwood regarding clarification that the Art in Public Places Program Ordinance had been updated in 2013 and is not scheduled to be updated in the near future; that the Historic Preservation Program was to be updated this year, beginning with the City's Municipal Code sections pertaining to preservation; and future review of the Art in Public Places Program Ordinance on an as needed basis.

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#### **Consent Calendar**

None.

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#### **Order of the Agenda**

No changes were made.

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## Action Items

### Item A-1

#### **CAC - (1) Consideration of Revised Draft Documents for an Artist Laureate Program; and (2) As Appropriate, Provide Comments and Direction to Staff and the CAC Artist Laureate Subcommittee**

Chair Dickter introduced the item.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, provided a summary of the material of record.

Chair Dickter invited public comment.

Commissioner Williams read an email from Marla Koosed into the record.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding objection to Ms. Koosed's assertion that a degree be required to apply; notable artists without degrees; the feeling that criteria should be based on the work of the artists, not a degree; award categories and definitions; allowing for flexibility; the inclusion of performance art; nuances and niche categories; the application and guidelines; allowing the applicants to self-describe; Commission consensus that a degree should not be listed in criteria and that performance art was included; appreciation for the work of the subcommittee on the item; expectations; whether development or showcasing the work should be required; public access; a culminating summary work; whether something tangible should be required; the review process after the first year; applicants; the minimum residency requirement; showing a commitment to living or working in Culver City; a grammatical correction to the Review Criteria to indicate: "artistic quality, originality and uniqueness," rather than "or uniqueness"; costs for the Business Tax Certificate and the special event permit; partnerships with other organizations or the City; waivers and grants; the application as parallel to the existing Performing Arts Grant Program application;

artists that are priced out of living in Culver City; the process moving forward; and an online application.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR WISNOSKY STEHLIN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PALI AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION RECOMMEND THAT THE CITY COUNCIL IMPLEMENT AN ARTIST LAUREATE PROGRAM AS OUTLINED AND DETAILED IN THE PROPOSAL WITH A CHANGE IN WORDING OF THE REVIEW CRITERIA TO INDICATE "...ARTISTIC QUALITY, ORIGINALITY AND UNIQUENESS...".

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding next steps in the process, and appreciation to the subcommittee and staff for their work and for the clear, simple application form.

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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**

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, reported that no correspondence had been received.

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**Items From Staff**

Susan Obrow, Special Events Coordinator, announced upcoming Performing Arts Grant performances, and she thanked Vice Chair Wisnosky Stehlin and Commissioner Fleischer for attending the peer review panel for the 2018 Performing Arts Grant applicants on October 12, noting that a full report would be coming forward at the November Commission meeting.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, reported that printed copies of the Creative Economy Report were available, and the online version of the report would be updated to match the final printed version; she indicated that there would likely be an item on the November Commission agenda for a public art piece at One Culver, the former Sony Pictures Plaza building; she added that she would be contacting the Public Art subcommittee shortly with additional projects moving forward; and she expressed appreciation for support and assistance from Louise Coffey-Webb.

Louise Coffey-Webb, Public Art Collections, provided a presentation on maintenance and repairs of public art pieces; discussed the digitization of images from Barbara McCarren's *Panoramic* artwork; the upcoming relocation and maintenance of the zoetropes; and 3-D images of the 1988 project created by an artist from Sony Imageworks, Franklin London.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding composite materials; indoor/outdoor use; and collections management.

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#### **Items from Commissioners**

Commissioner Williams reported being selected to serve as a juror for the stARTup Art Fair Los Angeles which will be from January 26 - 28, 2018, noting that she had encouraged the organizers to locate in Culver City for the event next year.

Vice Chair Wisnosky Stehlin thanked Susan Obrow, Gayle Smashey, Commissioner Fleisher and panel participants for the well-run performing arts grant peer review panel, and she expressed appreciation for the Commission approval of the proposed Artist Laureate program guidelines.

Commissioner Pali thanked those who organized the Culver City Art Walk, as well as the Daniel Szabo Jazz Quartet for playing at the event; he reported attending the Los Angeles Conservancy fundraiser at John Lautner's Silvertop; and he reported receiving a California Preservation Foundation

Design Award for the Morgan Phoa Library and Residence project.

Commissioner Fleischer received clarification regarding outreach and publicity for Performing Arts Grant performances including listings on the City website; she echoed comments of Vice Chair Wisnosky Stehlin regarding the Performing Arts Grant peer review panel; reported that she would be attending a performance by The Music Center on Location of *Until the Lions* at The Culver Studios; announced an upcoming performance of AVPA at Veterans Memorial Auditorium on October 26; and she thanked Christine Byers for her assistance on the Artist Laureate subcommittee.

Chair Dickter thanked staff, the Commission and Framestore for the successful Creative Economy Report event, noting that he was pleased that the report had sparked conversation; he reported being asked by the Los Angeles Arts Commission to join a panel to evaluate a new artwork proposed for a probation office on Vermont Avenue; and he discussed the concept of how artworks influence behavior.

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**Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 8:11 P.M., the Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned to a meeting to be held at 7:00 P.M. on November 21, 2017 in the Mike Balkman Chambers at City Hall.

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SECRETARY of the Cultural Affairs Commission

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

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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.

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Jeremy Green  
CITY CLERK

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Date