

Newport Beach City Arts Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 9, 2014 – 5:00pm
Central Library Friends Meeting Room

Convened at 5:00pm

1) Call Meeting to Order

Chair Goldberg called the meeting to order.

2) Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Rita Goldberg, Chair
Arlene Greer, Vice Chair
Michael Magrutsche
Charles Ware
Robert Smith

Commissioners Absent: Judy Chang (arrived at 5:26pm)

Staff Present: Tim Hetherington, Acting Library Services Director
Elaine McMillion, Administrative Assistant
Terri Cassidy, Deputy City Manager/Human Resources Director
Tara Finnigan, Public Information Officer

Council Present: Nancy Gardner, Council Member

Board of Library Trustees
Present: Jill Johnson-Tucker, Chair

Public Present: Jim Mosher, Resident
Nicole Shine, Orange County Register Reporter
Richard Stein, Arts Orange County

3) Public Comments

Jim Mosher stated that the item regarding the by laws is not in the correct format on the agenda. Additionally, the Sculpture Garden and Park Project needs to be placed as a standing item on the agenda so direction can be provided.

4) Approval of Minutes

It was moved and seconded (Commissioner Smith/Vice Chair Greer) to approve the December 12, 2013 minutes as submitted. Motion carried by all Commissioners present.

Commissioner Ware stated that on page three (handwritten notes page five) should reflect that the purpose of his comment was to involve and engage the public.

Jim Mosher asked to consider two minor amendments, with the first being a name change to reflect the correct spelling of Tara Finnigan's name. Additionally, the last paragraph on page seven should be amended to say that the grant would be for cultural arts and not sculptural arts.

It was moved and seconded (Commissioner Smith/Vice Chair Greer) to approve the December 12, 2013 minutes as submitted with the changes stated. Motion carried by all Commissioners present.

5) Current Business

Chair Goldberg announced that a Cultural Arts presentation would be held at the City Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 14th at 7:00pm. It was also noted that staff has begun marketing for the museum bus tour.

A. Consent Calendar -

1. Correspondence and Press – *No discussion.*
2. Financial Report - *No discussion.*
3. Cultural Arts Activities – *No discussion.*

B. Items for Review and Possible Action –

1. Council Policy I-11, Donation of Art to City of Newport Beach- Review proposed revisions of Council Policy I-11

Tim Hetheron, Acting Library Services Director, noted that this document has been returned with notations and revisions, including language concerning types of limited edition art pieces that are to be donated or sold. Language regarding any intellectual property has been changed to reflect this, based on the suggestion of the City Attorney's office.

Commissioner Smith discussed item 5-I, noting that the wording presents a challenge to the City being able to photograph the art and notify the public. Item 5-F discusses accepting art and it should reflect the City having the right to display, store, or sell the art piece. Commissioner Smith recommended that the policy be revised to indicate that Arts Commission has the right to remove pieces from the City Art collection.

Tim Hetheron stated that he is able to take the revisions to the City Attorney's office, clarifying that the Arts Commission has no commercial gain or financial benefit, aside from promoting or publicizing any art pieces.

Jim Mosher recommended that the City Council and City Attorney take the Art Commission's requests into legal, written policy and that item E be amended from "may" to "will."

Nancy Gardner, Council Member, clarified that the verbiage used in item E is not intended to be interpreted in that regard. The item, instead, is saying that nothing comes from the Arts Commission without the majority vote. Council Member Gardner also noted that the Council would not want any member of the community to bring art pieces to the City directly. Art should always be brought through the Arts Commission.

Chair Goldberg called for a motion.

Commissioner Smith stated that the changes should be made before moving to approve a final vote.

2. Review of City Arts Commission By Laws- The City Arts Commission requested copies for review

Chair Goldberg noted that she has reviewed the by laws but this item requires a committee and appointments need to be made.

Nancy Gardner recommended a mixture of one experienced commissioner and one newer commissioner serve on the committee.

Commissioners Ware and Magrutsche volunteered to serve on the committee and will report at the next meeting.

C. Monthly Reports -

1. Newport Beach Sculpture Garden Ad Hoc Committee

Commissioner Smith provided history of the project, stating that at the re-opening of the Civic Center, the committee was appointed to initiate a temporary sculpture event. The item was presented to the Council and approved. A sub-committee has been working on this request and the Request for Proposal has now been finalized and will be published on a website used for artists to apply to the call for entry called "CaFÉ". The posting will be available through February, and then a selection panel will screen applicants on March 28th, with Council acceptance in May, and an art installation in August. The pieces would stay throughout the summer of 2016. Any interested artists should be referred to the CaFÉ website.

