



**Civic Arts Commission  
Minutes  
Monday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

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

**Commissioners Absent:** Samantha McCarthy

**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 by Chair Zimmerman at 7:20. Commissioner Joshi arrived at 7:25.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**Action:** Commissioner Smith moved and Commissioner Carlson 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 June 11, 2018**

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

**5. Regular Items**

**A. Downtown planning and Advisory Committee (DPAC)**

Commissioners heard feedback from representatives who attended 2 DPAC reporting sessions—Commissioners Zimmerman, Carlson, Day, and Makker. Staff shared compiled draft notes with Commissioners, and asked for additional comments and feedback to provide to the DPAC. Staff will forward a memo to the DPAC with official feedback from the Arts Commission.

**B. Public Programs**

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

- [Poet Laureate](#)-Commissioners Makker and Day volunteered to serve on the interview and selection panel, in addition to Mindy Cooper from the UC Davis Department of Theatre and Dance, and Mimi Kusch, editor with Narrative Magazine. The selection committee recommended James Lee Jobe for the position, and he was confirmed by the City Council

and appointed to this position during a shared ceremony at the September 11 City Council meeting in which proclamations honoring both outgoing laureate Andy Jones and incoming laureate James Lee Jobe were declared. Both poets shared a poem with the meeting.

- [Davis Shakespeare Festival](#) has been in residence at the Veterans Memorial Theatre for their season, which will run through October. They presented *On the 20<sup>th</sup> Century* and *Mary Stuart*, both to record audiences, and *As You Like It* will open on September 19<sup>th</sup>.
- [Senda Nueva Paint the Street Project](#) is underway, and public paint days will take place over the Neighbor's Night Out weekend, October 12-14.
- [Before I Die...](#) chalk wall, a collaboration with Yolo Hospice, was refinished in early September with 4 new walls that say *I Feel Joy When...* in English, Hindi, Persian, and Korean. Languages were selected based on demographics in Davis.
- [Michelle Angela Ortiz](#) will be in town on November 15<sup>th</sup>. She has agreed to meet with a select group of representatives from the Davis creative community to present an overview of her work and discuss ways that we can collaborate with her in the future. We will aim to use this opportunity to put together a grant or foundational support to bring her back to work on a larger project working with a collaborative partnership of local artists addressing local/regional social issues.

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

- Mo Stoycoff, of Visit Yolo, will join the selection review team for the award of ACAF support. The program will be reviewed and updated in the next fiscal year. The Civic Arts Commission will also appoint 1-2 members to serve in this decision-making role.
- [Music on the Bus](#) pilot program with Unitrans and Eunah Cho continued throughout the summer, and will keep taking place on the first Saturday of each month on the farmer's market FREE community shuttle. Upcoming performances include: October [Boot Juice], November [Karl Rasmussen], December [Bomba Fried Rice duo (tentative, still confirming)]
- [Davis Chorale](#) has been approved for funding for a 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary holiday sing-along program at Veterans Memorial Theater on December 22-23.
- [Summer on the Green](#) continued on Thursdays throughout the summer at Davis Commons, in partnership with the Davis Live Music Collective, The Bridge District, Solomon's, Visit Yolo, and Davis Downtown.
- [Ground and Field Theatre Festival](#) launched last week with free public programs at the old Watermelon space on E Street, courtesy of Browman Development Corp. Upcoming programs will take place October 4-6. City funding supports their ticketing policy of "radical hospitality" or offering free access to anyone who would like to attend.
- [Amtrak 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary](#) was enhanced by regional musician Gordy Ohliger, performing 19<sup>th</sup> century era music, supported in part by ACAF funds.

**C. Arts & Cultural Affairs Fund**

Staff requested 1-2 Commissioners to serve on the selection review for ACAF applications. Commissioner Carlson and alternate Joshi volunteered. Staff will look into the regulations regarding alternates serving on sub-committees.

#### **D. Waste Water Treatment Plant/Municipal Arts Funding**

The Waste Water Treatment Plant will have its official “opening” on October 24<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. At that time, Arts staff will share information about the upcoming WWTP municipal arts funding and public arts commissions. Staff invited Commissioners to help identify 2-5 examples of model projects in other communities.

#### **E. Community Arts Grants**

The Community Arts Grants guidelines will be posted on the City website and released to the public the week of September 17<sup>th</sup>. Staff invited feedback from the Commission regarding any alterations of the adjudication process in order to streamline review. Commission suggested starting the review meeting earlier than a normal meeting so that there is ample time to review the applications, and also potentially changing the meeting date during the week of November 12<sup>th</sup> to accommodate additional time for application review.

