



**Civic Arts Commission
Minutes
Monday, December 10th, 2018**

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

Commissioners Absent: Nikhil Joshi, Maya Makker, Jeffrey Day

City Council Liaison: Will Arnold (absent)

Staff: Rachel Hartsough, Arts & Culture Manager

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Zimmerman at 7:30.

2. Approval of Agenda

Action: Commissioner Carlson-Biggs 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 November 8, 2018

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

5. Regular Items

A. Public Programs

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

- Philadelphia public artist [Michelle Angela Ortiz](#) met with staff and local arts and culture community members to share her work and launch a discussion about a potential project during the next few years. Ortiz is a 2018 PEW Fellow, a Rauschenberg Foundation Artist as Activist Fellow, a Kennedy Center Citizen Artist National Fellow, and a Santa Fe Art Institute Equal Justice Resident Artist, and known nationally for her community-based public art.
- Staff did a walk-through of the **Senda Nueva Neighborhood Street Mural Project** last month and de-briefed on the details: more than 450 community volunteers came out to help paint 5000 square feet of paint, over a 10,000 square foot surface of street and

greenbelt pathways. Check it out if you are in the area-you can access it on the west end of Bianco Court or the culdesac on Hacienda, or view photos of the whole project--[check them out here](#). Also see the amazing aerial photo which was stitched together by neighbor Dave Fraser.



- Staff met with the **Poleline/Olive overcrossing** connector consultant to explore opportunities for public art within the project, which will be a bicycle/pedestrian connector between these two streets. There is particular interest looking at public art in the context of some form of shade.

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

- [Music on the Bus](#), an ongoing pilot program with Unitrans and Eunah Cho continued throughout the fall, and will keep taking place on the first Saturday of each month on the farmer's market FREE community shuttle.
- [Davis Chorale](#) will be presenting a 40th anniversary holiday sing-along program at Veterans Memorial Theater on December 22-23.
- [Rock the Vote](#)-Music Only Makes Sense/Davis Live Music Collective has been approved for funding for their day-long non-partisan community event promoting voter registration on October 20th.
- Funding was approved for **Ubuntu: No One Is Apart**, a program Directed by Laura Sandage, Con*Spire, and the Free Range Singers, to lift up the interconnections between all people, to honor the spirit of the work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, and to consider what we can learn from being in need or helping others in need. Community singing will provide an experience of harmony and togetherness.

B. Waste Water Treatment Plant/Municipal Arts Funding

The Waste Water Treatment Plant had its official "opening" on October 24th at 9 am. At that time, Arts staff shared information about the upcoming WWTP municipal arts funding and public arts commissions. Staff shared a poster highlighting upcoming public arts opportunity associated with the completed plant. See supporting documents for a copy of the poster. A staff report is going from the Public Works Department to City Council at the end of December requesting final approval/allocation of all funding for the WWTP. Once funding has been finally approved, then the project can formally move forward.

C. Community Arts Grants

The Commission reviewed application scores and comments for all 17 grant applications received for this grant cycle, and made allocation recommendations for Council approval.

The Don Sherman and Explorit applications were pulled from consideration due to incomplete applications. Staff will follow-up with the applicants to see if there is a way to help support the program in the future.

This year the program has \$50,000 from general fund budget, and requested funds equal \$77,383. Staff provided a lot of one-on-one assistance with applicants, and commissioners were pleased with the quality and completeness of most of the applications.

In an effort to fund additional qualified projects, the commission recommended that the original allocated amount of \$50,000 be increased to \$66,512, with the overage of \$16,512 coming from Arts and Cultural Affairs funding, also part of the Arts general fund budget. Staff verified that this would be an appropriate use of these funds.

