

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 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
Administrative Specialist IV/Recording Secretary Moya Márquez
Grants Coordinator Prentis Bonds
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 Commissioner Beroukhim, and approved unanimously.

D. Approval of the January 25, 2018 Meeting Minutes

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

E. Public Comment

None.

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 Beroukhim, 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.**

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Report

The Commission received a report regarding the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs (PACA) Subcommittee meeting held February 8, 2018 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Commissioner Moreno-Freedman reported that the WeHo Artist Grant is live and accepting applications. The Commissioner also reported that the Laurel House Artist-in-Residence Council item was approved at the last City Council meeting.

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

1. Approval of a WeHo Arts Community Grant of \$1,000 to Art Treasures to support the exhibition "Bunker Open Doors" featuring artists from the former Soviet Union in April 2018 at Long Hall in Plummer Park. **Motioned by Commissioner Dishman, seconded by Commissioner Gantman, and approved.**

B. Urban Art Subcommittee Report

The Commission received a report from the Urban Art Subcommittee on its meeting held February 15, 2018.

Commissioner Beroukhim reported that the Subcommittee received a presentation from the architects and art consultant of the upcoming 7905 Romaine Street project to introduce the Subcommittee to the proposed art opportunity planned for the project.

Commissioner Beroukhim also reported the completion of the Public Art Conservation Survey of the City, which includes a condition report of all the art in the Urban Art Collection. A contracted conservation team has examined each individual work and determined its condition, from 'poor' to 'excellent.' The overall condition of all urban art in the City has been determined to be 'fair.' In total, there were 66 artworks documented.

Finally, Commissioner Beroukhim also informed the Commission that the Subcommittee is continuing to review and modify the Urban Art Guidelines and will return to ACAC with proposed modifications to the guidelines at a future meeting.

ACTIONS: Receive and file.

C. Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report

The Commission received a report from the Art on the Outside Subcommittee on its meeting held February 22, 2018 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Vice Chair Dishman reported that Subcommittee received an update from Peter Mays (from the Los Angeles Art Association) and artist James Peterson for the exhibition *cacti* at Santa Monica Boulevard in the Doheny Sculpture Park. The presentation highlighted the materials and design of the artwork as well as the projected June installation. The Subcommittee commented about the potential of using solar powered light fixtures to highlight the artwork.

Vice Chair Dishman also reported that one item, SUPERCONSCIOUS, a virtual reality project, was tabled and will return to the Subcommittee in the future.

Vice Chair Dishman also reported on the Subcommittee's approval of a temporary video art project, produced by curator Jessica Rich. As directed by City Council, the project is a retrospective of female artists who have been featured on the digital billboards on Sunset Boulevard and have recently been acquisitioned by the Urban Art Collection, in celebration of Women's History Month. The project will be installed on the digital billboards at 8410 and 9039 Sunset Boulevard from March 1, 2018 – March 31, 2018.

ACTION: Ratification of recommendation proposed by the Art on the Outside Subcommittee: Approval of the temporary video art project produced by curator Jessica Rich, of a retrospective of female artists to be featured on the digital billboards at 8410 and 9039 Sunset Boulevard from March 1, 2018 – March 31, 2018. **Motioned by Commissioner Gantman, seconded by Commissioner Moreno-Freedman, and approved unanimously.**

D. West Hollywood Cultural Plan – WeHo Arts: The Plan

The Commission received updates from staff on the cultural plan's FY 2018 implementation strategy and priorities.

Staff reported that the Cultural Plan consultant Amanda Carlson has been contracted to assist with the implementation process for the next six months.

The upcoming artist roundtable on March 14 will be focused on the topic of helping artists find and use private and public space for their work.

The upcoming Living Room Session in Kings Road Park on March 17 will be an open-ended conversation where the public is encouraged to have conversations with staff, the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission, and the Cultural Plan Consultant.

Rebecca Ehemann, Public Art Coordinator, reported that she has been working closely with the Business Improvement Districts in West Hollywood to extend arts programming into the business improvement districts. In the future, when a project comes towards the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission and is deemed as having high merit by the Commission but lacks either space or funding support, Staff may bring the project to the Business Improvement Districts for consideration.

