

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, June 24, 2021 – 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 5:01 PM.

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

B. Roll Call:

Present: Commissioner Mito Aviles
Commissioner Lindsey Deaton (joined at 5:07PM)
Commissioner Dan Faltz
Commissioner Catherine Lee
Commissioner Dawn Moreno-Freedman
Commission Vice Chair Martin Gantman
Commission Chair Todd Williamson

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:

ACTION: Approval of the June 24, 2021 meeting agenda was **motioned by Commissioner Aviles, seconded by Commissioner Moreno-Freedman, and approved unanimously.**

D. Approval of the May 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes

ACTION: Approval of the May 27, 2021 meeting minutes was **motioned by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Faltz, and approved unanimously.**

E. Public Comment

None.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

The following routine matter was acted upon by one motion.

ACTION: Approval of the Consent Calendar as amended was **motioned by Commissioner Aviles, seconded by Commissioner Moreno-Freedman, 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 and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Report

The Commission received a report from the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee on its meeting held June 10, 2021 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Commissioner Faltz shared that the Subcommittee reviewed the final report from the producer of the WeHo Artist Bootcamp. Commissioner Deaton, a participant in the Bootcamp, shared that she found the Artist Bootcamp to be helpful to artists in becoming more entrepreneurial.

Commissioner Faltz then shared that there were a total of six applicants for the WeHo Artist Performance Grant: K. Ryan Henisey, Alula Tsadik, The Leo from Rio Carnaval Extravaganza, Alx Luke by Leggy Riggs, Crystalline, Natti Vogel and the Homoromantics. The Subcommittee approved all six applicants. Staff informed the Commission that due to City regulations; the City will be unable to increase the amount of the grant to the grantees.

Commissioner Faltz also shared that the Subcommittee approved staff's shortlist of DJs for the WeHo LIVE! Virtual Music Experience.

Finally, Commissioner Faltz shared that the Subcommittee discussed their workplan, and created a list of aspirational goals for future workplans, pending a full economic recovery of the City.

ACTIONS:

- 1) Receive and file the Performing Art Subcommittee Report, and consider ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.
- 2) Approve funding for six (6) WeHo Artist Performance Grant for \$5,000 each, **motioned by Commissioner Gantman, seconded by Commissioner Lee and approved unanimously.**
- 3) Approve the short list of artists for WeHo LIVE! – a weekly one-hour virtual music experience **motioned by Commissioner Aviles, seconded by Commissioner Lee and approved unanimously.**
- 4) Approve the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Work Plan for fiscal year 2022, with changes to add recommendation 10 to all Work Plan items **motioned by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Aviles and approved unanimously.**

B. Urban Art Subcommittee Report

The Commission received a report from the Urban Art Subcommittee on its meeting held June 17, 2021 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Commissioner Gantman shared that the Commission had no items for approval, but did discuss the status of the Melrose Gathering Place artwork. A community meeting scheduled for June 30, 2021 will be held to inform the community about the artwork and gathering space. The Subcommittee encourages the Commission to attend to support the artwork as was approved by the Subcommittee and the full Commission at previous meetings.

Commissioner Gantman also shared that the Subcommittee reviewed the workplan and shared aspirational goals with staff for future workplans following a full economic recovery by the City.

ACTION:

- 1) Receive and file the Urban Art Subcommittee Report.
- 2) Consider ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.
- 3) Approve the Urban Art Subcommittee Work Plan for fiscal year 2022, **motioned by Commissioner Deaton, seconded by Commissioner Moreno-Freedman and approved unanimously.**

C. Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report

The Commission received a report from the Art on the Outside Subcommittee on its meeting held June 24, 2021 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Commissioner Gantman reported that the Subcommittee reviewed artwork by Forest Wolf Kell for an interior mural at the Werle Building, and selected the design with orange/yellow/green elements.

Commissioner Gantman also reported that the Subcommittee unanimously chose the artwork *Heteronormative: Death of the Golden Child* by artist Travion Payne for the 9x9 Mural Space. The Commission discussed the process of selecting artwork in the future while considering the recently adopted Cultural Equity Statement.

ACTIONS:

- 1) Received and filed the Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report.
- 2) Approve the design with orange/yellow/green elements from Forest Wolf Kell, the selected artist, for an interior mural at the Werle Building, 626 N. Robertson Blvd, **motioned by Commissioner Faltz, seconded by Commissioner Williamson and approved noting Moreno-Freedman's vote of "No".**
- 3) Approve the artwork *Heteronormative: Death of the Golden Child* by artist Travion Payne for the 9x9 Mural Opportunity (West Hollywood Park's 5-Story Parking Structure), **motioned by Commissioner Deaton, seconded by Commissioner Aviles and approved unanimously.**
- 4) Approve the Art on the Outside Subcommittee Work Plan for fiscal year 2022, **motioned by Commissioner Deaton, seconded by Commissioner Lee and approved unanimously.**

IV. NEW BUSINESS

None.

V. EXCLUDED CONSENT

None.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Faltz mentioned he appreciated everyone's hard work and attention to detail.

Commissioner Gantman thanked Commissioner Aviles for his QR code idea, and reiterated that the Commission should consider them for enhancing the Urban Art program in the future to provide information about the history of the artwork in the future.

Commissioner Moreno-Freedman encouraged the Commission to visit the exhibit on Robertson next to the Abbey by One Archives, curated by Ruben Esparza *Pride Publics*.

Commissioner Aviles thanked staff for their hard work and shared his excitement for the 9x9 Mural.

Commissioner Deaton thanked the Commission and the staff.

Commissioner Williamson shared that the Commission will vote on the Chair and Vice Chair for the Commission next month.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

Arts Technician, Joy Tribble, thanked the Commission for their support and shared that DJ Asha kicks off the first WeHo LIVE! Virtual Music Experience on July 2, 2021.

Grants Coordinator, Eva Angeloff, thanked the Commission for their support and guidance on the WeHo Artist Performer Grant.

Arts Coordinator, Mike Che, thanked the Commission for their work on the workplan and shared details on upcoming and recent projects for One City One Pride LGBTQ Arts Festival.

Recording Secretary, Moya Márquez, thanked the Commission for their hard work and their careful consideration of the artwork on the 9x9 mural space.

Acting Arts Manager, Rebecca Ehemann, shared that the Arts Division has moved to City Hall West, which is located above Koontz Hardware.

IX. DEVELOPMENT OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

The Commission authorized staff to develop the agenda for the meeting on Thursday, July 22, 2021.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned at 6:31 PM to its regularly scheduled meeting on July 22, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. via teleconference.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION ON THIS 22nd DAY OF JULY 2021.

DocuSigned by:
Todd Williamson

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TODD WILLIAMSON,
COMMISSION CHAIR

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:
Moya Marquez

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MOYA MARQUEZ,
RECORDING SECRETARY