Action: Commissioner McCarthy made a motion to recommend funding of \$66,512 for 15 applicants at the following levels, with all of the funding coming from FY18/19 Arts budget (\$50,000 from allocated for Community Arts grants, \$16,512 additional funds from Arts and Cultural Affairs Fund). Commissioner Carlson-Biggs seconded this motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

ACME Theatre Company	\$4325
Asian American histories in the Davis Community	\$5000
Bike City Theatre Company	\$5000
Davis Chamber Players	\$2400
Davis Community Chorale	\$4584
Davis Dirt	\$4000
Davis Musical Theatre Company	\$4,000
Elmwood Drive Street Mural	\$5000
International House	\$5,000
Mga Kapatid	\$5000
Music at Davis Community meals	\$5,000
Paint the Street	\$5000
Pence Gallery	\$5000
Second Bite: The Wisdom of the Apple	\$4888
Stories on Stage Davis	\$2,400
TOTAL RECOMMENDED FUNDING	\$66,512

D. 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

The artist is working on a design draft, which has now changed from a mosaic design to a bronze seal in the ground, and will be presented to the Historical Resources Management Commission

(HRMC) for further review, and then used by the lead donor to gather full support for the project.

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. We now have completed a comprehensive digital record for each piece of artwork, containing historical records, images, special maintenance needs, history or damage or repair, geo-location, etc.

We continue work with Jenni Cadieux, UCD Design MFA graduate/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 pilot version of a pocket public art map. Additional detail checking has been taking place, and many small modifications are being made to make the map as accurate and inclusive as possible.

Next steps will include exploring what format to use to make this digital record available to the public, and staff has been working with GIS staff and researching online tools for this purpose.

E. Public Art Commissions

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

- Bicycle Pump Track—Arts Commission is interested in pursuing a treatment of the fencing using public art if budget deems this feasible, and will determine direction once the fencing material has been selected.
- Burning Man Arts—A piece has been offered as an available option this fall, Identity Awareness (image 1) —to add to our temporary art program with Burning Man.
- 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.
- Senior Center- The Senior Center will begin work in the next few months on an outdoor patio remodel. The project has dedicated roughly \$15,000 toward the inclusion of a public art component (\$10k from the project, and \$5k allocated by the Arts Commission. Staff will release an RFP for the project in January 2019.
- Bicycle Obelisk- Artists Mark Grieve and Ilana Spector will be installing the art on Third Street once the road work is complete, which is currently scheduled as December 31st. 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 on additional lighting components. The contracted amount will be for \$35,000. There is an expected unveiling event sometime after the New Year. Staff visited with the artist/lighting designer team at their Petaluma studio earlier this week to view the in-progress work, and discuss updates and details of the construction and lighting design. The final artwork will animate and sparkle with programmable lighting sequences.

- [Think Outside the Box](#)-The review committee is currently working on evaluating these applications and will proceed once arts grant review is completed. Commissioners Smith, Raymond, and Carlson-Biggs are serving on the selection committee.
- [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/winter for mosaic work on six cast-in-place cube seats. The current 1% Municipal Arts allocation is \$4,857.
- [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 winter. The current 1% Municipal Arts allocation is \$18,000. Staff will determine the exact project scope and RFP details once the wall has been built and there is a better idea of how artwork might best enhance that corner.

F. Maintenance update

The Commission received a maintenance update on the following artwork:

- [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.
- [I am Quercus](#)-Last month a brand new plaque was installed, and this month the brand new plaque was broken off of the pedestal and removed. Staff will look into replacing it again, and determining a more solid method of affixing in place.

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 will continue at future meetings as time permits.

H. Downtown Planning and Advisory Committee (DPAC)

Civic Arts Commissioners have been invited to attend a meeting (Time TBD) on February 28th with DPAC to review the draft report and provide comments and feedback. Details forthcoming.

6. Brief Commission and Staff Communications

- On November 6th students from the UC Davis Human-Centered Design Class presented work on ways to **reimagine the corner of Central Park** (by 3rd and C-

street). The students interviewed people in downtown Davis to understand potential ways that the space could be improved using a process known as design thinking. The student teams shared brief presentations about the people they talked to, strategies the city could explore and potential visions for the reimagined space. The class exercise is part of an on-going collaboration with the UC Davis Design Department to imagine new and innovative ways to use public spaces in Davis.

- Staff submitted an **Organizational Development grant to the CA Arts Council**. If funded, the project will support efforts to work with a strategic marketing and communications specialist to bolster branding and promotion of the arts community in and around Davis.

7. Adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm, to the next meeting at 7:15 pm on Monday, January 14th at 23 Russell Boulevard, in the Community Chambers Conference Room

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