

City of West Hollywood
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
March 25, 2010

CALL TO ORDER: The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission (ACAC) meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Madeleine Rackley at 5:02 p.m.

A. Roll Call

Present: Chair Madeleine Rackley
Beverly Denenberg
Dallas Dishman
Jon Bailey
Peter Mays
Whitney Weston

Excused: Ken Sherman, Vice-Chair
Staff Liaison: Andrew Campbell
Recording Secretary: Prentis Bonds

Also Present: Tom West, City Clerk
Corey Schaffer, Assistant City Clerk

B. Posting of the Agenda

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

D. Staff Comments on the Agenda

There were no staff comments on the agenda.

E. Approval of the Meeting Agenda – February 25, 2010

Commissioner Bailey moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve the March 25, 2010 meeting agenda.

Commissioner Dishman seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

Commissioner Mays moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve the March 25, 2010 Consent Calendar that included approval of the ACAC February 25, 2010 meeting minutes and the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs

Subcommittee (PACA) Actions of March 11, 2010 that included ratification of the following recommendations proposed by the PACA:

- Approved Pride Month 2010 Calendar
- Approved exploring the feasibility of installing the Lavender LA Gay History Exhibition in City Hall.
- Approved Pride Month 2010 budget in the amount of \$29,700 of which \$14,000 has been encumbered from the Arts and Beautification Fund as part of the City's Arts Grant Program and potential fund allocations that included \$9,250 from the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board and \$6,450 from the Economic Development Department's Business Retention and Attraction budget line item.

Commissioner Bailey seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

II. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no items from the public.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. The Brown Act and Meeting Management

The Commission received a presentation from City Clerk Tom West on the Brown Act.

Mr. West informed the Commission that the Brown Act passed in 1953 was enacted in response to mounting public concerns over informal, undisclosed meetings held by local elected officials and their appointees. The Brown Act guarantees the public's right to attend and participate in meetings of local legislative bodies. He provided a brief overview on the use of the consent calendar as a meeting management tool as well as making and approving motions, abstentions and emergency items. He noted that it would be hard pressed for the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission to have an emergency item due to none existent legislative powers. He cautioned commissioners when gathering outside of the meeting forum and reiterated that they should not discuss or give the impression/appearance of discussing Commission related business. He concluded that the meeting governance and decorum is also detailed in the Commission's bylaws.

B. 2010 Summer Sounds Concert Series

The Commission reviewed and considered approval of the 2010 Summer Sounds Concert Series and Budget.

Staff reported that the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee reviewed thirteen (13) applicants for the Summer Sounds Concert Series. The Subcommittee considered quality, repertoire and music genre of each applicant

and as a result, six artists were selected and the Subcommittee scheduled concert dates and locations for each concert in the series as detailed below:

2010 Summer Sounds Concert Series Calendar		
Name	Date	Location
Esperanto	June 27, 2010	Kings Road Park
Quarteto Nuevo	July 11, 2010	King Road Park
Eartha Austria Trio	July 25, 2010	King Road Park
Klezmer Juice	August 1, 2010	Plummer Park
Susie Hansen Latin Band	August 15, 2010	Plummer Park
Upstream	August 29, 2010	Plummer Park

Staff informed the Commission that the budget for the 2010 Summer Concert Series is \$7,855.

Following, Commissioner Bailey moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve the 2010 Summer Sounds Concert Series as detailed above.

Commissioner Denenberg seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. 2010 ACAC Retreat

The Commission reviewed, discussed and considered approval of the 2010 ACAC Retreat and Study Session Report. It was the consensus of the Commission that the report compiled by retreat facilitator, Karen Constine, accurately reflected the content of their discussions and vision.

As part of the discussion, staff requested clarification of the "Role of the ACAC in funding Sources/development" on page 13 of the report.

The Chair clarified that the Funding Adhoc Committee would define the role of the Commission relative to its funding activities.

Following, Commissioner Mays moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve the 2010 ACAC Retreat and Study Session Report.

Commissioner Weston seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Draft Budget and 2010-2012 Work Plan

The Commission continued review and discussion of the preliminary draft Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Budget as it relates to the 2010-2012 approved ACAC Work Plan.

The Chair called attention to page 13 of the agenda packet and suggested that the Commission discussed phasing-out Arts and Beautification Fund monies over a period of time and phasing-in general fund dollars to support arts grants in addition to discussing how to communicate this approach with members of the City Council. She also suggested that the Commission consider discussing the pros and cons of most of the Art and Beautification funds being directed towards Art on the Outside projects.

