

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 21, 2014**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Commission Chair Candice Beroukhim

A. Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Candice Beroukhim, Beverly Denenberg, Peter Mays, Madeleine Rackley, Todd Williamson and Yelena Zhelezov.

Absent: J. Dallas Dishman

Staff Liaison: Absent

Recording Secretary: Administrative Specialist IV Prentis Bonds

Staff: Economic Development and Cultural Affairs Coordinator Michael Che

B. Staff Comments on the Agenda

None.

C. Approval of the Agenda

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Denenberg, seconded by Commissioner Dishman and approved unanimously.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

The following routine matters were acted upon by one motion noting Commissioner Rackley's request to remove Consent Calendar Item IID – West Hollywood Library Poet Laureate to Excluded Consent Calendar for separate discussion. **Motioned by Commissioner Mays, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and approved unanimously.**

A. Posting of the Agenda

The agenda was posted per proper noticing procedures at City Hall, West Hollywood Park Auditorium, Plummer Park, West Hollywood Library, and West Hollywood Sheriff's Station.

ACTION: Receive and file.

B. Approval of the Minutes

The Commission reviewed and considered approval of the minutes of the prior meeting.

ACTION: Approve the minutes of July 24, 2014. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

C. Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee

The Commission received and filed the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Actions of its August 14, 2014 meeting. The Commission also considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

ACTIONS:

1. Receive and file report.
2. Approval of an Arts Participation Grant in the amount of \$1,000 to Saturday Night Bath Concert Fund to support an interactive concert at West Hollywood Day School. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

D. West Hollywood Library Poet Laureate

The Commission reviewed and considered ratifying the Poet Laureate Selection Committee's recommendation for West Hollywood's inaugural Poet Laureate. **Move to Excluded Consent Calendar.**

E. West Hollywood Library Cultural Programming

The Commission received and filed a report from the West Hollywood Library Programming Committee.

ACTION: Receive and file report.

III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Commission Subcommittee Structure – FY2015

The Commission reviewed and discussed Commission subcommittee structure (Art on the Outside Subcommittee, Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee and Urban Art Subcommittee) for FY2015 and had no objections with retaining the current subcommittee for FY2015. However, Commissioner Williamson expressed interest in serving on the Art on the Outside Subcommittee due to his expertise in visual arts.

ACTION: Review, discuss and approve Commission subcommittee structure for FY2015.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. West Hollywood Park Master Plan Phase II Implementation Project – “Untitled National AIDS Monument”

The Commission received a presentation from Todd Williamson, West Hollywood Arts and Cultural Affairs Commissioner and Member of the Foundation of AIDS Monument (FAM) Design Committee and considered ratifying the Committee's selected artist and

proposal for West Hollywood Park Master Plan Phase II Implementation Project – Untitled National AIDS Monument.

Members serving on the FAM Design Committee included:

- Rogerio V. Carvalheiro, Principal at RCDF Studio and Chair of FAM Design Sub-Committee
- Todd Williamson, Arts and Cultural Affairs Commissioner
- Mark Lehman, Principal at the Law Offices of Mark E. Lehman
- Dan Adams, Project Manager, City of West Hollywood Park Phase 2 Project
- Samantha Harris, Senior Associate, Rios Clementi Hale Studios
- Richard D'Amato, Principal, LPA

Commissioner Williamson provided an overview of artists/artist concepts reviewed by the FAM Design Committee for West Hollywood Park Master Plan Phase II Implementation Project – Untitled National AIDS Monument. The Committee reviewed concepts by artist Meeson Pae Yang; Susan Narduli; Ursula von Rydingsvard and Dan Tobin and informed the Commission that the FAM Design Committee unanimously selected recommended artist Dan Tobin and his concept for the Untitled National AIDS Monument.

Following, the Commission discussed concerns about artist Dan Tobin's concept for the Untitled National AIDS Monument due to its many referential design elements to other monuments and public art works in the greater Los Angeles area (such as LACMA) and throughout the world (such as Berlin). The Commission felt the proposed monument did not communicate the goals of the project as a tribute to the West Hollywood community and the many lives touched by AIDS in West Hollywood. Additionally, the proposed monument lacked an overall artistic statement unique to West Hollywood.

ACTION: Ratify the FAM Design Committee selection of artist Dan Tobin and artist concept for the West Hollywood Park Phase II Implementation Project – Untitled National AIDS Monument. **Motion by Commissioner Beroukhim, seconded by Commissioner Rackley and failed 2 to 4 noting the no votes of Commissioners Denenberg, Mays, Rackley and Zhelezov.**

The Commission expressed considerable interest in Susan Narduli's concept for the Untitled National AIDS Monument noting the design communicated the goals of the project and represented a far more powerful, poetic and contemplative/reflective statement and tribute to lives touched by AIDS in West Hollywood. Narduli's concept was more integrated into the park scape and went beyond shape and form while incorporating design elements that enhance the 'experience' and as a reminder of 'history.' Finally, the Commission spoke concerning the Untitled AIDS Monument as an opportunity to have a unique and global statement about AIDS and how it has and continues to touch lives.

