



**Civic Arts Commission
Minutes
Monday March 8, 2021**

Commissioners Present: Maya Makker (chair) left at 5:00 pm, Zinzi Raymond left at 5:40 pm, Carol Smith, Chad Fisk, Patricia Quinn, Ruth Santer, Sarah Zimmerman (alternate)

Commissioner(s) Absent: Diane Carlson-Biggs

Council Liaison(s) Present: Gloria Partida

Staff Present: Rachel Hartsough, Arts & Culture Manager / Jessie Nakahara, Arts & Culture Associate

A. Call to Order & Roll Call

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Makker at 4:06 pm.

B. Approval of Agenda

Action: Commissioner Quinn moved and Commissioner Santer seconded approval of the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Liaisons

- Staff reminded commissioners that there will be several open positions on the Commission beginning in June, and to please identify possible candidates and encourage them to apply for the positions.
- 2020 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (attachment)
- City Council updated Goals and Priorities 2021-2022
- Commissioner Smith announced a program at the Manetti Shrem, featuring Ramekon O'Arwisters who works with Recology, and encouraged other to watch.
- Commissioner Zimmerman announced a physical/virtual upcoming exhibit called Art.In.Action. shared through Yolo Arts, featuring community artwork celebrating and commemorating black women who were instrumental in the civil rights movement, in black culture, or were killed by violent police action.

This announcement prompted a request to place this item on an upcoming agenda to revisit the letter sent to Council last year requesting Council reconsider funding the Recology Artist-in-Residency program.

D. Public Comment.

None

E. Consent Calendar

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and non-controversial, require no discussion, as items are expected to have unanimous support, and may be enacted by one motion.

A. Approval of Minutes from February 8, 2020

Action: Commissioner Fisk approved, and Commissioner Santer seconded approval of the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

F. Regular Items

A. Commission Goals

B. Short term Project Update

Staff gave an update of a the collaboration with **Healthy Davis Together** using artwork from local artists to create banners promoting public health messaging. Commissioners asked questions and wanted to ensure that whoever is working on the design is looking at messages that represent everyone in the community, that are directed at equitable messaging, and that lift up local voices of BIPOC community members, and also equally target age, ability, ethnicity.

C. Grant Program Update

Art & Cultural Affairs Fund (ACAF):

- [International House](#)
- [Street Art for Community Health and Resiliency](#)
- [Earth Day Sing Out](#)
- [Davis Independent Music Initiative \(DIMI\)](#)
- [Pause. Between Lawn and Cuffs](#)
- [Healing Art Project](#)
- [Grandpa, is Everything Black Bad?](#)

D. Public Programs

Due to COVID-19 health concerns, most in-person events have been cancelled since March, and many city public events and facility use has been cancelled through the end of December. Many local artists and organizations have pivoted to providing content and performances on digital platforms, and our staff have tried to share many of these resources via social media:

- [Mellon Public Engaged Scholars](#)
- [Healthy Davis Together](#)

E. Public Art Collection

N Street Park:

The Manor neighborhood team is hoping to bring a more fleshed out design concept and proposal to the commission for consideration in April or May.

Upcoming RFPs:

- [Covell Park Bike Path Reconstruction](#)

For consideration in siting and relocation:

- [Balance Beam](#)
- [Frog Totem](#)—Staff are awaiting feedback from city staff on recommended placement in NorthStar Park, across from the Julie Partansky seating area.

F. Public Art Donations

Commissioners received updates on the following:

Davis Centennial Seal at Hunt-Boyer Mansion

Susan Shelton has completed the bronze seal, and it is being finished at the foundry. Landscape architect Margot Anderson has completed plaza design plans. Staff in Community Development and Public Works are now working directly with Bill Roe to obtain plaza permitting and make final adjustments to the plan, and demo and installation of the plaza may begin this spring. The [brick campaign](#) has been very successful, and over \$30,000 has been raised toward the plaza.

A Sub-Committee on Learning Objectives for the Seal has been established: Maya Makker, Ruth Santer, Carol Smith. This group will come up with a set of objectives that will be shared with the Mellon Public Scholar to support curriculum and interpretive development.

G. Collection Care & Maintenance

- [Gandhi Peace Statue](#)
- [Street Mandala at 4th and K Streets](#)
- [Source/Resource](#)
- [Clepsydra \(E Street Clock Fountain\)](#)
- [Watchman #8](#)
- [I am Quercus](#)

H. Arts Budget

An updated budget status was shared as an attachment with Commissioners, detailing the current budget available in the general fund and in the Municipal Arts Fund.

*Commissioners asked about how to best advocate for restored funding in the future budget. Mayor Partida shared that both **written formal statements** from the commissioners and **making a public comment** are useful ways to share personal and official feedback with the City Council, especially the specific impacts of the use of these funds.*

I. Commission and Staff Communications

- Request to place Recology Artist-In-Residency program, and AIPD Ordinance on upcoming agendas

Adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm, to the next online Zoom meeting on April 12th at 4 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rachel Hartsough
Arts & Culture Manager
City of Davis