



**Civic Arts Commission  
Minutes  
Thursday, December 8, 2016**

**Commissioners Present:** Carol Smith, Samantha McCarthy, Jane Higgins, Sarah Zimmerman, Piper Milton (acting Chair), Casey Hutchins

**Commissioners Absent:** Nikhil Joshi (Chair)

**City Council Liaison:** Will Arnold (absent)

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

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

Meeting called to order at 7:25.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

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

Staff noted that the date for the next meeting is NOT on January 12<sup>th</sup> as indicated.

**3. Public Comment.** none

**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 November 14, 2016**

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

**5. Regular Items**

**A. 2017 Community Arts Grants**

Staff updated the Commission that (1) The Arts Theater Davis was able to secure a venue for their proposed production of the Seagull, and so the Commission recommendation for their funding is now without and stipulations, and (2) the following grants will be on the December 20<sup>th</sup> Council consent calendar for approval:

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
<b>TOTAL RECOMMENDED FUNDING</b>	<b>\$40,725</b>

**B. Performance Venues in Davis**

Commissioners requested a discussion around this topic at the last meeting, however discussion will be tabled to the February meeting due to time limitations. Commissioners suggested that a centralized list of all available performance venues is developed, including size, public/private ownership, costs, availability, etc.

**C. Community engagement/Public Art**

The Commission discussed the role of Public art in the current social movement. Commissioner Zimmerman suggested that the CAC reach out to the Phoenix Coalition, who has several upcoming community events planned, to see how the use of art might support the process. Questions raised were: How do we prevent potential negative changes in our community from becoming normalized? Should we have some kind of public art day or event to bring people together to share a creative activity focused around expression and welcomeness, in conjunction with Sanctuary city conversations and actions? Should the Arts Commission provide the tools for this activity? Staff will reach out to Anoush from Phoenix Coalition. The idea of a TOOLKIT for creative expression was raised.

**D. Arts Alliance-strategic planning update**

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.

**E. Utility Box Painting I-House**

Staff will begin the RFP process for this project, with the intent of the work being done in the spring.

**F. South Davis Public Art**

*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.

*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.

**G. 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 reminded to get suggested edits back to staff prior to the meeting in January. Staff will resend an updated list of document for review.

**H. 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.

A staff report was provided to commissioners recommending the acceptance of *Collaboration*, *Burka Boarder*, and *5 Regal Theater benches*. Staff noted that *Collaboration* had previously been accepted by the CAC on September 8, 2014, but no Deed of Gift had been procured at the time. While the action to reaccept *Collaboration* is redundant, it is staff's recommendation to complete the process so that appropriate paperwork is exchanged, and the donation is formalized. When the Commission received the original staff report on September 8, 2014, they did not approve the acceptance of *BurkaBoarder*, but requested staff to come back with additional information about this piece.

The *Regal Theater benches*, because they were created in the public right of way, with City permission, and cannot be removed without destroying the artwork, are legally the property and responsibility of the City. The recommendation to accept them into the collection is just a formality so that there is public record of their ownership and care.

Staff informed the CAC that the next step in this process will be to evaluate the remainder of the privately held murals and other pieces of art in the Downtown, determine which pieces are being offered to the City, which ones the City would like to acquire into its collection, and how these works would be maintained and cared for in the future.

**Action:** Commissioner Hutchins made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Smith, to recommend acceptance of *Collaboration*, *BurkaBoarder*, and *5 Regal Theater benches*, with the locations for *Collaboration* and

*BurkaBoarder* to be determined at a later date, and with staff and community input. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**I. Maintenance Update**

*Solar Intersections*, Amtrak Station-Staff met with Marga Friberg, partner of the deceased artist. She is enthusiastic about working with the City. She suggested removal of the loose pieces of Mylar on the piece, but likes the way it looks like gold leaf, and suggested that efforts at this point in time go into restoring the base and grounds around the artwork, including trimming back the trees at the base, and replanting this area. These efforts will be coordinated with Centennial design plans for 2<sup>nd</sup> street between F and G Streets.

*Solar Charging Station*, North Davis Nugget-The glass on the face of the artwork has been replaced and repaired. The artist also resealed the window.

**6. Brief Commission and Staff Communications**

**A. Note corrections to the attached staff report**

Staff noted that the Regal Theater benches were created in 2014. This date was inadvertently left off the staff report.

**B. Artists Activating Communities grant**

City is working with local artist Danielle Fodor on an application to this grant program with the CA Arts Council. Work would include an expansion of the type of community-building project completed earlier this year in the manor neighborhood. Fodor would target several underserved neighborhoods in the Davis community, and lead a design effort to design and implement creative place making projects with the residents.

**C. Public Art in City Hall**

A piece of work by artist Lisa Cralle' Rybovich will be installed in City hall. It is being relocated from the Manetti Shrem museum, where it was commissioned for the opening in November.

**D. Centennial**

Staff shared several examples of project ideas for Centennial projects.

**7. Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm, to the next meeting in January. Date TBD because of a conflict on the normally scheduled date.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

Rachel Hartsough  
Arts & Culture Manager  
City of Davis