



**Civic Arts Commission
Minutes
Monday, May 14th, 2018**

Commissioners Present: Samantha McCarthy, Maya Makker, Nikhil Joshi, Jeffrey Day

Commissioners Absent: Zinzi Raymond, Diane Carlson-Biggs, Carol Smith, Sarah Zimmerman (Chair),

City Council Liaison: Will Arnold (absent)

Staff: Rachel Hartsough, Arts & Culture Manager

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 7:20.

2. Approval of Agenda

Action: Commissioner Joshi moved and Commissioner Day 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 April 9, 2018 (no meeting in March).

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

5. Regular Items

A. Percent for Art Private Development ordinance updates.

Commissioners received an update: 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

Commissioners Makker and Zimmerman have drafted a letter to share with the City Council, supporting their leadership and investment in the Arts.

Commissioners Makker and Zimmerman will send the draft to staff to share with other commissioners for edits before sharing with Council.

C. Public Programs

The Commission received an informational update on recent/upcoming City-supported programs, workshops, and performances:

- [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.
- [Storytelling: Discovering Self, Connecting Community](#), April 25th
- [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.
- [LUMENRoute](#), April 27th
- [Davis Chorale 40th Anniversary Concert](#), May 19th
- [Mellon Music Festival](#), May 25-27th
- [Make Music Day Davis](#), June 21st
- [Juneteenth](#), June 3rd

Art & Cultural Affairs Fund (ACAF) new approved programs:

- [Music on the Bus](#) pilot program with Unitrans and Eunah Cho launched May 5th with Jared Johnson playing accordion on the monthly Farmer's market shuttle that runs every 1st Saturday morning. The program will run for 2 more months as a pilot to determine best next steps.

D. Public Art Donations /Collection

The Commission received an informational update on recent and pending donations to the Art in Public Places collection and inventory care, including:

- [Davis Legacy installation at Hunt-Boyer](#)

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. Once we determine if this location is a go, we will work with the donors to help look for additional sponsors.

- [Art Inventory/Mapping Questions for Commission](#)

Art and GIS staff have been collaborating to identify all city and privately owned artwork in Davis and enter it into a GIS program. This included a very comprehensive look at ALL inventory and maintenance records from the inception of the program, and includes an on-site visit for documentation of the existing location and condition report for each unique piece. Jessie Nakahara, our program assistant, is conducting these field visits has been working with a specially-designed program and tablet to collect data and update records. Once completed, we will have a comprehensive digital record for each piece of artwork, containing historical records, special maintenance needs, history or damage or repair, geo-location, etc.

At the same time, we are working with our map designer to update and finalize all of this information to include in our updated print map. During this process a few questions have come up that require further discussion, and staff requested feedback from the Commission regarding the following:

What should the criteria be for what artwork is included on publicly distributed art maps?

Specifically in question:

- Artwork on school grounds: examples- mural at Montgomery Elementary (viewable from bike path), Davis School for Independent Studies (mosaic visible from B Street). Commission recommends only if visible from a public location off campus.
- Artwork inside public buildings: Include all or only some? If some, what criteria is used? Permanent installations? Examples-Post Office, Library, City Hall, Senior Center.
- If including indoor public art on art map, shall we indicate that the piece is only accessible during building's open hours? And how?

Commission recommends including an asterisk with **during operating hours* to the map to indicate artwork that is housed in a building.

Commissioners recommended to make sure that the following are addressed on the map: TB-9, Julie Partansky deck and garden. Also suggested adding layers to the GIS separating out amenities such as benches, kiosks, etc., as well as artworks that are public 24/7 and those that reside in public buildings that have open hours. These will be addressed as we develop the GIS mapping.

Consolidation of city-owned artwork

The city owns a number of pieces of art that are held and maintained by departments other than art (Parks mainly). Staff requested direction from the Commission regarding whether arts program should pursue these pieces to officially be added to the arts inventory so that they can be monitored and maintained through a Central process. The Art Pieces in Question for transfer to official City of Davis Public Art Collection are:

- Highwheel Bicycle "Monument"
- Sundial (Central Park Gardens)
- Loren's Umbrella Tree (Arroyo Park)
- The City I Sing Of (bathroom mural, Central Park)

Action: Commissioner Joshi made a motion for the arts program to officially pursue the incorporation of the following work into the care of the arts collection inventory: Highwheel Bicycle Monument, Sundial in Central Park, Loren's Umbrella Tree, and the City I Sing Of. Commissioner Makker seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

E. Public Art Commissions

The Commission received an informational update on current artwork commissions and contracts for 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.
- Senior Center- The Senior Center will begin work in the next few months on an outdoor patio remodel, and staff has been working with the designer and project team to determine the best location for the placement of public art, which appears to be the exterior walls along the patio. The project has dedicated roughly \$10,000 toward the inclusion of a public art component. Staff asked for recommendation from the Commission to post an RFP for the arts component of the Senior Center patio remodel project, and to allocate additional funding to the project if desired by the Commission.

Action: Commissioner Day made a motion to post an RFP for the project with the addition of \$5,000 from the Municipal Arts Fund, bringing the project total for a public arts commission for the Senior Center remodel to \$15,000. Commissioner Makker seconded the motion. Commissioners Day, Makker, and McCarthy were in support. Commissioner Joshi was opposed. Motion passed.

- Bicycle Obelisk-This piece was originally commissioned in 2012 for the work currently being done on Third Street. The artists Mark Grieve and Ilana Spector won the commission, and will be installing the work in the fall once the road work is complete. Staff is working closely with the artists, PW staff, and Teichert Construction to ensure that appropriate foundation engineering and lighting/electrical conduit is in place. Currently the artist is working with Holly Solar to look into additional lighting components to enhance the art, including the capability to remotely program LED lighting, and have it be interactive and responsive to environmental stimulus such as temperature and nearby audio input (like music). The original contract was for \$35,000, but the final CIP only contributed \$29,500 toward the municipal arts fund. **Staff asked for recommendation from the Commission to increase the allocation of funding with additional Municipal Arts Funds to allow for the difference in original contract and actual CIP allocation, as well as add lighting features (amount TBD).**

Action: Commissioner Joshi made a motion to add \$5,500 from the Municipal Arts Fund, to make up the difference between the amount approved by Council and the original RFP. Commissioners Day seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioners also discussed alternative options for the lighting component, which will be decided once there is a quote for the work.

F. Maintenance update

The Commission received a maintenance update on the following artwork:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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 at the April 2018 meeting 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 was tabled for the future when there is a critical mass of Commissioners present.

6. Brief Commission and Staff Communications

- 7. Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm, to the next meeting scheduled on June 11, 2018 at 7:15 in the City Hall, Council Chambers conference room.

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