In the future, staff reported that they will be meeting with the Social Services Division, Recreation Division, and external community partners to identify how each organizational entity approaches art and artmaking. This will allow the Arts Division to identify gaps in programming. Should it be determined that such gaps exist, the Commission may be tapped for ideas on how to fill those gaps.

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

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Coast Playhouse Interim Use Application

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission reviewed an application form for organizations looking to use the Coast Playhouse during the City's interim planning and research phase.

Staff reported that the City has worked with a contractor to create a minimal lighting and sound system in the Coast Playhouse. Some grantees from WeHo Arts grant programs have had their public programs moved to the venue, but there is no major production planned for the Coast.

In response to inquiries about space availability at the Coast Playhouse, Staff has created an interim use application.

Commission Vice Chair Dishman recommended that language be changed on the question that asks whether an applicant will be charging admission for their production – as asking such a question implies that charging admission is permissible.

Staff commented that in the future, the City intends to undertake renovations of the Coast Playhouse following recommendations from artists and artist groups who use the space as a result of this application.

Commissioner Rackley suggested to staff that the application should include a one page informational sheet that clearly outlines general information about the theatre, including insurance requirements, the number of seats, and where electrical outlets can be found and used.

ACTIONS:

1. Approval of an application form for organizations looking to use the Coast Playhouse during the City's interim planning and research phase. **Motioned by Commissioner Rackley, Seconded by Commissioner Dishman, and approved unanimously.**
2. Authorize the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee to review and ratify the application form for the Coast Playhouse without returning to the full Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission. **Motioned by Commissioner Gantman, Seconded by Commissioner Beroukhim, and approved unanimously.**

B. Substitute Subcommittee Members

The Commission discussed appointing commissioners as substitute subcommittee members to each of the Commission's subcommittees to ensure that a quorum of the subcommittee is present at each subcommittee meeting in order to conduct business.

Through discussion, the Commission agreed that an alternative Subcommittee member would only be called into a meeting during an absence.

Commissioner Moreno-Freedman asked that the Subcommittee revisit this structure in July, following the reorganization of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission.

ACTIONS:

1. Approval of the creation of one alternative Subcommittee member, per Subcommittee. **Motioned by Commission Chair Williamson, Seconded by Commissioner Gantman, and approved, noting a "No" vote from Vice Chair Dishman.**

V. EXCLUDED CONSENT

None.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commission Vice Chair Dishman shared that the main building at the Hammer Museum has been named the Lynda and Stewart Resnick Cultural Center.

Commissioner Rackley shared that the Metropolitan Master Chorale will be performing at the City Council Chambers on March 10. The performance will feature Jennifer Leitham performing as part of a jazz trio.

Commissioner Gantman informed the Commission that the College Art Association's annual conference runs until February 24th at the LA Convention Center.

Commission Chair Lee announced that she visited the openings of Round Hole Square Peg and Public Fiction and is proud of the work of the Commission.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

Public Art Coordinator Rebecca Ehemann informed the Commission that the latest micropark is being installed at 8775 Sunset with artwork by The Art of Chase, a West Hollywood artist.

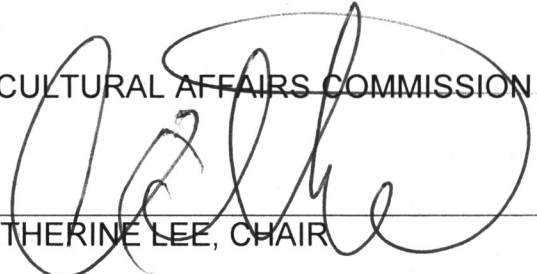
IX. DEVELOPMENT OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

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

X. ADJOURNMENT

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned at 6:25 PM to its next Special Meeting scheduled March 22, 2018, at 5:00 PM in the West Hollywood Library Community Meeting Room – West Hollywood Library, 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard, West Hollywood.

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



CATHERINE LEE, CHAIR

ATTEST:



MOYA MARQUEZ,
RECORDING SECRETARY