

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, October 22, 2020 – 5:00 P.M.
*Teleconference Meeting***

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Williamson at 5:03 PM.

A. Pledge of Allegiance: Commission Chair Gantman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Roll Call:

Present:

Commissioner J.. Dallas Dishman
Commissioner Dan Faltz
Commissioner Catherine Lee
Commissioner Dawn Moreno-Freedman
Commissioner Madeleine Rackley
Commission Vice Chair Martin Gantman
Commission Chair Todd Williamson

Absent:

Also Present: Acting Arts Manager Rebecca Ehemann
Administrative Specialist IV/Recording Secretary Moya Márquez
Arts Coordinator Michael Che
Grants Coordinator Eva Angeloff
Arts Technician Joy Tribble

C. Approval of the Agenda:

Approval of the October 22, 2020 meeting agenda was **motioned by Commissioner Moreno-Freedman, seconded by Commissioner Dishman, and approved unanimously.**

D. Approval of the September 24, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Approval of the September 24, 2020 meeting minutes was **motioned by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Gantman, and approved unanimously.**

E. Public Comment

None.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

The following routine matter were acted upon by one motion.

Approval of the Consent Calendar was motioned by Commissioner Dishman, seconded by Commissioner Rackley, and approved unanimously.

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. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Performing Arts & Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Report

The Commission received a report from the Performing Arts & Cultural Affairs Subcommittee on its meeting held October 8, 2020 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Commissioner Rackley reported that the Subcommittee approved the consultant to design and manage the artist bootcamp. The Subcommittee received proposals from 7 different groups, and selected the CCI

The Subcommittee also discussed the cultural equity statement with the ASPIRE group and drafted language for the cultural equity statement. The statement remains in development and will return to the Subcommittee in January with the next round of revisions. PACA will review then present to the full Commission In January

ACTIONS:

- 1) Receive and file the Performing Arts & Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Report.
- 2) Approve the Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI) as the consultant to support the design, development, and management of the 2021 West Hollywood Artists Bootcamp based on qualifications, experience and ability to commit to the timeline and cost efficiency. **Motioned by Commissioner Dishman, seconded by Commissioner Moreno-Freedman, and approved unanimously.**

B. Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report

The Commission received a report from the Art on the Outside Subcommittee on its meeting held October 22, 2020 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Commissioner Lee reported that on the Consent Calendar, the Subcommittee approved a new digital artwork for digital billboards. The Commission discussed the narrative of the artwork and requested that staff put that information online.

Commissioner Lee reported that the Subcommittee then discussed changes to the mural process guideline and review. The two changes were as follows: 1) Language has been added to explain that every artist remains on the roster for two years, that the Commission has a right to remove an artist at any time for any reason, and that an artist can be approved for a one-time mural. 2) Context guidelines in the document have been updated to reflect that all murals must abide to the West Hollywood Municipal Code for Commercial Signage Elements.

The Commission also suggested that staff request past work from three years for applicants re-applying to the WEHO Muralist Roster.

Commissioner Lee then discussed the Subcommittee's conversation about a new proposal for Art in Empty Storefronts. If the commercial eviction moratorium ends this year there might be a lot of empty storefronts in West Hollywood. While the Subcommittee agreed that it is better to have an art presence and beautify the community with art to counteract blight, there were also concerns about landlords and business owners perceptions of the project due to the sensitive nature of multiple business closures in an economic downturn. The Subcommittee asked staff to consider providing incentives to landlords for participation and to try to gauge business interest with the Chamber of Commerce and the Business Improvement Districts.

ACTIONS:

- 1) Receive and file the Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report.
- 2) Approval of the temporary video project proposal by Jessica Rich, The Rich Picture for *REMEMBER* by Catherine Owens for installation on the electronic billboards at 8410 and 9039 Sunset Boulevard (1OAK) from 11/1/20 – 11/3/20. **Motioned by Commissioner Faltz, seconded by Commissioner Gantman, and approved unanimously.**
- 3) Approval of the recommend changes to the West Hollywood Mural Program Process and Guidelines to clarify the review criteria. **Motioned by Commissioner Gantman, seconded by Commissioner Moreno-Freedman, and approved unanimously.**

IV. NEW BUSINESS

None.

V. EXCLUDED CONSENT

None.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Dishman congratulated Commissioner Williamson on his new gallery show.

Commissioner Moreno-Freedman shared information about a virtual fundraiser named SOS - Save Our Stages – which involved performances at various venues to keep the venues economically stable. She reported that Miley Cyrus performed at Whiskey-a-Go-Go. She also asked staff for an update on the economic status of West Hollywood's historic music venues.

Commissioner Lee shared she loves the new neon exhibition on Santa Monica Boulevard and found that the message of the artwork is perfect for the current time.

Commissioner Faltz reminded everyone to vote

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

Arts Coordinator Mike Che announced that Brian Sonia-Wallace was approved by the City Council as the new City Poet Laureate.

Arts Technician Joy Tribble announced that the WeHo sounds online concert series starts in November. The first artist is Murphy's Flaw and there will be 7 other virtual concerts total.

Grants Coordinator Eva Angeloff shared that the City will be hosting events for the Transgender Day of Remembrance in November. She also shared that Yozmit, an arts grantee, has an upcoming performance in the first week of November.

Acting Arts Manager Rebecca Ehemann shared information on #ArtfulDistancing projects and shared that they are available for viewing on the website.

IX. DEVELOPMENT OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

The Commission authorized staff to develop the agenda for the special meeting on Thursday, November 19, 2020.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned at 5 57 PM to its special meeting scheduled November 19, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. via teleconference.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
ON THIS 19th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2020.

DocuSigned by:

Todd Williamson

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MSON,
COMMISSION CHAIR

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Moya Marquez

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UEZ,
RECORDING SECRETARY