Civic Arts Commission Minutes
Community Chambers Conference Room
Monday, June 11, 2007

Commissioners Present: Casey Hutchins (Chair), Stacey Vetter (Vice Chair), Roy Engoron, Robert Smith, Joanna Stone (7:35)
Commissioners Absent: Rebecca Ryland (Alternate), Suzanna Duffy-Tajeldin
Staff Present: Katherine Hess, Community Development Director

Chair Hutchins called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

1. Approval of agenda.

   Action: By consensus, the Commission approved the agenda as submitted.

2. Approval of Minutes from April 9, 2007 meetings.

   Action: By consensus, the Commission approved the May 2007 minutes with the correction of the date to May 12, 2007.

3. Commissioner Communications Commissioner Smith announced that his wife had passed away, and the funeral had been scheduled. Commissioners expressed their sympathies.

4. Public Communications None.

5. Written Communications
   A. Regular art-related publications were circulated, including a thank-you letter from Explorit for the City’s contribution to its “Standing Wave” installation.
   B. Email from Dani Thomas of the Yolo County Arts Council was reviewed.

6. Staff, City Council, Commission Communications:
   A. Juried Art Show Vice-Chair Vetter outlined the preparation and volunteer assignments for the Juried Art Show at the Pence Gallery. Natalie Nelson of the Pence noted the assistance the Pence could provide during the art check-in and pick-up processes. Commissioners discussed the reception on July 13, and supplies that would be needed. Commissioners expressed enthusiasm for the show and pleasure that Juror Renny Pritikin had agreed to give a curator’s talk on the evening of July 12.
   B. City Flag Competition Commissioner Engoron reported on his meeting with Councilmember Heystek on a potential competition to design a flag for the City of Davis. Commissioners discussed potential for posting entries at City Hall and/or on the Internet, selection of a judging panel, activities at the Celebrate Davis event, and coordination with the Recreation and Parks Commission.
Action: By consensus, the Commission agreed to request the City Council to authorize further investigation of a competition to design a City of Davis flag, with more detailed recommendations on process and outreach to be brought back to the City Council.

6. Civic Art Planning Staff Hess outlined the concept of contracting with a non-profit arts organization to perform specific arts activities, such as managing the annual Juried Arts Show and the Civic Arts Contracts. The goal would be to keep the same role for the Civic Arts Commission, but replace some staff functions through a contract. She noted that this issue had been placed on the City Council consent calendar for the following evening, but would be removed if the Commission raised concerns.

Commissioners discussed potential benefits of having an arts-focused organization behind these public programs, rather than city staff. They also discussed the need to ensure that the City continued to provide administrative support for technical issues such as contracts and compliance with the Brown Act. Natalie Nelson of the Pence Gallery mentioned the Pence’s interest in participating, and how the Pence would address any potential conflicts of interest between board members and City programs. Commissioners noted the need to involve the performing arts, not just visual arts, in arts programming. Hess committed to keeping the Commission informed of future Council discussions and actions.

8. Adjourn The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Hess
Community Development Director