

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

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 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 Dishman at 5:00 PM.

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

**B. Roll Call:**

Present:

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

Absent:

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

**C. Approval of the Agenda:**

Approval of the November 29, 2018 meeting agenda was motioned by Commissioner Gantman, seconded by Vice Chair Moreno-Freedman, and approved unanimously.

**D. Approval of the October 25, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

Approval of the October 25, 2018 meeting minutes was motioned by Commission Rackley seconded by Commissioner Williamson, and approved unanimously.

**E. Public Comment**

None.

**F. Introduction to West Hollywood City Poet Laureate Charles Flowers**

Arts Coordinator Mike Che introduced the newly appointed West Hollywood City Poet Laureate, Charles Flowers, who began his City Poet Laureate term in October.

Mr. Flowers expressed his gratitude to the City for having a City Poet Laureate. He mentioned he has spoken to the Senior Advisory Board and the Children's Roundtable to help with efforts to make poetry more visible in the City.

Mr. Flowers then read his poem "Feast for the New Year/Bringing the Feast!"

Vice Chair Moreno-Freedman asked Mr. Flowers about how he proposed to work with the substance abuse community.

Mr. Flowers mentioned he will be reaching out to recovery organizations to offer writing workshops with people in recovery from addiction and that he hopes to hear back from them soon.

## **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 Gantman, seconded by Commissioner Lee, 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. 2019 Arts Grant Funding Recommendations – WeHo Arts Organizational Development and WeHo Arts Project Grants**

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission considered ratifying recommendations of the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee for funding the City's 2019 WeHo Arts Organizational Development and WeHo Arts Project Grants.

Prentis Bonds, Grants Coordinator, reported on the panel review process for the 2019 Art Grants. He presented the Commission with several funding scenarios to consider.

Commissioner Lee asked if all selected applicants would be able to waive facility use fees. Mr. Bonds responded that they would be able to.

Commissioner Gantman asked about the process of the peer review panel and the level of engagement and weight that the Commissioners have in decision making.

Arts Manager Andrew Campbell explained that the City's Arts Peer Review panel is modeled after panels organized by the LA County Arts Commission and other government arts funders.

Commissioner Lee asked if selected applicants will be able to charge admission for entry into their programs. Mr. Campbell explained that they would, with Council approval.

Commissioner Rackley recused herself from voting due to a conflict of interest with one organization that applied for funding.

**MOTIONS:**

- 1) Approve recommendations of the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee to award a WeHo Arts Organizational Development Grant totaling \$4,000 to one (1) arts organization and allocate the remaining balance of \$4,000 to the WeHo Arts Community Grant category as outlined in the staff report.
- 2) Approve recommendations of the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee to award WeHo Arts Project Grants totaling \$86,000 at various funding amounts to twelve (12) nonprofit arts organizations as outlined in the staff report.
- 3) Recommend that City Council approve the use of City venues and waive event permits and facility use fees for the West Hollywood Library Public Meeting Room (Council Chambers) and other City facilities for specific performances and presentations of grantees in fulfillment of their Arts Grant projects as indicated in the staff report.
- 4) Recommend that City Council authorize an additional hour of validated parking for event participants at the West Hollywood Public/Park 5-Story parking structure, for a total of 3 hours, for those grant funded events scheduled for the Council Chambers which exceed two hours.
- 5) Recommend the City Council allow grantee organizations to charge admission or accept donations to offset production costs for performances or projects while using City facilities.

**Motioned by Commissioner Gantman, seconded by Commissioner Lee, and approved, noting the recusal of Commissioner Rackley.**

**B. Performing Arts & Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Report**

The Commission received a report from the Performing Arts & Cultural Affairs Subcommittee on its meeting held November 1, 2018 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Vice Chair Moreno-Freedman reported that the subcommittee reviewed a WeHo Arts Community Grant application submitted by the Happy Notes Foundation and is recommending approval of a grant award of \$1,000 to fund "Lomir Zingen," a Russian New Year/Holiday celebration concert in which children ages four to twelve will perform traditional Russian holiday songs on December 20, 2018 at Plummer Park's Fiesta Hall.

Moreno-Freedman also reported that the Subcommittee reviewed a WeHo Arts Community Grant application submitted by We Are From The Earth and considered approval of a grant award of \$1,000 to fund “Party for Global Citizens,” a creative event consisting of live music & arts, social awareness education, and social gathering on January 12, 2019 at Plummer Park Fiesta Hall.

**ACTION:**

1. Approval of a WeHo Arts Community Grant award of \$1,000 to Happy Notes Foundation to fund “Lomir Zingen,” a Russian New Year/Holiday celebration concert. **Motioned by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Gantman, and approved unanimously.**
2. Approval of a WeHo Arts Community Grant award of \$1,000 to We Are From The Earth for “Party for Global Citizens”, a creative event consisting of live music & arts, social awareness education, and social gathering. **Motioned by Commissioner Williamson, seconded by Commissioner Gantman, and approved unanimously.**

**C. Urban Art Subcommittee Report**

The Urban Art Subcommittee did not meet on November 8, 2018 due to lack of agenda items. No action required.

**D. Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report**

The Commission received a report from the Art on the Outside Subcommittee on its meeting held November 15, 2018 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Chair Dishman reported that the Subcommittee approved temporary video projects for 8410 Sunset Boulevard and 9039 Sunset Boulevard.

Chair Dishman also reported that the Subcommittee heard a presentation from artist Richard Kraft regarding the Temporary Art Project Proposal *All the Yellow and Red Cards Issued to Donald Trump During His Presidency*. The item was referred to staff, and required no action at the meeting.

Chair Dishman also reported that the Subcommittee had a conversation on the muralist roster and that the application language was updated to represent the City’s values through that process.

**ACTION:**

1. Approval of the temporary video art projects proposed by Jessica Rich, The Rich Picture, for the artist Lucas Ajemian, *BLACK HOLE NETWORK ON SUNSET* for installation on the electronic billboards at 8410 Sunset Boulevard and *COMPILATIONS 1-4* for installation on the electronic billboards at 9039 Sunset Boulevard from December 1, 2018 – January 31, 2019. **Motioned by**

**Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Williamson, and approved unanimously.**

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**V. EXCLUDED CONSENT**

None.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**VII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Rackley spoke highly of the production of *Señor Plummer's Final Fiesta* and mentioned to the Commission that she heard it was filmed. She also mentioned that on Saturday, February 9, the Metropolitan Master Chorale will be having a concert at the LA Valley College Recital Hall.

Commissioners Williamson, Moreno, and Gantman wished everyone a happy holiday season.

Commissioner Lee shared news of her engagement and wedding in two weeks. She also wished everyone a happy holiday season.

**VIII. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF**

Arts Coordinator Mike Che shared news on upcoming WeHo Reads events.

Arts Manager Andrew Campbell reported that there will be a Winter Sounds concert on Saturday, December 8, with the California String Quartet. Mr. Campbell also encouraged the Commission to apply to be a panelist for the LA County Arts Commission grant review panels.


**IX. DEVELOPMENT OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA**

The Commission authorized staff to develop the December 20, 2018 special meeting agenda.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned at 6:19 PM to its special meeting scheduled December 20, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. 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 20TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2018.



J. DALLAS DISHMAN, CHAIR

ATTEST:

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MOYA MÁRQUEZ,  
RECORDING SECRETARY