

City of West Hollywood
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
MINUTES
October 27, 2005

CALL TO ORDER: The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission (ACAC) meeting was called to order by the Chair at 5:06 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Present: Michael J. Haibach, Chair
Jon Bailey, Vice Chair
Ken Sherman
Lyn DeShields
Beverly Denenberg
Andrew Campbell

Excused: Jon Bailey
Ari Wiseman

Staff Liaison: Nicole Kading
Recording Secretary: Prentis Bonds

Also present: Bonnie Smith, Festivals and Events Coordinator

B. 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.

C. Staff Comments on the Agenda

There were no staff comments on the agenda.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 22, 2005

Commissioner Sherman moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve the minutes of September 22, 2005. Commissioner DeShields seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

II. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Public comment was heard from West Hollywood resident, Jacob Michelson who expressed interest in the City's arts and cultural affairs programming for West Hollywood's Russian, Ukrainian and Armenian constituency.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Halloween

Bonnie Smith, Festivals and Events Coordinator, provided the Commission with an update on the upcoming 3rd Annual Drag Races to be held October 29th and the 18th Annual Halloween Carnaval to be held Monday, October 31st from 6:00 p.m. to midnight along Santa Monica Boulevard between La Cienga and Doheny. She distributed press kits that included an entertainment map, recommended media parking and the official program guide. This year celebrity quest Ryan Seacrest, will be crowned "Queen of the Carnaval," and celebrities Charlie O'Connell and Kim Coles will assist in judging the costume contest. \$1,750.00 in total will be awarded to those considered to have the best costumes of which \$1,000.00 will go to the 1st place winner. Additionally various bands such as Boggie Knights and DJs will appear on the KISSFM stage. Ms. Smith concluded her update by thanking Commissioners who met with her and the CVB to plan this year's event, and by making arrangements to meet with the Cultural Events subcommittee following this year's event to conduct a "wrap" meeting.

B. Art on the Outside

Commissioner Haibach reported on the Art on the Outside Subcommittee meeting held October 13th with Art Consultant Beatrix Barker. At the meeting, it was the consensus of the Subcommittee as well as a direction to staff to proceed with researching various possibilities for a 2006 exhibition. Members of the subcommittee expressed interest in Tom Otterness and Sol LeWitt as well as the "Earth From Above" exhibition. The Subcommittee also discussed City Council public art suggestions that included artist Perez Celis, Lego sculptures, the Cow Parade and a "Man-A-Kin" show. As a result, staff was directed to follow-up on the Lego sculptures. The Subcommittee also received an update from staff on the next video billboard installation, which will include images from "In a New Land" and on the Sunset vertical billboard. It was the consensus of the Subcommittee to move forward with the MAK Center as the curator for the next billboard.

C. Urban Arts Subcommittee

Members of the Urban Arts Subcommittee reported on their meeting held October 20th. At the meeting, the Subcommittee discussed 1% for Art Preservation and the Percent-For-Art Ordinance Modification Study. It was reported that 31% of the art surveyed is missing while 30% is in need of some repair. The Subcommittee suggested an art preservation grant program as an incentive for the owner to repair the art. Staff was directed to provide an outline of possibilities on how grant funds might be used. Concerning the Percent-For-Art Ordinance Modification Study, staff provided an outline of the feasibility study. It is anticipated that the study would be completed in March 2006.

Staff added that representatives of Sunset Marquis will propose a new project artist and representatives of the Hancock mixed used project would provide an update at Urban Art Subcommittee meeting in December.

D. Arts Grants 05-06

Staff provided an update on the 05-06 Arts Grants commenting that three institutions applied for the Arts Participation Grant (formerly the Art Awareness Grant) aimed at small art education projects. Seventeen arts organizations applied for the Annual Arts Grant intended for the production, performance or presentation of an arts discipline. The grant opportunities were advertise in the West Hollywood Independent, on City Channel 6, the City's website, LA Culture Net. Additionally, several e-mail blasts were sent to the arts organization e-mail distribution list.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Los Angeles County Art Commission Congress

Commissioner Campbell provided an update on the Los Angeles County Arts Commission Congress to be held Saturday, October 29, 2005. He also distributed copies of the agenda.

V. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Nicole Kading commented that she has been working with a graphic artist to develop a Cultural Center Feasibility Study RFP. The RFP would be mailed to potential consultants, distributed to the City Council and the Commission as well as uploaded on the City's website. She requested that two-three members of the Commission serve on the selection panel.

Commissioners Campbell, De Shields, and Sherman expressed interest and were appointed to serve on the selection panel.

She concluded by reminding the Commission that due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, the Commission would meet Thursday, December 1st.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

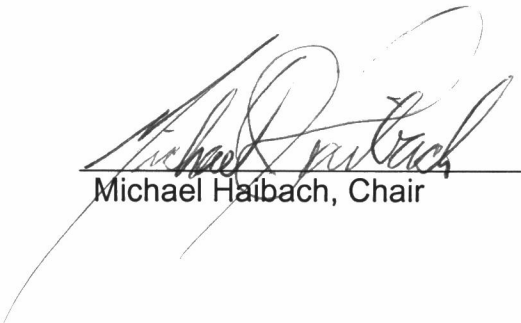
There was no report from the Chair.

VII. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

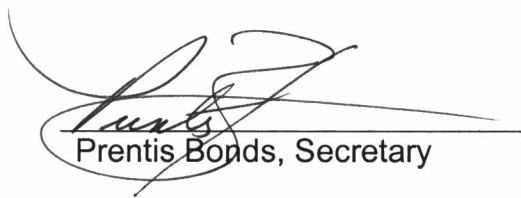
Commissioner Sherman commented that Time Warner Inc. is financing a program to help New York City arts organizations. He suggested that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission consider a similar model for its program development and requested that staff agendize a topic for discussion relative to this subject matter.

VIII. Adjournment

The Commission adjourned at 6:10 p.m. to its next meeting scheduled December 1, 2005, at 5:00 p.m. in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.



Michael Haibach, Chair



Prentis Bonds, Secretary