#### **F. Public Art Donations/Collection Care and Maintenance**

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 continued over the summer to determine if the location is appropriate for placement of public art based on potential conflicts with utility easements on the property. Meetings were held with public utilities and the local engineer who worked on the redesign about 10 years ago to determine exactly where artwork can go. Follow-up meetings with members of the Historical Resource Management Commission (HRMC) determined that the brickwork in front of the mansion is not original, and can be relocated if needed to accommodate the design. The artist is working on a design draft, which will be presented to the HRMC for further review.
- Art Inventory/Mapping Questions for Commission  
Art and GIS staff have completed the process 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, conducted these field visits working with a specially-designed program and tablet to collect data and update records. We now have completed a comprehensive digital record for each piece of artwork, containing historical records, special maintenance needs, history or damage or repair, geo-location, etc.
- Print Map  
We have handed off all edits to Jenni Cadieux, UCD Design MFA graduate and our map designer, to update and finalize all of this information to include in our updated print map. Once the map is updated, we will go to print on our first version of a pocket public art map.

#### **G. Public Art Commissions**

The Commission received an informational update on current artwork commissions and contracts for temporary art:

Bicycle Pump Track—The City is working with a local community group to install a bike pump track in Community Park and there is a roughly \$1000 allocation toward public art for the project. Feedback has been requested from the Commission regarding the placement of public art at this site. At the June 2018 arts commission meeting staff requested feedback from the Commission regarding the arts component of the Bike Pump Track project, and potential allocation of additional funding to the project. Commission is interested in pursuing an artistic treatment of the fencing, and will determine direction once the fencing material has been selected. They also recommended siting a maintenance station, tools, pump, and safety signage on-site.

- Burning Man Arts—we are currently working with a private property owner and the City insurance provider to evaluate a potential work—a giant chicken basket—to add to our temporary art program with Burning Man. Commissioners who attended the burning Man Festival advocated for the City to revisit the sculpture called Trasperanza, which they shared is gorgeous, much more durable in person than previously thought, and would be great in Davis. Staff will bring this piece back to Parks for review.
- Pentamonium-artist Gary Gunderson has reached out to say that he is interested in selling this pieces, and specifically retooling it for its ultimate location. He plans to submit a proposal for review if the Commission is interested in purchasing the work. We are still awaiting a proposal.
- 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 \$15,000 toward the inclusion of a public art component (\$10k from the project, and another \$5k allocated by the Civic Arts Commission. Staff is working on a draft RFP which will go out as soon as it is completed.
- 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. The contracted amount will be for \$35,000.
- Think Outside the Box-A public RFQ has been issued for this vinyl covered utility box project, with a deadline of October 15<sup>th</sup>. Interested artists of all media are encouraged to apply.
- Russell Greening Project- The city will be commissioning a public art component to complement a grant-funded sustainability enhancement at City Hall. Staff worked closely with the design and construction team to come up with a relevant project, and an RFP will be issued this fall for mosaic work on the six cast-in-place cube seats. The current 1% Municipal Arts allocation is \$4,857. Staff requested feedback from commissioners about adding additional funding to this amount, and it was decided to go ahead with the RFP based on the current amount.
- Covell Park Bike Path Reconstruction- The city will be commissioning a public art component to complement the road/sidewalk pathway improvement. Staff worked closely

with the design and construction team to ensure that conduit for electrical and lighting options was included in the project, which will be commissioned to be connected with a retaining wall at the corner of Covell and F Streets, at the Little League Field, and an RFP will be issued this fall/winter. The current 1% Municipal Arts allocation is \$18,000. Staff requested feedback from commissioners about adding additional funding to this amount, and it was decided to go ahead with the RFP based on the current amount.

#### **H. Maintenance update**

The Commission received a maintenance update on the following artwork:

- Burka Boarder—sculpture by artist Finley Fryer has been sited on the sidewalk in Downtown Davis, on 4<sup>th</sup> Street, between E and F. The piece was intentionally placed directly on the sidewalk, as it depicts a woman on a skateboard, so as to appear as if she is actually skateboarding. A new plaque has been produced and should be installed shortly. Last week work was done on the piece to do some post-repair and installation clean-up, and several patches of rust have been removed and the work sealed. Artist Finley Fryer has worked directly with city staff on the relocation of this piece, and has given his approval for the condition and location.
- 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. This project is awaiting next steps from Rotary members.
- Medusa—The city received an insurance payment for \$10,070 to recoup costs associated with the artwork damaged in April by equipment failure of West Coast Arborists while removing a tree. This amount went into the Municipal Arts Fund, and can be used to replace a work in that location or on alternate costs.

#### **I. 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 will continue at future meetings as time permits. This project was tabled due to low attendance.

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

7. **Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm, to the next meeting scheduled on October 8, 2018 at 7:15 in the City Hall, Council Chambers conference room.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

Rachel Hartsough  
Arts & Culture Manager  
City of Davis