

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
ADJOURNED MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, December 17, 2015 – 5:00 P.M.

*Location: Community Room – West Hollywood Library
625 San Vicente Boulevard, West Hollywood*

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 p.m. by Commission Chair Todd Williamson

A. Pledge of Allegiance: Commissioner Williamson led the Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call:

Present: Commissioner Todd Williamson, Candice Beroukhim, Commissioner J. Dallas Dishman, Commissioner Catherine Lee, Commissioner Madeleine Rackley, Commissioner Rogerio Carvalheiro

Also Present: Arts Administrator Andrew Campbell
Administrative Specialist IV Prentis Bonds, Jr.
Arts Coordinator Michael Che
Public Art Coordinator Rebecca Ehemann

Staff announced the resignation of Yelena Zhelezov from the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission.

C. Approval of the Agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Rackley seconded by Commissioner Lee and approved.

D. Approval of the of the November 19, 2015 meeting minutes.

Motion by Commissioner Dishman, seconded by Commissioner Carvalheiro and approved noting one correction to the minutes. Replace December 3, 2015 with November, 5 2015, Item IV.E – West Hollywood Cultural/Creative Plan.

E. Public Comment

CHARLENE SU, Los Angeles Resident and Artistic Director of Lovers and Madman, spoke concerning the City's application deadline for its Free Theatre in the Parks performance series.

The Commission suggested that staff follow-up with Ms. Su concerning how the City's Free Theatre in the Parks performance opportunity was noticed.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

The following routine matters were acted upon by one motion and there was no item removed for separate discussion under excluded consent.

Motion by Commissioner Beroukhim, seconded by Commissioner Lee and approved.

A. Posting of the Agenda

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

ACTION: Receive and file.

B. Art on the Outside Current, Upcoming and Potential Projects Status Update

The Commission will receive and file a status update of Art on the Outside current, upcoming and potential projects.

ACTION: Receive and file report.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report

The Commission received a report from the Art on the Outside Subcommittee on its adjourned meeting held December 17, 2015 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Commissioner Dishman reported that the Subcommittee:

- Received and filed an update concerning the "Happy Wall" temporary art/mural installation and response from Shake Shack regarding questions posed by Commissioners at the November 19, 2015 Art on the Outside Subcommittee meeting.
- Received and filed a status update of Art on the Outside current, upcoming and potential projects.
- Recommended that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve the temporary art/sculpture project, "Bus Stop" by artist Yi Hwan Kwon and funding not to exceed \$10,000 to support loan of the artwork.
Motioned by Commissioner Rackley, seconded by Commissioner Beroukhim and approved.
- Recommend that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve the West Hollywood Mural Program Policy and guidelines and authorized staff to make additional editorial changes to the document per the direction of the Subcommittee and forward recommendation and documents to City Council for approval.
Motioned by Commissioner Rackley, seconded by Commissioner Beroukhim and approved.
- Received and filed an update on the Art on the Outside budget noting approximately \$16,867.58 in the Art on the Outside budget line item.

B. Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Report

The Commission received a report from the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee on its special meeting held December 3, 2015 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Commissioner Rackley reported that the Subcommittee:

- Recommended that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve Classical Theatre Lab, and Will Geer's Theatricum Botanicum, and Some Assembly Required (as an alternate) to present theatrical productions during Summer/Fall 2016, and authorize staff to schedule presentations of theatrical performances based on company's availability and budget.
Motioned by Commissioner Dishman, seconded by Commissioner Beroukhim and approved.
- Reviewed a previously drafted letter to City Council regarding the Plummer Park Master Plan process and discussed a potential redraft to address current arts and culture facility needs. It was the consensus of the Subcommittee to delay submittal of the letter to City Council and requested staff keep them apprised of conversation and/or community meetings concerning Fiesta Hall and Plummer Park.
- Discussed as needed Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs projects under the Subcommittee's oversight including:

| PROJECT | STATUS |
|---|---|
| Arts Grant Program 2016 | City Council will consider approval of arts grant awards at its December 7, 2015 meeting. As requested by the Subcommittee, staff will contact SST Productions concerning its proposed grant funded project. |
| West Hollywood Cultural/Creative Plan: | Refer to Unfinished Business Item IIIB |
| Fiesta Hall | Refer to Unfinished Business Item IIIC |
| Laurel House Project | This project is on hold pending direction from City Council. |
| One City One Pride | City Council will consider approval of arts grant awards at its December 7, 2015 meeting. Additionally, staff anticipates the Subcommittee will review submissions in response to the City's One City One Pride Poster Competition Contest at its January 14, 2016 meeting. |
| Free Theatre in the Parks 2016 | Refer to Unfinished Business Item III.A |
| Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Work Plan | Agendize for January or February 2016 meeting |
| WeHo@30 | Agendize WeHo@30 Final Report for the January 2016 meeting. |

