



**Civic Arts Commission
Minutes
Monday, September 9, 2019**

Commissioners Present: Maya Makker (chair), Carol Smith, Zinzi Raymond, Chad Fisk, Patricia Quinn, Ruth Santer

Commissioners Absent: Sarah Zimmerman (alternate), Diane Carlson-Biggs

City Council Liaison: Will Arnold (absent)

Staff: Rachel Hartsough, Arts & Culture Manager

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Makker at 6:50.

2. Approval of Agenda

Action: Commissioner Santer moved and Commissioner Fisk seconded approval of the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Liaisons

- Staff introduced the three new members of the Civic Arts Commission: Ruth Santer, Chad Fisk, and Patricia Quinn.
- Community Arts Grants guidelines have been released, and applications will be due on October 25th. Information is available on the city's arts website at www.cityofdavis.org/arts, and staff is trying to publicize the grant through Arts Alliance Davis members.

4. Public Comment.

None.

5. 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 July 22, 2019

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

6. Regular Items

A. Public Programs

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

- **Davis Musical Theatre Company**

- **Davis Chorale**
- **Bike City Theatre Company**
- **Davis Shakespeare Festival**
- **International House Davis**
- **Ground and Field Theatre Festival**

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

- Music on the Bus
- Juneteenth
- California Conference on the Advancement of Ceramic Art
- Art of Painting in the 21st Century
- Mellon Music Festival
- Cherry Blossom Festival
- Davis Music Fest
- The Pence Gallery/Roma Devanbu installation
- Boris Allenou
- Davis Shakespeare Festival
- ACME Theatre Company

B. Recreation & Parks Commission Collaboration

Commissioners received a brief update from staff regarding collaboration between Art and Parks programming for several upcoming grants. Staff will come back at a future meeting to request 2 commissioners to serve on a sub-committee with Recreation & Parks commissioners, primarily to look at opportunities to collaborate on grants funding to enhance art and creative activities in Davis parks.

C. Waste Water Treatment Plant/Municipal Arts Funding

At their meeting on March 5th, the City Council authorized the \$690,000 funding allocation from the Wastewater Treatment plant project for the Municipal Arts budget. The next step of this project will be to hold community information gathering and engagement to develop a scope for how the project funding will be used. Staff wishes to work with Cheng+Snyder to support the initial community engagement process, which has been bid for \$10,500.

ACTION: Commissioner Raymond moved, and Commissioner Fisk seconded the motion to contract with Cheng+Snyder for the initial Community engagement component of the Wastewater treatment plant/Municipal Arts Funding implementation. Motion passed unanimously.

D. Public Art Donations

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

- Davis Centennial Seal at Hunt-Boyer
Artist Susan Shelton has completed a large portion of research and work on the clay model that will be cast into a bronze seal, and installed in the ground in front of the Hunt

Boyer Mansion. Plans will be shared with the Historical Resources Management Commission (HRMC) once complete. Lead donors Bill and Nancy Roe have begun fundraising efforts to gather full support for the project, and a landscape architect will begin work on a plaza design to accommodate installation of the bronze seal once complete. The lead donors have requested the city commit to a \$25,000 portion of the project budget (approximately \$175,000) to cover the costs of installation.

ACTION: Commissioner Raymond moved, and Commissioner Smith seconded the motion to commit \$25,000 from the Municipal Arts Fund to support the installation of the Davis Centennial Seal on the property at the Hunt Boyer Mansion. Motion passed unanimously.

- Sophie
- Davis Comic Opera Company Quilt
- Art Inventory/Public Art Map

Commissioners received an informational update on the status of the public art map, which has been finalized and approved at all levels in the CMO, and has been sent to the printer for test runs.

E. Public Art Collection

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

- *Davis Needle* at 3rd/University (recently installed)
- *Think Outside the Box* Utility Box Vinyl Project (recently installed)
- Russell Greening Project at City Hall (in review process)
- Senior Center patio redesign (Upcoming RFP)
- Bicycle Pump Track (Upcoming RFP)
- Covell Path Reconstruction at Little League field (Upcoming RFP)
- Covell/Manazanita Pump fencing element (Upcoming RFP)
- Poleline/Olive Overcrossing shade element (Upcoming RFP)
- *Balance Beam* siting at Veterans Memorial theatre lawn
- *Chicken + Egg Situation*--Staff is working with the Board at Village Homes to explore purchase and placement of this work. Staff worked with the manager of Village Homes to identify possible locations adjacent to the bike path, which would provide good public access to the work. The homeowners association has now committed to \$8,000 to create a foundation and required fall material around the artwork. This would leave a balance of around \$45,000 to pay for purchasing the work, refinishing it, transporting it from Reno, and installing it. Funding and joint fundraising activities need to be discussed for purchasing the work in a public-private partnership. Commissioners were interested in having staff return to VMA to discuss how to fundraise for the remainder, and expressed interest in committing a rough match to the already committed \$8,000 if additional funds can be raised.
- *Pentamonium*
Commission requested additional information from the artist: Could he train someone locally to maintain, how would the installation take place, what engineering requirements

would the footing require? Commission discussed possible location ideas, including the train station.

- *Mary McChesney Frog Totem*

F. Maintenance update

The Commission received a maintenance update on the following artwork:

- *Watchman #8*
- *I am Quercus*
- *Solar Intersection*
- *Source/Resource*

ACTION: Commissioner Smith moved, and Commissioner Santer seconded the motion to request that Parks staff look into reactivating the fountain component of the public art in Central Park. Motion passed unanimously.

G. Veterans Memorial Theatre

Beginning on July 1, 2019, operation of the VMT will be under the arts & cultural affairs program, and over the next 1-2 years we will begin the process of evaluating how the space is used by the community, and how we might implement physical improvements and update existing policies and protocols in order to better utilize this community resource. During July and August, staff worked with Sapsis Rigging and our city fire marshall to conduct safety evaluation of the stage rigging and fire inspection of selected parts of theatre complex. Additionally, staff worked with our Police department to conduct a CPTed (Crime prevention through Environmental Design) evaluation. Results from all reviews will be provided to our Facilities Department to implement needed repair and safety upgrades. In the fall a full fire inspection will be conducted.

Staff will begin working more closely with performing arts groups who are using the space, and those who wish to use the space, to come up with new ways to activate programming there.

A new theatre manager will be brought on board as soon as possible. This will initially be an hourly .50FTE position, with the goal of building the role as the theatre becomes more fully utilized. Applications were open through 9/5/2019, and interviews will take place in the coming weeks. Staff hope to have this position filled as soon as possible.

H. 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. This work will continue at future meetings as time permits.

7. Commission and Staff Communications

A. Long-Range topics for agenda—none were raised at this time.

8. Adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm, to the next meeting at 6:45 pm on Monday, October 14th at 23 Russell Boulevard, in the Community Chambers Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Hartsough

Arts & Culture Manager

City of Davis