

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
MINUTES**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2018 – 5:00 P.M.

*Location: Community Meeting Room – West Hollywood City Hall
8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood*

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Lee at 5:05 PM.

A. Pledge of Allegiance: Commission Chair Lee led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Roll Call:

Present: Commission Chair Catherine Lee
 Commission Vice Chair J. Dallas Dishman
 Commissioner Candice Beroukhim
 Commissioner Martin Gantman
 Commissioner Dawn Moreno-Freedman
 Commissioner Madeleine Rackley
 Commissioner Todd Williamson

Also Present: Arts Manager Andrew Campbell
 Temp Administrative Specialist IV/Recording Secretary Moya Márquez
 Grants Coordinator Prentis Bonds
 Arts Coordinator Mike Che
 Public Art Coordinator Rebecca Ehemann
 Arts Technician Joy Tribble

C. Approval of the Agenda:

Approval of the January 25, 2018 meeting agenda was motioned by Commissioner Gantman, seconded by Commission Vice Chair Dishman, and approved unanimously.

D. Approval of the December 21, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Approval of the December 21, 2017 meeting minutes was motioned by Commission Vice-Chair Dishman, seconded by Commissioner Moreno-Freedman, and approved unanimously.

E. Public Comment

DAN BERKOWITZ, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke on behalf of the Alliance of Los Angeles Playwrights (ALAP) to thank the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission for recommending approval of a \$1,000 grant in support of an LGBTQ Play Reading festival during June Pride Month. Mr. Berkowitz noted that this year will be the 10th anniversary of ALAP's LGBTQ Play Reading Festival.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

The following matters were acted upon by one motion. There were no items removed for separate discussion.

Approval of the Consent Calendar was motioned by Commissioner Rackley, seconded by Commissioner Dishman, and approved unanimously.

A. Posting of the Agenda

The agenda was posted per proper noticing procedures at City Hall, Plummer Park, West Hollywood Library and West Hollywood Sheriff's Station.

ACTION: Received and filed. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

B. City of West Hollywood International Women's Day and Victory in Europe Day 2018

The Commission reviewed and considered recommending approval of a funding request of \$2,000 from the Russian Advisory Board to support performing arts components in conjunction with the City's International Women's Day celebration on Sunday, March 4, 2018 and Victory in Europe Day celebration on Sunday, May 6, 2018.

ACTION: Approved a funding request in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for each event for a total of \$2,000 to support performing arts components in conjunction with the City's International Women's Day celebration on Sunday, March 4, 2018 and Victory in Europe Day on Sunday, May 6, 2018. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. The Conscientious Objector – Public Fiction/Lauren Mackler

The Subcommittee received an update from curator Lauren Mackler, Public Fiction, regarding The Conscientious Objector project, publication, artist's TV commercials, and the 2018 exhibition schedule at the MAK Center for Art and Architecture.

Ms. Mackler reported that the opening of Public Fiction will be held at the MAK Center for Art and Architecture on Saturday, February 3rd, from 6-9 PM. All Commissioners and staff are invited to the VIP reception from 5-6 PM. The exhibition will run until April 15.

Ms. Mackler updated the Commission on the series of artist commercials that have been produced for the exhibit. She reported that the commercials created by Martine Syms, Mathias Poledna, Mohamed Bourouissa, and Rosalind Nashashibi are completed and are undergoing final review. Upon final review, these commercials will be expected to air on WeHoTV, in local museums and art institutions, and on certain online channels. Public Fiction is also in discussion with local TV networks to potentially air the commercials on certain Southern California TV networks. The Commission asked Public Fiction to consider promoting the commercials through social media channels.

Ms. Mackler also reported to the Commission that a series of public programs related to The Conscientious Objector will be held at the MAK Center over the course of the exhibition. The final public program, a screening of "In the Name of the Place" by Mel Chin and the GALA Committee will be held at the West Hollywood Council Chambers on Sunday, April 15. Ms. Mackler notified the Commission that the exact time of these events is yet to be determined, but that information about the events will be disseminated through Public Fiction's channels and the MAK Center's channels as they are announced.