C. Urban Art Subcommittee Report

The Commission received a report from the Urban Art Subcommittee on its special meeting held December 10, 2015 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Commissioner Beroukhim reported that the Subcommittee:

- Received a presentation from art consultant Merry Norris on proposed artist Dan McCleary for the project at 563 N. Alfred Street (Center for Early Education). As a result, The Subcommittee questioned the relationship between the Center of Early Education's vibrant, dynamic urban campus and McCleary's subtle, straightforward paintings of subjects that retain a rigorous flat appearance. Although the Subcommittee acknowledged McCleary's extensive resume and artistic accomplishments as a prominent American artist, they felt McCleary's work, visually, did not align with the school's mission. Therefore, by consensus, the Subcommittee declined approval of Dan McCleary as the artist for the urban art project at 563 N. Alfred Street and provided direction to the art consultant that the art should celebrate the Center's 75 years of unparalleled success by livening the designated space with a definite artistic statement and presence that compliments the joyful, resilient, life-long learners at the Center for Early Education.
- Receive a presentation from art consultant Dave Hunt and Isenberg Associates on the Sunset/Dohey Hotel and Nightclub project at 9040 Sunset Boulevard and discussed public art opportunities. As a result, The Subcommittee spoke in support of the proposed location and requested that the project team consider additional elements to be installed on the exterior of the main entrance that would invite the public into the hotel to experience the art within the space.
- Declined proposed gift to the City by artist Shana Mabari titled "Illumetric" based upon concerns with fabrication, conservation needs, ongoing maintenance costs, and the elimination of temporary art exhibition space.

D. West Hollywood Cultural/Creative Plan

The Commission received a report from the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee and staff on the development of a cultural/creative plan for the City of West Hollywood.

Commissioner Rackley reported that the Subcommittee:

- Discussed strategies and next steps for moving forward with the cultural/creative planning process for West Hollywood. As part of its discussion, the Subcommittee reviewed some general topics including:
 - Analysis and Evaluation of Current Programs
 - Community Engagement (*multiple, creative and non-traditional formats/platforms to address pros and cons as well as short and long term consequences*).
 - Status of the arts in West Hollywood.

The Subcommittee posed the following questions for discussion and to be continued at subsequent meetings:

- What are some of the desired outcomes as the result of the cultural/creative plan?

- How will the cultural/creative plan enhance the quality of West Hollywood's cultural experience for residents, visitors, and the business community?
- How will the cultural/creative plan conform to the City core values, the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission's mission, goals and objectives, and city planning and strategic planning documents?
- How will the cultural/creative plan influence and/or inform city planning processes?
- How will the cultural/creative plan inform future arts programming in the City?
- What are the anticipated value added results of the cultural/creative plan?

Commissioners provided the following comments relative to the creative/cultural plan and indicated the plan should/should be:

- Provide a visual narrative of West Hollywood past, present and future in addition to a synopsis about the "state of art and culture in the City."
- A conceptual road map and planning tool for art and culture in the City.
- An interdisciplinary document that is user friendly containing concise statements.
- Push boundaries while taking into account the physical and non-physicality of art and culture in the City.
- Address short and long term implications.

Commissioner Rackley informed the Commission that the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee will continue its work on the cultural/creative plan and provide future updates.

E. 2016-2018 Arts and Cultural Affairs Work Plan

The Commission received a brief update from staff regarding a process for the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission to develop its 2016-2018 Work Plan.

Arts Administrator Andrew Campbell reported that staff would begin drafting the Commission's 2016-2018 Work Plan in January 2016. The estimated date of completion is April 2016.

F. Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission Projects

The Commission received an update from staff on current Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission projects and discussed as needed projects under the Commission's oversight.

Arts Coordinator Michael Che distributed 2016 Winter Sounds concert series rack cards and announced the first concert in the series would be held Saturday January 9th at 4 p.m. in the Council Chambers and would feature the world music and electronic band Ireesh Lai.

III. EXCLUDED CONSENT None

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

V. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

None

VI. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

Staff commented on the resignation of Commissioner Yelena Zhelezov who was Councilmember John D'Amico's appointee.

VII. DEVELOPMENT OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

The Commission advised staff on development of the January 28, 2016 meeting agenda and requested that staff agendize Art on the Outside Subcommittee alternate member.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned at 6:27 to its meeting scheduled January 28, 2016 at 5:00 P.M. in the Community Meeting Room – West Hollywood Library, 625 San Vicente Boulevard, West Hollywood.



Todd Williamson, Chair



Prentis Bonds, Staff Liaison/Recording Secretary

A copy of the audio recording of this meeting can be obtained from the City Clerk's office upon request.

(Disclaimer: Staff records the meetings for the sole purpose of composing the official meeting minutes; therefore the recordings are not of commercial quality.)