

Civic Arts Commission Minutes
Community Chambers Conference Room
December 12, 2005

Commissioners Present: Joanna Stone (Chair), James Allen (Vice Chair) Edelgard Brunelle, Roy Engoron, Casey Hutchins, Suzanna Duffy-Tajeldin Stacey Vetter, Pat Burkhardt (alternate)

Staff Present: Esther Polito, Cultural Services Manager; Torreya Cummings, Program Assistant

Chair Stone called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

1. Approval of agenda.

Action: Commissioner Engoron moved, and Commissioner Brunelle seconded, approval of the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Introductions: Staff announced that Commissioner Hutchins is now a regular member of the commission and introduced Pat Burkhardt as the new alternate. Staff swore in Alternate Burkhardt. Commissioners and staff briefly introduced themselves.

3. Approval of Minutes Minor copy edits were proposed.

Action: Commissioner Hutchins moved to approve the November minutes as amended. Commissioner Engoron seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Written Communications Regular monthly publications and announcements were made available.

5. Public Communications None.

6. Staff, City Council, Commission Communications:

A. Future Agenda Items Staff reported briefly on what items to expect on future agendas. January: Final arts contract recommendations, Juried Art show planning, and election of 2006 Chair and Vice Chair. February: focused single item agenda to discuss future public art projects.

- B. Art in Private Development** Staff Polito reported that members of the Chamber of Commerce and the Business and Economic Development Commission expressed caution about the proposed art in private development Phase I test period similar to the concerns raised by the DDBA, specifically that participation could become a de facto requirement, even if it is technically voluntary. They suggested that staff needs to provide incentives for private developers to make cooperation more attractive.
 - C. Wentworth/Natsoulas Donation** Staff reported that an email exchange had taken place with the artist, who indicated that the end of the year was not a deadline for a decision, so the discussion could be delayed until January. He also indicated that the piece may go to a future sculpture garden under development by John Natsoulas that may be located near Davis, and that further discussion should be tabled until more information is available.
 - D. Harper Art Proposal** No further information.
 - E. Frankel Donation** Staff reported that the Council, in consultation with the Frankels and the neighbors, approved relocating the donation to a quieter area of the park, more in keeping with the contemplative nature of the piece.
- 7. 2006 Arts Contracts Applications** Commissioners reviewed the applications, first discussing the applications that were the lowest priority for funding. Commissioner Duffy-Tajeldin announced that she would recuse herself on the Pence application discussing due to unrelated business connections. Commissioner Vetter stated that although she would participate in discussion, she would abstain from voting because she felt she had not been able to adequately review the applications.

Applications not selected as finalists:

- 01-06 Paul Guyer -- No letters of recommendation submitted, no preliminary site approvals sought by applicant, responsibility to negotiate and install pieces would be delegated to city staff, which is beyond the scope of the Arts Contract program.
- 10-06 Mark Rivera -- Commissioners gave a low priority to this proposal for a new tile mural, preferring the Harper Art Proposal as a higher priority teen project in this funding cycle.
- 11-06 Linda Fitzgibbons/Lucy Wright Rivers -- Proposal for a second new piece at Explorit was a low priority, given that a piece was funded in full in last year's competition, and further that Explorit's application 17-06 (funds to supplement an National Endowment for the Arts grant) is a higher priority.
- 12-06 The Artery -- Commissioners gave a low priority ranking to this proposal because it appears to be in keeping with the typical events that The Artery Gallery hosts, and additional funding does not seem to be needed to make it happen.

Comments/Questions for finalists:

- 02-06 Colombian Serenade: Commissioners asked for a report on the recently completed 2005 event: How many people attended? How much money was donated? How did proposed

- expenditures compare to actual costs? Applicant should provide a summary comparison of the 05 and 06 applications.
- 03-06 Donna Wren/Community Meals: No questions.
- 04-06 Kids Create/Pence Gallery: Commissioners requested that the applicant review publicity items, particularly newsletter costs. Are these directly related to event? Can the Pence charge \$1 more per participant to help underwrite costs?
- 05-06 California Duck Days: No questions at this time.
- 06-06 Sunflower Art Competition: Commissioners requested the following information: How many workshop participants are anticipated? How will non mental health client participants be identified? Can regular participants be charged a reasonable fee, and the city's funds used for stipends to cover costs for mental-health clients?
- 07-06 UC Davis Student Craft Fair/April Kamen: Waiver of fees supported in concept. Commissioners directed staff to consult with City Manager department staff and set up a meeting with applicant.
- 08-06 Downtown Tree Tour Sculpture/Tree Davis: Commissioners mentioned concerns about aesthetics and sites, as well as the best way to meet project goals of disseminating Heritage Tree information. Commissioners proposed meeting with the applicant to discuss, and delaying final action on this application until at least February. If concerns can be addressed, and a long-term maintenance agreement signed by Tree Davis, funds would come from Municipal Arts Fund. Also, there was a suggestion that the sculpture image be used as an icon on tour plaques, brochures etc. to support Tree Davis' desire to have the sculpture recognizable as a place to pick up Tree Davis brochures. Note: Administrative costs are not eligible in this case. Other fund raising efforts should be sufficient to support staff efforts. Budget item for display ad in Enterprise is probably not needed.
- 09-06 The Way Eye See It/Victoria Bourne: Commissioners supported the project in concept, but noted that the artists are all from the Sacramento program. They want the applicant to include eligible Davis artists, to celebrate them in their own community. There were some questions about proposed costs for labels. If funding is recommended, staff should review and approve final budget for supplies.
- 13-06 Cesar Chavez Bust: Need a site plan showing where the bust will be located. Commissioners also asked for clarification of funds raised through supplemental fund raising efforts will be spent. Staff will review application, and consult with applicant as needed.
- 14-06 Harper Jr. High Collaborative Artwork: No comments at this time. Final funding amount will be discussed in January.
- 15-06 Acme Theatre: Clarify publicity expenses.

- 16-06 Mosaic Benches at Arroyo Park: No questions at this time. Commissioners will visit site before making funding decisions in January.
- 17-06 Wall of Motion/Explorit: Need to straighten out the personnel budget. The worksheet and the budget summary have slightly different numbers, and there's no indication which funding sources will pay for which services. City art funds need to be used for art-related expenses, rather than tangential aspects of the project such as evaluating educational programming.
- 18-06 Rural Livelihoods/Steve Bonnel: No questions at this time. Commissioners will try to view photos currently on display at city hall.

9. Adjourn

Action: Commissioner Engoron moved to adjourn; Commissioner Hutchins seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Esther Polito
Cultural Services Manager