

City of West Hollywood
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
MINUTES
April 24, 2008

CALL TO ORDER: The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission meeting was called to order by Commission Vice Chair Ken Sherman at 5:00 p.m.

A. Oath of Office

Andrew Campbell, Arts and Cultural Affairs Administrator administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Arts and Cultural Affairs Commissioner Peter Mays pursuant to commission bylaws.

Commissioner Mays expertise is in visual arts. He is the executive director of Los Angeles Art Association at Gallery 825 that provides opportunities, resources, services and exhibition venues for Los Angeles artists, with an emphasis on emerging talent.

B. Roll Call

Present: Ken Sherman, Vice Chair
Michael Haibach
Jon Bailey
Madeleine Rackley
Whitney Weston

Excused: Beverly Denenberg, Chair

Staff Liaison: Andrew Campbell, Cultural Affairs Administrator/Staff Liaison
Recording Secretary: Excused

Also present: Ray Reynolds, Economic Development Director

C. 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.

D. Staff Comments on the Agenda

Staff requested that Item VI "Committee Appointments" precede Item III A "Pride Month Activities".

The Commission concurred.

E. Approval of the Agenda

The Commission unanimously approved the April 24, 2008 meeting agenda.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 27, 2008

Commissioner Haibach moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve the March 27, 2008 meeting minutes.

Commissioner Bailey seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

II. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Pride Month Activities

The Commission received a report from staff that included a draft calendar of events for Pride Month 2008 as discussed at the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee meeting held April 10. Arts, culture and special events listed included the following:

- Los Angeles Arts Association/Gallery 825 exhibition of “Out There”, featuring artworks created by local artists celebrating Gay Pride Month,
- Highways Inc., production of an original work by Dan Froot titled “Who’s Hungry? - Theatrical Portraits of West Hollywood Homeless,”
- “The Lost Plays of Tennessee Williams” at The Village at Ed Gould Plaza
- “Songs from an Unmade Bed” at Celebration Theatre, and
- “Sweet Bird of Youth” at the Lee Strasberg Theatre
- Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board’s “Rainbow Key Awards”
- “Human Rights Speakers Series” titled “The Globalization of LGBT Rights”.
- “Pet Pride”,
- Exhibitions curated by ONE Institute and June L. Mazer Lesbian Archives.
- “The Last Seder” at Greenway Arts Alliance as well as a potential theatrical production at MACHA Theatre.

Following, the Commission recommended that staff extend its public relations, communication and marketing outreach activities beyond press releases and seek the widest distribution of marketing materials to the LGBTcommunity. The Commission also recommended that items on the calendar, not relative to Pride, be removed.

B. City of West Hollywood 25th Anniversary Celebration

The Commission continued its discussion of arts and cultural programming for the City’s 25th Anniversary celebration. As a result, the Commission recommended that staff add Summer Sounds and 25th Anniversary Arts Grants to the list of programming possibilities. It was also recommended that the Public

Art and Historic Preservation Walking Tour be considered a major event and that staff explore the feasibility of collaborative projects with the Museum of Contemporary Art at the Pacific Design Center and/or the Los Angeles Arts Association at Gallery 825.

C. Art on the Outside “Empyrean Passage” De-Install

The Commission received a report from staff regarding the de-installation plan for “Empyrean Passage” by artist Dan Corson. Staff commented that the light project is scheduled to be de-installed Saturday, May 17th. Staff will also be on site for the de-installation.

D. General Plan Update

Staff reported that there was no new information to report concerning the General Plan.

E. Art on the Outside Subcommittee

There was no Subcommittee meeting in April.

F. Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Meeting

The Commission received a report from Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Chair Jon Bailey on their meeting held April 10, 2008.

In addition to what had been reported under Item III A, the Subcommittee discussed the Arts Grant Program process in conjunction with the California Cultural Data Project and will review a draft of the application packet at their May 8th meeting. The Subcommittee also discussed possible special or enhanced performing arts and cultural events in conjunction with the City’s 25th Anniversary Celebration. The Subcommittee received a report from staff on the potentiality of collaborating with Cornerstone Theatre on an original theatrical work that would celebrate 25 years of cityhood. Finally, the Subcommittee unanimously approved the memo to City Council that identified concerns relative to the lack of meeting, rehearsal and performance space as a result of the City’s Master Plan renovations.

G. Urban Art Subcommittee Meeting

The Commission received a report from Urban Art Subcommittee Chair Michael Haibach on their meeting held April 17, 2008. At the meeting, the Subcommittee received a presentation from developer Jonah Lehr-Graiwer and art consultant Sarah Lehr-Graiwer on the development of a three-level, eleven-unit, loft styled condominium project at 612 & 616 N. Croft Ave and proposed artist Brett Goldstone.

Brett Goldstone is a Los Angeles based artist, art provocateur and master ironworker. He is the cofounder of LA Experimental Works and was the organizer of the infamous Fourth of July shows. He earned a special citation from the California State Assembly for urban renewal and beautification of public

space for his "Water with Rocks" gate. Mr. Goldstone has been commissioned to design a multitude of gates throughout the United States.

Commissioner Haibach also reported that the Subcommittee received an update from staff on Public Art Conservation Program and current actions as follows:

- **Tonic:** The City has contracted with the original installer and an electrician to make needed repairs to the sound sculpture.
- **939 Palm:** The inoperable neon lighting contained in the sculpture at this location will be replaced with LED lights.
- **1041 N. Fuller (Smart & Final):** The property owner will need to consult the artist on the feasibility of relocating the art to another part of the building.

Finally, he reported that the City's Public Facilities Commission approved Rosewood Circle as the location for the "Eye Flower" currently installed at Sunset Millennium.

H. Work Plan FY 2007-2008

The Commission continued to monitor its work plan.

It was the consensus of the Commission as suggested by Commissioner Bailey that staff adendize discussion of its "Retreat" for is May meeting.

I. Committee Appointments

Commissioner Sherman moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission appoint Commissioner Mays to the Art on the Outside Subcommittee.

Commissioner Bailey seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

IV. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR

Commissioner Sherman commented on the need for more effective public relations with regards to the arts.

V. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Rackley suggested that the City create a new logo.

Commissioner Bailey commented on the premiere of "Epiphanies" his new music composition in collaboration with lyricist Anne Breck Peterson. The piece will be performed Sunday, June 1, 2008 at 5 p.m. at All Saints Church in Pasadena.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff informed the Commission that the Chair would not be able to attend the May 22nd meeting and requested that the Commission move the meeting to May 29th.

Commissioner Sherman moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve May 29, 2008 as the next meeting date.

Commissioner Bailey seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

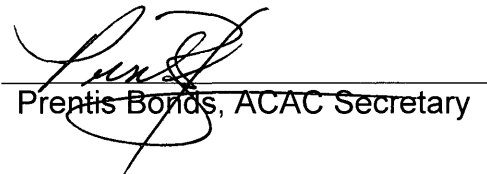
VIII.ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Bailey moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission adjourn to its next meeting rescheduled May 29, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.

Commissioner Sherman seconded the motion and meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. to Thursday, May 29, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. in the Community Conference Room.



Beverly Denerberg, Chair



Prentis Bonds, ACAC Secretary