



**Civic Arts Commission  
Minutes  
Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**Commissioners Present:** Carol Smith, Samantha McCarthy, Diane Carlson-Biggs, Sarah Zimmerman (Chair), Maya Makker, Nikhil Joshi (alternate), Jeffrey Day

**Commissioners Absent:** Zinzi Raymond

**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 7:20.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

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

**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 February 12, 2018 (no meeting in March).**

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

**5. Regular Items**

**A. Percent for Art Private Development ordinance updates.**

Commissioners received an informational update that included:

- The AIPD trifold brochure and Developer packet are nearly complete, and staff will begin scheduling meetings soon with local developers to introduce the program objectives and solicit feedback.

**B. Commission Communication**

Commissioner Makker and Zimmerman have drafted a letter to share with the City Council, supporting their leadership and investment in the Arts. This item will be table to a future meeting.

**C. Public Programs**

The Commission received an informational update on workshops, performances, and other City supported programs, including the following:

- Arbor Day-March 17—The Arts program is supported this event by providing a citywide poetry project in conjunction with Andy Jones, Poet

Laureate; a DIY printmaking activity with local printmakers, and other possible creative activities.

- Poet Laureate-The current Poet Laureate, Dr. Andy Jones, will end his term in September. A call will go out in the next month soliciting nominations for the next term (2018-2020) and 2 commissioners are needed to participate in the selection process. Commissioners Makker and Day volunteered and will serve on the interview and selection panel.
- Live Music on the Bus pilot program with Unitrans will begin in May.
- Art & Cultural Affairs Fund (ACAF) new approved programs:
  - Unitrans Live Music on the Bus

#### **D. Public Art Donations /Collection**

The Commission received an informational update on recent and pending donations, including:

- Mapping and City Inventory-Program assistant Jessie Nakahara has been working closely with GIS staff to begin mapping and creating an electronic inventory of every piece in the city collection, both indoor and outdoor. Records will eventually include all acquisition history, maintenance records, conditions reports, etc.
- John Toki-Staff is in conversation with Jerry Decamp, on behalf of John Toki, and is still awaiting a formal proposal so that internal planning can take place evaluating the Chiles Roundabout as a proposed location. Everyone seems happy with the idea of this location, and as soon as we have some actual proposed drawings, we can begin to look at traffic and engineering/safety impacts and potential costs.
- Legacy installation-Staff met on-site at the Hunt-Boyer Mansion property with artist Susan Shelton, and supporters Bill and Nancy Roe, who have pledged a starting gift to this project, which would commemorate the city's historic legacy. Currently staff are working with City properties manager to evaluate public/private easements to determine if the location is appropriate for placement of public art based on potential conflicts with utility easements on the property.

#### **E. Public Art Commissions**

The Commission received an informational update on the status of temporary art:

- Burning Man Arts—we are currently working with Parks staff and the City insurance provider to evaluate a potential work—a giant chicken basket—to add to our temporary art program with Burning Man.
- Sonic Runway—staff was contacted by the artist for this project, and they have to put pursuing this project with Davis on hold due to other commitments at this time. Discussions will resume in the future.

#### **F. Maintenance update**

The Commission will receive a maintenance update:

- i. **Burka Boarder**—staff met with UC Davis students to obtain feedback on this statue and the potential relocation in Downtown. John Natsoulas has requested that the artwork remain in the downtown so that it can remain a part of the Transmedia Map, and the City would like to accommodate that request if a suitable location can be identified, so staff are pursuing this direction.

- ii. **Watchman #8**—Staff met with Parks staff and Rotary Club members to revisit plans to collaborate on restoration work on this piece of art. Staff also reached out to the artist, John Zylstra, for feedback and guidance.
- iii. **Medusa**—Staff are continuing to work with insurance providers to recoup costs associated with the artwork damaged in April by equipment failure of West Coast Arborists while removing a tree.

#### **G. Commission Goals and Objectives**

The Commission began a workshop-style activity to brainstorm and develop priorities and goals for future Commission direction. Commission Chair Zimmerman led an activity which paired up commissioners to create lists of priorities and areas in which they would like to focus energy in the coming months/years. This work will continue at the next meeting.

Questions addressed included:

- 1) What could you do to help make this project happen?
- 2) Who else could you recruit to volunteer and help make it happen, and/or what people volunteer resources are needed to make it happen?
- 3) Why are you excited about it?
- 4) What is the arts connection, in alliance with one of the four Council Goals identified in the City of Davis Council Arts Department Priorities document shared with the Commission?

Goal 2 – Drive a Diverse and Resilient Economy

Goal 3 – Pursue Environmental Sustainability

Goal 4 – Build and Promote a Vibrant Downtown

Goal 5 – Promote Community

As follow-up to this activity, Commissioners will email meeting notes to Rachel Hartsough, who will forward to Commission Chair Zimmerman for future work.

Commissioners expressed interest in future conversations further exploring the role of public art—what it is? Traditional or ephemeral? Maybe we should consider more emphasis in the future on more alternative/innovative ways to use public art.

#### **6. Brief Commission and Staff Communications**

- Commissioner are interested in visiting Verge in Sacramento, and Commissioner Day volunteered to help coordinate a visit there.
- Staff shared information on several upcoming events including a program presented by Pamela Trokanski Dance Theatre.

7. **Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm, to the next meeting scheduled on May 14, 2018 at 7:15 in the City Hall, Council Chambers conference room.

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
Rachel Hartsough

Arts & Culture Manager  
City of Davis