ACTION: Recommend approval of artist Susan Narduli and artist concept for the West Hollywood Park Phase II – Untitled National AIDS Monument. **Motioned by Commissioner Mays, seconded by Commissioner Zhelezov, approved 4 to 2 noting the no votes of Commissioners Williamson and Beroukhim.**

B. WEHO Reads: Noir

The Commission received an update from staff on West Hollywood Reads: Noir and cultural arts programming in conjunction with this program to be held September 27, 2014 at the West Hollywood Park and Library.

ACTION: Receive and file.

B. Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission Projects

The Subcommittee received an update from staff on current Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission projects and discuss as needed projects under the Commission’s oversight:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Art on the Outside <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Temporary Art Projects - Videotron and Vertical Billboard - West Hollywood Library Exhibits - West Hollywood Mural Program 	<p>The Subcommittee did not meet in August.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ City of West Hollywood 30th Anniversary of Cityhood 	<p>Staff is moving forward on arts and cultural programming for the City’s 30th Anniversary of Cityhood.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WeHo East Arts (Eastside Arts Initiative) ▪ 1343 N. Laurel Vision Concept Committee ▪ Marketing & Community Outreach 	<p>No status update on these projects.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ West Hollywood Park Phase II Implementation Project – Civic Art Project 	<p>The Agreement for Services Contract with The Art office (Phillip K Smith, III) on this project has been completed.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arts Grant Program - Free Theatre in the Parks - One City One Pride - Resident Company Program - Winter & Summer Sounds - WEHO East Arts - WEHO Reads: Noir 	<p>Refer to Item IIC. The deadline to submit arts grant applications (City Arts Project Grant, Cultural Resource Development Grant and One City One Pride Grants) is Friday, September 12, 2014. WEHO Reads Noir will be held Saturday, September 27, 2014.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plummer Park and West Hollywood Park Capital Projects 	<p>No status update on this project.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Urban Art <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - % for Art Ordinance Modification - % for Art/Urban Art Program - Public Art Conservation 	<p>The Urban Art Subcommittee did not meet in August.</p>

VI. EXCLUDED CONSENT

The Commission reviewed, discussed and considered ratifying the Poet Laureate Selection Committee's recommendation for the West Hollywood's inaugural Poet Laureate.

It was the consensus of the Commission as suggested by Commissioner Rackley that staff qualify the Poet Laureate Selection Committee's selection of Steven Reigns as West Hollywood's Poet Laureate/City Poet and provide information on how Mr. Reigns plans to engage the community as the Poet Laureate/City Poet Laureate in its report to City Council.

ACTIONS:

1. Recommend that the City Council approve the Poet Laureate Selection Committee's recommendation of a name change from 'Poet Laureate' to 'City Poet'. **Motion by Commissioner Rackley, seconded the Commissioner Zhelezov and approved unanimously.**
2. Review and recommend that the City Council approve the Poet Laureate Selection Committee's recommendation of Steven Reigns for the Poet Laureate/City Poet position. **Motion by Commissioner Denenberg, seconded by Commissioner Mays and approved unanimously.**

VII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

ELIZABETH SANDBERG, WEST HOLLYWOOD resident and member of the West Hollywood Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board spoke in support of the installation of two (2) decorative vinyl wraps on West Hollywood utility boxes.

MICHAEL W, WEST HOLLYWOOD resident spoke in support of the AIDS monument and suggested that the Commission consider the intent of the monument over design and form.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR

None.

IX. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Denenberg spoke concerning the installation of The Game by artist Wang Da Long and requested that staff forward any media coverage to the Commission.

Commissioner Williamson spoke concerning his public art installation in Nashville.

Commissioner Rackley expressed appreciation for the Commission's candid discussions particularly on two items of importance to the City.

X. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

None.

XI. DEVELOPMENT OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

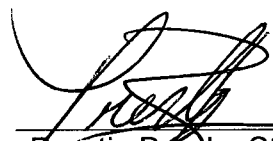
The Commission advised staff to develop the September 25, 2014 meeting agenda as appropriate.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned at 6:43 p.m. to its next meeting scheduled Thursday, September 25, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.



Candice Beroukhim, Chair



Prentis Bonds, Staff Liaison/Recording Secretary