

City of Newport Beach

Newport Beach City Arts Commission
Special Meeting –
Monday, November 8, 2010 – 5:00pm
Central Library Conference Room

Convened at 5:00pm

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Robyn Grant – Chair, Robert Smith – Vice Chair, Carole Boller, Gil Lasky, Chris Trela, Rita Goldberg – Secretary, Wendy Brooks arrived at 5:17pm

Commissioners Absent: None

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

Public Present: None

Public Comments: None

Before the regular meeting began, Library Director Cynthia Cowell gave an update on the plans and construction affecting Central Library. Cowell noted that a construction wall would be built inside the library from the children's area through the popular library area. When the temporary wall is built, the library will lose approximately 25' of library space on both the top and bottom floors for about a year. She noted that if necessary, the hallway outside the restrooms could be used to hang artwork. Commissioner Smith reminded her that he hoped a permanent system for artwork display would be included at the new site during construction. Commissioner Grant thanked Director Cowell for the update.

Commissioner Smith made the announcement that the Newport Beach Arts Foundation would be hosting a theater – night with the play “Killjoy” at the Newport Theater Arts Center on Friday, December 10.

Also at this time, Commissioner Grant asked for a consensus for holding the December meeting and/or holiday party. She noted that the Arts Foundation would be holding their own party and asked the commissioners if they had any ideas. Commissioner Goldberg offered her home for a holiday potluck, tentatively planned for December 14.

Approval of Minutes:

It was MSP (Boller/Grant) to approve the September 9, 2010 minutes with the following two changes: (1) on page one, under ‘Staff Report/Calendar’, the sentence beginning “Commissioner Boller reminded everyone...” was repeated under ‘Committee Updates’. (2) On page two under ‘New Business’, paragraph 5 under ‘A vote was taken’ it should have said that all voted in favor of designating the Rawlins Solar House as a Class 2 property, except Commissioners Lasky and Brooks.

Continued Business:

Staff Report /Correspondence – Reviewed and filed

Correspondence/Press – Reviewed and filed.

Committee Updates -

Commissioner Goldberg reported on the recent Getty Center museum tour, noted that it was sold out, very successful and that many new people attended. Commissioner Grant thanked Goldberg and staff for producing these fun events and called the tours “well-oiled machines”.

Commissioner Smith discussed a potential new public art lecture and noted that he had been in discussions with Peter Walker about coming to Newport Beach in April/spring 2011 to give a presentation. Smith discussed a possible lecture with noted artist, Siah Armijianhi in 2013. Commissioner Smith also mentioned that he and Commissioner Grant had been exploring opportunities for funding a public art piece at the new civic center site.

The performing arts committee discussed meeting sometime in January to decide on where and whom will be performing in the Concerts in the Parks Series in 2011.

Commissioner Lasky described a recent budget meeting with Melissa Kelly, Cynthia Cowell and staff to discuss the monies available for Arts Commission programming. Discussion ensued regarding a dance at Oasis Senior Center – possibly geared toward teenagers.

Staff provided a list of potential new programs for the Arts Commission’s review. Several ideas were discussed at length. Commissioners agreed to find out more information on three of the programs discussed and to bring specifics to the January meeting for further review.

New Business - None

Future Agenda Items - Staff was asked to include (1) discussion of the goals of the Arts Foundation and (2) a report on a sculpture offered as a donation by Leo Gugasian on the January 13, 2011 agenda.

Commissioner Announcements - None

Adjournment - It was MSP (Boller/Smith) to adjourn the meeting at 6:45p.m.