



**Civic Arts Commission
Minutes
Monday, November 14, 2016**

Commissioners Present: Nikhil Joshi (Chair), Carol Smith, Samantha McCarthy, Jane Higgins, Sarah Zimmerman

Commissioners Absent: Piper Milton, Casey Hutchins

City Council Liaison: Will Arnold (absent)

Staff: Rachel Hartsough, Arts & Culture Manager

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 7:25.

2. Approval of Agenda

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

- 3. Public Comment.** Suhaila Sikand and Jessica Lam from APAC (Aggie Public Arts Committee) introduced themselves during public comment and expressed their interest to work collaboratively with the Commission to promote expanded opportunities between the university and City.

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 October 10, 2016

Action: Commissioner Smith moved and Commissioner Zimmerman seconded approval of the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Regular Items

A. 2017 Community Arts Grants

The Commission reviewed application scores and comments for all 12 grant applications received for this grant cycle, and made allocation recommendations for Council approval.

Public Comment was presented by the following in support of the grants program, and their individual organizational applications:

Timothy Nutter, Art Theater of Davis

This year we have \$30,000 from our general fund budget, and requested funds equal \$40,725. Staff provided a lot of one-on-one assistance with applicants, and

commissioners noted that the quality and completeness of the applications was noticeably improved from last year. Comm.

In an effort to fund additional projects, the commission recommended that the original allocated amount of \$30,000 be increased to \$40,725. This funding is available from remaining funds from a contribution that the Cannery Development Project made directly towards art programming.

Action: Commissioner Zimmerman made a motion to recommend funding for all 12 applicants at the requested level, including \$2000 for the Davis Chamber Players, as well as provisional funding for the Art Theater of Davis contingent upon their securing an affordable venue by the December 8th meeting of the Commission. Commissioner Smith seconded this motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

The Civic Arts Commission recommended funding the following grant submissions:

Art Theater Davis	\$4000
ACME Theater Company	\$3850
Chamber Players	\$2000
Community Chorale	\$2400
Danielle Fodor	\$4000
Davis Arts Center	\$4000
Davis Dirt	\$3575
Davis Shakespeare Ensemble	\$4000
Donna Jury Wren	\$4000
Pence Gallery	\$4000
Stories on Stage	\$900
Third Space	\$4000

TOTAL RECOMMENDED FUNDING \$40,725

B. Arts Alliance-strategic planning and website development

Arts Alliance Davis, with support from the Arts program, will be consulting with Paula Manley, an arts strategist out of Portland, to develop a Strategic Program Plan, with support from a CA Arts Council Creative California Communities planning grant. The City has invited Alison Kent, of Listen Ink, to provide illustrated documentation of the process. Commissioners will be invited to participate in the stakeholder workshop during the winter. Dates forthcoming.

C. Waste Water Treatment Facility/Municipal Arts funding

No further updates since last month. Commissioners are encouraged to take a tour of the WWTF in preparation for the process of granting money associated with Enterprise Funds for this project to public arts projects and programs in the coming several years.

D. Percent for Art Private Development ordinance

Staff is working on creating a plan for this project based on the September meeting with Sub-committee members Zimmerman and Joshi and Council

members Arnold and Frerichs. A meeting is anticipated in early 2017 with local developers to discuss a Percent for the Arts ordinance for private development.

E. South Davis Public Art RFPs

Woodbridge-There has been a hold placed on the Woodbridge location due to some potential safety issues related to the wood structure, and the possible removal of one or more of the walls slated for murals. Staff recommends postponing this project until it has been determined what will happen with the shed structure. The police are currently working with neighborhood groups to determine the safest set up for this structure.

Walnut Park-Staff recommends revisiting the placement of public art in Walnut Park, due to impending redesign around the location of Troy Corliss' decommissioned art. While it had been previously suggested to commission artwork in a new location in the park (further south), staff recommends waiting until this new work can be integrated into future park planning and redesign for the best placement. Staff is coordinating with Parks, and will bring updates to the Commission as they are available.

The Commission also discussed identifying alternative locations for public art in South Davis.

F. Program/Policy Review

Commissioners have been asked to review 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 sent electronic documents with instructions and deadlines for return of comments.

Commissioners were asked to get suggested edits back to staff as soon as they can, but we will return to this topic after the grants process has been completed in January. These same documents are being presented to the Arts Alliance for similar feedback.

G. Public Art Donations

Staff has been working with John Natsoulas, and the Yolo County Visitors Bureau, to compile various pre-existing plans and efforts to acquire privately owned public art in the Downtown into the City's collection, and to develop a feasible and funded plan for future maintenance of stewardship of this work.

Staff discussed formally accepting several pieces (*Collaboration*, *Burka Boarder*, *Regal Theater benches*) and then deciding which of the many murals or other available works downtown the City has the capacity to own and maintain.

The Commission requested a staff report and recommendation, which will be prepared for a future meeting.

H. 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 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-Art 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. Planned meeting when she is in town.

G Street Plaza ironwork, gate is broken in several places. Staff met with Benson Fence Company, who will be providing a bod on repair, minor reconstruction, and repainting of the fence in the Street Plaza.

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.

Graffiti-was removed from the utility box at the corner of 1st/E, as well as the piano in Central park. Staff met with Kellie Vitaich (PD) and John Natsoulas to discuss how PD volunteers can assist in the care and maintenance of the public murals, and best practices for their future care.

Pianos-pianos were all relocated to protected locations for the winter. One remains outdoors at the Wyatt Deck in the UC Davis Arboretum, 1 went to daVinci Junior high, and 2 were loaned to Yolo hospice for the South Davis offices.

Compassion Bench-Mark Rivera was hired to clean and restore the surface of the bench after it was damaged by a fire being set on its top. He cleaned the whole bench, and Brennan bird is planning to come to Davis in the next month to re-oil the surface.

6. Brief Commission and Staff Communications

A. Clarification of Roberts Rules

Commissioner Smith requested clarification regarding whether the Commission chair can make a motion. Commissioner Joshi provided the following language for clarification (<http://www.robertsrules.com/faq.html#1>):

If the president is a member of the voting body, he or she has exactly the same rights and privileges as all other members have, including the right to make motions, to speak in debate, and to vote on all questions. So, in meetings of a small board (where there are not more than about a dozen board members present), and in meetings of a committee, the presiding officer may exercise these rights and privileges as fully as any other member.

B. Role of Public Art Post-Election

Commissioner Zimmerman requested that the Commission discuss the role of the Commission and public art. How can we help to support community engagement and community building using public art as a tool?

C. Alliance Roster

A request was made to add Commissioners to the Arts Alliance Davis mailing list and roster. Staff will take care of this request.

7. **Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 pm, to the next meeting on December 8, 2016. Note that this December meeting is not at the regular time, and will be held in the Senior Center Game Room.

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