

City of Newport Beach

Newport Beach City Arts Commission Special Meeting: Thursday, July 15, 2010 – 5:00pm Central Library Conference Room

Convened at 5:00pm

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Robyn Grant, Chair; Robert Smith, V. Chair; Carole Boller, Gil Lasky, Wendy Brooks, and Christopher Trela

Commissioners Absent: Rita Goldberg, Secretary

Staff Present: Cynthia Cowell, Library Services Director; Jana Barbier, Cultural Arts Coordinator

Public Present: Christopher & Toni Law; Charles Borchini, Lila Crespin

Public Comments: Mr. Borchini introduced himself and stated that he was from Maryland, and was interested in knowing more about an arts commission's role in a community. Mr. Borchini noted that he was a photographer and had earned his Eagle Scout award in photography. He noted that arts bring the community together and stated that he would like to bring more arts and creativity to his community.

Christopher and Toni Law introduced their photo safari tours. Mr. Law noted that he would like to submit artwork for consideration for the new City Hall. Commissioner Grant noted that they had come to the right place, and that if they would leave their information, the commission would contact them when a protocol for submitting public art for that site had been established. She suggested contacting the Arts Commission or staff again in September.

Lila Crespin stated that she'd be at the Back Bay plein air art event. The net amount of profit from the recent Art and Craft event at Mariners Park was discussed. Crespin stated that the event was extremely successful and that they'd had 94 artists participate. Commissioner Boller noted that there were many levels of hard work for this event. Discussion ensued as to nonprofits using the stage at City events to introduce their programs.

Approval of Minutes: It was MSP (Lasky/Brooks) to approve the June 10, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Continued Business:

Staff Report /Correspondence - Reviewed and filed.

Correspondence/Press – Reviewed and filed.

Committee Updates:

Fine Arts Committee – Commissioner Boller discussed that the Fine Arts Committee had reviewed the City Seal ‘artwork’ and noted that when a Giclee (copy) had been altered or painted over, it was considered an original. She elaborated on the composition of the painting and recommended accepting the work, with the caveat that the artist provides a letter of authenticity. Discussion ensued as to copyright laws.

It was MSP (Boller/Smith) to accept the donation by Ron and Ana Winship of the City Seal painting. Vote was unanimous in favor.

Commissioner Boller noted that she was now working for the Laguna Beach Arts Festival, and brought a brochure on Laguna’s public art collection.

Performing Arts Committee – Commissioner Lasky stated that the Shakespeare by the Sea event was over and that he’d had difficulty hearing the performers. Discussion followed as to an entry fee for that event. It was suggested that the Commission pay for enhanced sound engineering for this event and staff was asked to contact director, Lisa Coffi.

Arts Foundation Liaison Committee – Already reported on under Public Comments

Budget Committee – Library Services Director, Cynthia Cowell, discussed the Arts Commission’s budget. She explained that due to new regulations, every event had to be paid for in full from the year in which the events costs were expended. She noted that funds the Arts Commission receives for Cultural Arts Grants were intact. There was a lengthy discussion regarding reporting costs to the Arts Commission so that they were informed monthly of funds that were available.

Art in Public Places Committee – Commissioner Smith stated that the MOU between the Orange County Museum of Art and the City of Newport Beach was voted on at the June 22 City Council meeting and is now effective. Commissioner Smith reported that the NEA grant that had been requested was not funded. He noted that he’d spoken with the director of OCMA, and that the project was still going forward, and likely with one or both of the artists originally contacted. There was discussion about obtaining a significant amount of funding before putting the project forward. Discussion followed as to what other grants might be available and which organization would apply for them.

Cultural Arts Grant Committee – Commissioner Brooks attended the Baroque Music Festival’s 30th anniversary season.

New Business:

Election of Officers –

Chair: Robyn Grant was nominated by Robert Smith. Discussion ensued as to keeping the entire slate “as is” for 2010-11.

It was MSP (Brooks/Boller) to keep the entire slate: Robyn Grant, Chair; Robert Smith, Vice Chair; Rita Goldberg, Secretary for 2010-11. Vote was unanimously in favor.

Commissioner Grant asked that the item “Newport Beach Sister City, Ensenada, Music Ensemble performing in 2011” be tabled until the August 12 meeting.

There was a straw vote on committee assignments, which seemed to be the same as 2009-10.

Future Agenda Items: It was requested that Museum Tours be added to the performing arts committee report.

Commissioner Announcements: Commissioner Boller invited the Arts Commissioners to a social engagement at the Festival of Arts.

It was MSP (Trela/Boller) to adjourn the meeting.

Adjournment: 6:10p.m.