ACTION: Received and discussed.

B. Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Report

The Commission received a report regarding the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs (PACA) Subcommittee meeting held January 11, 2018 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

ACTIONS: Ratification of recommendations proposed by the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee including:

1. Approval of a WeHo Community Arts Grant of \$1,000 to the Alliance of Los Angeles Playwrights (ALAP) to support a play reading festival during June pride month. **Motioned by Commission Chair Lee, seconded by Commissioner Gantman, and approved unanimously.**
2. Approval of John Johnston's design submission as the winner of the 2018 One City One Pride Design Competition to be used for promotion and marketing of the 2018 One City One Pride festival. **Motioned by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Beroukhim, and approved, noting the "no" vote of Commission Vice Chair Dishman.**
3. Approval of a pool of 12 musicians/bands to select from to perform during the City's 2018 & Summer Sounds & 2018-19 Winter Sounds Series.
 1. California String Quartet
 2. Carol Bach-y-Rita
 3. Mariachi Arcoiris de Los Angeles
 4. Zetz Klezmer Ensemble
 5. Danny Janklow
 6. Judy Wexler
 7. Jungle Fire
 8. Mary Beth Abella
 9. The Lady Lucks
 10. Alison Lewis
 11. Big City Swing Committee
 12. Jake Simpson (Holiday-themed concert)

Motioned by Commission Vice Chair Dishman, seconded by Commissioner Beroukhim, and approved unanimously.

C. Urban Art Subcommittee Report

The Commission received a report from the Urban Art Subcommittee on its meeting held January 18, 2018 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Urban Art Subcommittee Chair Williamson reported that the Subcommittee received a presentation of the Final Art Plan from artist Elena Manferdini for the urban art project "Paint by Numbers" at 1013 Genesee. The Subcommittee recommended approval of the Stage III Final Art Plan for the urban art project at 1013 Genesee.

ACTIONS: Ratification of recommendations proposed by the Urban Art Subcommittee including:

1. Approval of Stage III Final Art Plan by Artist Elena Manferdini for the urban art project "Paint by Numbers" at 1013 Genesee. **Motioned by Commissioner Beroukhim, seconded by Commission Chair Lee, and approved unanimously.**

D. Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report

The Commission received a report from the Art on the Outside Subcommittee on its meeting held January 25, 2018 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

ACTIONS: Ratification of recommendations proposed by the Art on the Outside Subcommittee including:

1. Approval of the proposed temporary art exhibition of works by artist Tanya Brodsky, curated by Aurora Tang, to be exhibited in Plummer Park from November 2018 – December 2019, with a budget not to exceed \$30,000 and direction to the artist to consider design changes to the proposal, direction to staff to share the project to the Russian Advisory Board, and for the artist and curator to return to the Subcommittee for final approval of the design before moving into fabrication. **Motioned by Commissioner Gantman, seconded by Commissioner Beroukhim, and approved unanimously.**
2. Approval of the temporary art project proposal submitted by Art All Ways for an exhibition titled "Window Shopping" by Pandemonia with a budget not exceed \$4,700 to cover the artist fee, materials and a \$500 curatorial fee. **Motioned by Commission Chair Lee, Seconded by Commissioner Williamson, and approved unanimously.**
3. Declination of the temporary art project proposal submitted by Devin Thor for an exhibition titled "Extinct is Forever" due to the proposed location not being available and directed staff to connect the artist with the Design District Business Improvement District which may have an available site for the artwork. **Motioned by Commissioner Williamson, Seconded by Commissioner Gantman, and approved, noting an absent vote from Commissioner Beroukhim, who stepped out of the room during the vote.**

4. Declination of the temporary art project proposal submitted by Kelly Perez for a temporary mural project titled "PEACE" due to lack of available city walls appropriate for the artwork and directed staff to connect the artist with the Business Improvement District Design District which may have an available site for the artwork. **Motioned by Commission Chair Lee, Seconded by Commissioner Beroukhim, and approved, noting a "no" vote from Commissioner Gantman.**
5. Approval of a \$100 exhibition loan fee to support the exhibition of the Los Angeles LGBT Center's exhibition titled "Trans Professionals Campaign" at the West Hollywood City Hall lobby. **Motioned by Commissioner Beroukhim, Seconded by Commissioner Williamson, and approved unanimously.**

E. West Hollywood Cultural Plan

The Commission received an update on the cultural plan's FY 2017/2018 priorities.

