

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

December 15, 2020
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Fleischer called the regular meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission to order at 7:02 P.M. via Webex.

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

Staff: Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator
Louise Coffey-Webb, Public Art Collections Manager
Lee Lawlor, Performing Arts Program Associate

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Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Fleischer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Public Comment – Items Not On the Agenda

Chair Fleischer invited public comment.

The following member of the public addressed the Commission:

Alexey Steele, Culver City Artist Laureate, shared images from his virtual live portrait sessions with Honorary Culver City Artist Laureate, Dr. Janet Hoult; he emphasized the importance of art; discussed the *Love My Neighbor* project; celebrating unsung heroes; creating new community icons; nominations for portrait subjects; the City's General Plan Update; collaboration; project alignment; and the power of art to lead everyone to a new and better future.

Chair Fleischer thanked Mr. Steele for his efforts and indicated eagerness to work together in the future.

Sehnita Mattison, Culver City Arts Foundation, invited everyone to their holiday event on December 27 in honor of Dr. Janet Cameron Hoult; discussed the importance of art in the community; she thanked Jeannine Wisnosky Stehlin for participating in their video; discussed their fundraiser for the Artists Emergency Resiliency Fund; and the launch of the #CulverCityResilient campaign.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

CAC – Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 20, 2020

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WISNOSKY STEHLIN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 20, 2020 AS SUBMITTED.

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Order of the Agenda

No changes.

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Action Items

Item A-1

CAC – Consideration of a Permanent Entry Canopy Concept by Luna Ikuta Toward Fulfillment of the City's Art in Public Places Program Requirement for a Development Project at 11924 Washington Boulevard (Haven)

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

Adam Perry, CityView, developer of the Haven project, noted difficulties for retailers in 2020 and expressed eagerness to bring the art installation to the project and to the community.

Beau Basse, LeBasse Projects, project art consultant, provided background on the Haven project; presented images of the location; discussed entitlements for a canopy at the entrance of the building; and the Art in Public Places Program requirement.

Luna Ikuta, artist, introduced herself; provided examples of her past work; discussed her background and experience; the pandemic; connecting with the natural world and taking inspiration from nature; she presented renderings of the proposed artwork; discussed the fabrication process; materials used; angles; colors; textures; the intention to create a new work for the Culver City public art portfolio; and she thanked the Subcommittee for their assistance in the process.

Beau Basse, LeBasse Projects, indicated that this would be the first permanent public art installation for Luna Ikuta.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, provided a correction to report noting that the canopy would include a total of 19 vertical columns, rather than 14 as noted in the staff report.

Commissioner Pali reported that much work had been done to get the project to the current state, noting that the project met the requirements of the ordinance; he felt that the leaves required additional consideration; discussed the quality of the material, paints and welding joints; ensuring that the welding of each leaf stem to the main branch is cleaner than was the case in the sample provided; commented on what is art and what is craft; work on technical issues; and he felt that the details were pretty worked out and that the project could move forward.

Commissioner Williams reported examining the materials and expressed concern that some of the leaf attachments were bulky; discussed the potential for water damage; and concern that the leaves were easily movable.

Discussion ensued between project representatives, staff and Commissioners regarding the original design; thickness of the

leaves; strength; addressing the lumpiness of the welded connections; ensuring that the piece is best suitable for an outdoor installation; support for the structure's reference to nature; appreciation for the process to improve the design and the responsiveness of the artist; maintenance; conservator review; finalization of materials and vendors; and the required Conservation and Maintenance Plan.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY CHAIR FLEISCHER AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION: APPROVE A PERMANENT ENTRY CONCEPT BY LUNA IKUTA TOWARD FULFILLMENT OF THE CITY'S ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PROGRAM REQUIREMENT FOR A DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AT 11924 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD (HAVEN).

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Public Comment – Items Not On the Agenda (Continued)

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

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Receipt of Correspondence

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

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Items from Staff

Louise Coffey-Webb, Public Art Collections Manager, discussed the *Crossed Currents* installation at Transportation; the fountain; landscaping; the plaque; the restoration of *Truth or Fiction*; lighting; *The Lion's Fountain* retrofit to address safety issues; the visual barrier around the sculpture; signage; the inscribed donor bricks around the fountain; the necessary repair to *Tree of Life* in Carlson Park; the original concept; landscaping; and she announced the completion of *Migration* by Sage Vaughn at Ivy Station.

Lee Lawlor, Performing Arts Program Associate, discussed recent and upcoming performances by grantees, and she reported that applications were being accepted for the 2021 Performing Arts Grant Program and would be coming before the Commission in February for review and recommendation.

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Items from Commissioners

Commissioner Williams expressed appreciation for the recent national election and she wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Commissioner Pali read a quote: "The life of a nation is only secure while the nation is honest, truthful and virtuous."

Commissioner Wisnosky Stehlin discussed the installation of new Council Members; she thanked former Council Members Sahli-Wells and Small for their service to the city and for their support of the arts; she welcomed back Göran Eriksson on his reappointment and new Council Members Yasmine-Imani McMorris and Albert Vera; reported watching an online presentation of the Culver City High School AVPA; announced the Culver Arts Foundation Artists Emergency Resiliency Fund fundraiser on December 27; reported participating in the Artists Emergency Resiliency Fund project; noted the importance of the arts; she thanked Commissioners and staff; and she wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Vice Chair Dickter reported on the work of the Economic Recovery Task Force with the Arts and Cultural Working Group, and he wished everyone a more safe and stable 2021.

Chair Fleischer encouraged everyone to visit www.moveculvercity.com; discussed mobility projects in the City; the public comment period; asphalt art; she thanked Commissioners, staff, frontline workers and the scientific community; and she hoped to be able to gather again in person in 2021.

Vice Chair Dickter thanked the Chamber of Commerce for inviting him to participate as a panelist in an online discussion of the Creative Economy as relates to the entertainment industry.

Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, thanked Commissioners for their efforts and for their help in moving projects forward.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:20 P.M., the Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned to a meeting to be held at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, January 19, 2021.

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SECRETARY of the Cultural Affairs Commission

APPROVED _____

TANIA FLEISCHER
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