



**Civic Arts Commission  
Minutes  
Monday, September 12, 2016**

**Commissioners Present:** Nikhil Joshi (Chair), Jane Higgins, Sarah Zimmerman, Samantha McCarthy, Piper Milton

**Commissioners Absent:** Carol Smith, Casey Hutchins

**City Council Liaison:** Will Arnold

**Staff:** Rachel Hartsough, Arts & Culture Manager

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**1. Call to Order & Roll Call**

Meeting called to order at 7:20. Will Arnold, the new City Council liaison to the Civic Arts Commission, was introduced and brief introductions were made.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**Action:** Commissioner Joshi moved and Commissioner Zimmerman seconded approval of the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**3. Public Comment.** No public comments were made.

**4. 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 June 13, 2016**

**Action:** Commissioner Joshi moved and Commissioner McCarthy seconded approval of the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**5. Regular Items**

**A. Davis Manor Neighborhood Public Art Project**

An update on the project was provided by Davis Manor neighborhood resident Fred Buderer. A handout was provided to Commissioners on the public process that will take place at the corner of Duke Drive/M Street, funded by a Community Arts grant. Neighbors hope to use this project to create a public space to be enjoyed by all, and are inviting the public to attend the painting days on October 14<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup>, in conjunction with Neighbor's Night Out.

**B. Gandhi Statue**

Staff gave a brief update on the Gandhi statue, as discussed at the August 30<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting. At that meeting Council members decided in a 3-2 split to continue with the project as scheduled. At this time, the statue will be unveiled and dedicated at a ceremony on October 2<sup>nd</sup> in Central Park.

**C. Yolo Hospice *Before I Die...* project (Gwendolyn Kaltoft, Yolo Hospice)**

Gwendolyn Kaltoft, of Yolo Hospice, spoke to Commissioners about the Before I Die...project by artist Candy Chang. Yolo Hospice provides end of life care to residents, and approached the City about supporting the installation of the project in Davis, in tangent with other installations around the County (and beyond).

Commissioners were enthusiastic about supporting this project in Davis, which at this point would require no monetary contribution. Funding is being solicited by Yolo Hospice from several major health care providers in the region. Comm. Zimmerman suggested that we incorporate multiple languages, and also have an opportunity to work more closely with Yolo Hospice to see what other ways we might build this into community programming, such as dance and theater. This will be added to a future agenda.

**D. 2017 Community Arts Grant timeline and application review**

Commissioners reviewed the guidelines and process from 2016, and made suggestions to staff for modifications, including a dramatically streamlined (almost) paperless review process. Commissioners would like to support new and emerging artists, new applicants, and more neighborhood programs, and staff will promote this in our publicity around the RFP.

Community Art Grant guidelines and applications will be released to the public on September 20<sup>th</sup>, and are due by October 28<sup>th</sup>. This year we have \$30,000 from our general fund budget. We will be promoting the grants through the Enterprise, our RFP subscribers, and through the Arts Alliance.

**E. Arts Alliance-strategic planning and website development**

There are currently nearly 50 people on the Davis Arts Alliance roster, and this number continues to grow each month! The Arts Alliance, in partnership with the City, will be consulting with Paula Manley, an arts strategist out of Portland. Paula will be conducting several strategic planning workshops with the Arts Alliance as well as a group of community stakeholders. The Alliance will also be contracting with Jay Lopez, of GiantPop Media, to create a Davis Arts Alliance website. A beta version should be available within the next month. Both projects are funded through a CA State Arts Council grant.

**F. Waste Water Treatment Facility/Municipal Arts funding**

Staff will be meeting with the City Attorney on September 13<sup>th</sup> to get some legal guidance regarding how WWTF funding can be spent. After additional clarification regarding the current amount allocated to this project, staff will reach out to Council and the Arts Alliance to begin soliciting community input.

**G. Farmer's Market/I-House utility boxes**

The utility box in Central Park was completed on schedule by local artist Danielle Fodor in time for the Market's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary on August 13<sup>th</sup>. RFP for the International House box should be released this fall or winter.