Commissioner Ware thanked Commissioner Smith and Chair Goldberg for their dedication to this project. He also discussed shortcomings regarding public involvement and the design of the sculpture garden. The art placed in the garden needs to be well defined with a process to define the appropriate fit, scale, and design of the pieces.

Commissioner Chang arrived to the meeting at 5:26pm.

Chair Goldberg agreed that while they are representing the public, the public is not showing up to meetings.

Commissioner Ware disagreed, noting that the agendas do not invite the public in, as there is no public process.

Chair Goldberg disagreed, stating that the issue of the Reagan sculpture greatly involved the public.

Nancy Gardner added that the Arts Commission's role is not to decide how the community will be reached, and if there is a community outreach plan, it needs to be heard by the Council.

2. Fine Arts Ad Hoc Committee

Sub Committee Chair Arlene Greer noted that the Fine Arts Committee met earlier in the day with staff to discuss the Newport Beach Arts Exhibition. Due to other conflicts in the community, it is recommended that the Exhibition date be changed to June 14th.

It was moved and seconded (Commissioner Magrutsche /Commissioner Ware) to change the date of the Newport Beach Arts Exhibition to June 14th. Motion carried by all Commissioners present.

Commissioner Greer noted that the publicity material deadline for the Exhibition is January 22nd and the goals are to increase the number of artists and encourage a high community turnout.

3. Museum Tour Ad Hoc Committee

The LACMA / Los Angeles County Museum of Art /Arts Commission Tour is scheduled on Tuesday, March 4, 2014. The tour group will check in at the City Central Library and at 9:15am will depart by luxury coach to LACMA and return to the Central Library by 4:30pm. Cost is \$75.00 per person. The group will view *James Turrell, a Retrospective*, and *Alexander Calder, from Abstraction to Iconic*, which is comprised of fifty Calder works curated by the architect Frank Gehry. Due to time constraints, the viewing of the *Metropolis* exhibition has been eliminated from the day's schedule. Registration forms and tour information can be located in the Library Administration office and through the Library website. The Bus Tour is publicized in the Winter Navigator and the registration form is available throughout the City.

4. Arts Foundation Liaison Ad Hoc Committee

Commissioner Smith shared the results of the well-attended holiday party. The next Newport Beach Arts Foundation Meeting will be held on January 21st. On February 6th, the Arts Foundation will present a lecture, *The Art of Eating Well* in the Newport Coast Community Center with free admission. *Art in the Park* will be held on October 11th, 2014 in the Civic Center.

5. Cultural Arts Grants Ad Hoc Committee

Chair Goldberg noted that the checks for these grants would be presented at the next City Council meeting.

6. Art Site Suitability Ad Hoc Committee

Commissioner Magrutsche noted that there is a sense of status quo, due to the holidays, but things are set up and there will be a report next month.

7. Civic Center Art Placement Ad Hoc Committee

Chair Goldberg noted there is nothing to report.

8. Art Owned by the City of Newport Beach Ad Hoc Committee

Vice Chair Greer explained that the committee is waiting on the final I-11 document and the master Site Plan, as it affects the art that has already been acquired.

6) City Arts Commission Announcements or Matters Which Members Would Like Placed on a Future Agenda for Discussion, Action or Report (Non-Discussion Item)

Commissioner Greer noted that Mark Hilbert has an item regarding California Scene Art and it should be placed on the next agenda.

Commissioner Magrutsche addressed the new ways young people consume art and the role of social media in reaching artists. He stated that the Arts Commission needs to understand this in order to stay relevant.

It was moved and seconded (Commissioner Smith /Commissioner Magrutsche) to have Commissioner Magrutsche provide an informational presentation at the March meeting, regarding the relationship between social media and art. Motion carried by all commissioners present.

Vice Chair Greer shared the bus poster that has been designed for the LACMA bus tour, but it is also available on the City website.

It was moved and seconded (Commissioner Smith /Commissioner Ware) to place Mark Hilbert on the February agenda for a discussion of California Scene Art. Motion carried by all commissioners present.

7) Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Jim Mosher noted that several months ago, there was discussion of art reproductions being placed in City Hall and would like to know the current status of this item. Additionally, there was a \$150,000 per year offer related to the renewal of the Tourism BID to allot for cultural arts in Newport Beach and the Commissioners might like a staff report. Last, in regards to the by laws, the Commission has the power to conduct by laws for the meeting and the dates placed on the current by laws are not correct.

8) Adjournment – 5:57 p.m.

Submitted by: Rita Goldberg
Chair Approval of Minutes