Staff reported that at the last City Council meeting, the item regarding the implementation of the Cultural Plan was pulled and will be brought back to Council in either late February or early March. The new draft of the item will come back to the Commission for review before going to City Council.

Staff reported that they have scheduled days for the Artists and Icons series, Artist Roundtables, and two Living Room Sessions – all of which are public components of the Cultural Plan's implementation strategy.

Commissioner Gantman asked for clarification regarding the Pilot WeHo City Arts fund. Staff clarified by explaining that the pilot fund is an internal pilot program in which non-Arts Division City staff can apply for funding to incorporate art into City projects

Commissioner Williamson asked for an update regarding the pilot WeHo Arts Individual Artist Grant. Staff explained that pilot grant should be open in February and that the Commission will be notified when the grant application is live.

ACTION: Provided direction on the implementation of *WeHo Arts: The Plan*.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

None.

V. EXCLUDED CONSENT

None.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Moreno-Freedman asked Staff to clarify at a future meeting on whether or not roll call votes will be required in Subcommittee meetings.

Commissioner Beroukhim asked if the Commission will be returning to the Library's Community Meeting Room for public meetings. Staff responded that returning to the Library for public meetings is not scheduled for the immediate future.

Commission Vice Chair Dishman explained his "no" vote on item III.B.2. Commissioner Dishman explained that in his opinion, the posters do not convey celebration as well as they should, and was concerned that they may be perceived as memorials.

Commission Chair Lee reminded the Commission that the approval of the poster in item III.B.2. does not represent the final product. Staff intends to work with the artist to provide input on the final iteration of the artwork.

Commissioner Williamson asked staff to put a conversation regarding substitute subcommittee members on the next meeting agenda.

Commissioner Beroukhim wished a happy birthday to Commissioner Williamson.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

Rebecca Ehemann, Public Art Coordinator, reported that the artwork "Let a Thousand Flowers Bloom" by artist Mei Xian Qiu was recently vandalized. A police report has been filed and the artwork has been returned to the artist.

Mrs. Ehemann also reported that an artwork previously approved the Commission, "Champ" by Zoe Buckman, will open at the Standard Hotel on February 27.

Mrs. Ehemann also reported that the artwork "Archway" by John Canavier collapsed. "Archway" was the first public artwork on private development in the City of West Hollywood through the Urban Art program. The artwork is currently in storage, and will have its pre-collapse cultural and monetary value assessed. Staff will then make a recommendation to the Urban Art Subcommittee to deaccession the artwork or require the owner to repair the artwork.

Arts Coordinator Mike Che reported that there are several upcoming events through the WeHo Reads program, including talks with Andre Aciman, author of Call Me By Your Name on February 23; Chelsea Johnson in conversation with Carrie Brownstein of Portlandia on March 22; and Route 66 Through the Eyes of Poets curated by West Hollywood City Poet Laureate Kim Dower for National Poetry Month on April 25.

Mr. Che also reported that Round Hole Square Peg is opening at the Long Hall in Plummer Park on Saturday, February 3, with a public reception from 7 PM to 9 PM.

IX. DEVELOPMENT OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

The Commission authorized staff to develop the February 22, 2018 meeting agenda as appropriate.

Commissioner Williamson asked staff to include a discussion of Substitute Subcommittee members on the next meeting agenda.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned at 6:32 PM to its next meeting scheduled February 22, 2018, at 5:00 PM in the Community Meeting Room – West Hollywood City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
ON THIS 22nd DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2018.



CATHERINE LEE, CHAIR

ATTEST:



MOYA MÁRQUEZ,
RECORDING SECRETARY