**H. Public Arts Brochure/Art Maps**

Staff reported on a recent collaboration with the Yolo County Visitors Bureau to discuss integrating GIS-based layers into pre-existing City maps to create a more robust set of maps that identify public art (both permanent and temporary), historic buildings, public amenities, etc. These maps will be updated and initially

distributed at several Senior living facilities in Davis to promote outdoor activity and exploration.

**I. Percent for Art Private Development ordinance**

Sub-committee members Zimmerman and Joshi will meet in September with staff and Council members Arnold and Frerichs to begin researching and putting together information to bring to Council in the Fall regarding a Percent for the Arts ordinance for private development projects.

**J. In the Key of Davis**

Pianos will remain in the public at the following locations: UC Davis Arboretum/Wyatt Deck, Davis Food Coop, Hunt Boyer Plaza, Train Depot, and Central Park through the end of October. Some pianos will be re-tuned as needed.

**K. South Davis Public Art RFPs**

We will be moving forward with these projects in the Fall. Commissioners will be selected to serve on these committees at the next meeting. Staff will create RFPs, and they will be released during the Fall.

**L. Program/Policy Review**

Commissioners will be reviewing copies of some of the program policy documents this fall, including the City of Davis Public Art Guidelines, Parks Amenity Donation Policy, and Municipal Arts ordinance. Staff will send documents with instructions and deadlines for return of comments. These same documents are being presented to the Arts Alliance for similar feedback.

**M. Arts Program Budget 2016-17 update**

Staff shared some of the budget highlights for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, which include the addition to the general budget of nearly \$60,000 in Arts money allocated to: \$30,000 (Community Arts grants, \$12,200 (public art maintenance), \$3000 (Centennial programming, as well as smaller amounts for installing public exhibits, and developing community/regional partnerships.

**N. Maintenance update**

Watchtower, Slide Hill Park- The decking around the tower, which is actually part of the artwork, is rotting, and staff has been advised to remove or replace it for safety reasons. Staff met with representatives from Rotary who are interested in being helpful to replace/rebuild the portions of the artwork that are in need of repair. Staff is working closely with the artist to make sure that any work keeps true to the original design and intent of the work.

Solar Intersections, Amtrak Station-staff is in contact with Marga Friberg, partner of the deceased artist. She is enthusiastic about working with the City to repair and perhaps upgrade the artwork. There appears to be a defect in the Mylar, and staff is researching other more permanent materials such as dichroic glass or Plexiglas to replace the Mylar.

G Street Plaza ironwork, gate is broken in several places. Staff is having a local iron company provide a repair quote.

Solar Charging Station, North Davis Nugget-The glass on the face of the station is cracked. Staff is getting a quote from a local glass company to repair the piece, and also to look into more durable materials to replace the glass.

Old City Hall glass doors-After repairing the doors earlier in the year, they were replaced and almost immediately vandalized once again. Staff have removed the 2 vertical doors from the building where Bistro 33 is currently located and placed

them in storage. The glass archway over the doors remains in place. The commission can think about a suitable pace to relocate these pieces if and when they are repaired.

Quercus Mural -Staff have responded to requests from the Arboretum to remove graffiti, repair broken lights, and alter the timing on the automatic lights to remain on for safe passage.

**O. Updated Council Goals/Commission Goals & Workplan**

A copy of the City of Davis/Civic Arts Commission: 2016 Goals & Activities document was shared in the meeting packet. This is informational only at this time, but commissioners should anticipate spending more time working on goals of the committee in the future, and how they support the newly updated Council Goals. Council member Arnold reported that Council will ask to look at Commission work plans at a later date.

**6. Brief Commission and Staff Communications**

- **City of Davis Photo Contest**-Commissioner McCarthy (later switched to Smith) was selected to serve on the City's photo contest jury.
- **Harmony in Our Lives Awards**-Commissioner Milton was selected to serve on the community award selection committee.
- **Term Endings for Commissioners**-Commissioners should review the memo dated June 20<sup>th</sup> from the City Clerk's office to make sure they are aware of their current term endings, which have been extended. We are seeking alternates to the Commission, and commissioners were requested to refer any contacts to the City's website or staff for more information and application materials.

**7. Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm, to the next meeting on October 10, 2016.

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