As part of the discussion, staff provided an overview on the draft FY 2010-2011 Budget.

Following, members of the Commission spoke in support of:

- Phasing-out Arts and Beautification Funds monies and phasing-in General Fund dollars to support cultural arts programs/programming.
- Acting in “good faith” by adhering to the City’s overall 10% budget cut.
- A proactive and progressive message when communicating with City Council and the community concerning arts funding and programming.
- “The Creative City” being at the forefront in its funding support of cultural arts programs/programming and budget priorities.
- The need to examine potential impacts of the Percent for Art Ordinance Modification on the Commission’s budget.

Following, it was the consensus of the Commission that each subcommittee review budget priorities. It was also the consensus of the Commission to defer as needed discussions on potential revenue resources and opportunities to the Funding Adhoc Committee.

C. 2011 Reception for the Arts

The Commission considered brainstorming ideas for the 2011 Reception for the Arts. It was the consensus of the Commission to refer this item to the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee to agendize, discuss and provide recommendations as appropriate.

D. Art on the Outside Subcommittee

The Commission received a report from the Art on the Outside Subcommittee on their meeting held March 15, 2010, and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Commissioner Mays reported that the Subcommittee:

- Received a presentation from Stacey Bengtson of Regen Projects and approved a neon installation by Jack Pierson as “art” for ratification by the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission as part of the galleries exhibition “Some Other Spring.”

- Received a presentation from Heidi Zeller of Folk Art Everywhere (a project of the Craft and Folk Art Museum) and approved for ratification by the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission the installation of the artwork "Pysansky" (Ukrainian Easter eggs) in the lobby of the Plummer Park Community Center as part of the Craft and Folk Art Museum project "Folk Art Everywhere."
- Reviewed, discussed and began prioritization of proposed projects and budget for FY 2010-2011.
- Discussed goals, possible locations and timeframe for the 25th Anniversary Exhibition of West Hollywood-based artists tentatively scheduled for fall 2010 and reach consensus on the Pacific Design Center as the venue for the 25th Anniversary Exhibition of West Hollywood Artists.
- Received a presentation from The Sculpture Foundation and approved for ratification by the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission six (6) sculptures for a July 2010 installation on the Santa Monica Boulevard median in collaboration with the Foundation and a budget not to exceed \$20,000.
- Continued developing a list of high profile artists for potential exhibitions and collaborations. To date the list includes artists Tim Hawkinson, Michael McMillen and Andy Moses.

Following, Commissioner Denenberg moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission ratify recommendations proposed by the Arts on the Outside subcommittee including the neon installation by Jack Pierson as "art"; the installation of "Pysansky" in the lobby of the Plummer Park Community Center as part of the Craft and Folk Art Museum project "Folk Art Everywhere" and six sculptures in collaboration with The Sculpture Foundation and a budget not to exceed \$20,000.

Commissioner Dishman seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

E. Urban Art Subcommittee

The Subcommittee received a report from the Urban Art Subcommittee on their special meeting held March 24, 2010 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Commissioner Denenberg reported that the Subcommittee:

- Approved for ratification by the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission Stage II – Schematic Plan for the Urban Art project at the Pacific Design Center, Red Building pursuant to the City's Urban Art Policy and Guidelines.
- Received and filed the City Council adopted art selection process for the City Capital Projects.

- Received a brief report from staff on the clock located at 7900 Santa Monica Boulevard (Gumbiner Building) pursuant to the subcommittee's expressed interest in the conservation of the clock.
- Received a report from staff on the Library Project art, in which staff informed the Subcommittee that City Council would consider on April 5, 2010, a consent item to approve Shepard Fairey as the artist for the project.
- Received a report from staff on the conservation of the clock located at Bristol Farms and the Billy Al Bengston art work at 310 San Vicente Boulevard.
- Discussed budgetary priorities for the next two years.

Following, Commissioner Bailey moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission ratify the Urban Art Subcommittee's recommendation and approve Stage II – Schematic Plan for the Urban Art project at the Pacific Design Center Red Building.

Commissioner Mays seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

F. Art Selection Process for City Capital Projects

The Commission received an update from staff regarding the City Council item, "Art Selection Process for City Capital Projects" that was tabled by Council at their February 16, 2010 meeting and re-scheduled for the Council meeting of March 1, 2010.

Staff reiterated that City Council will consider a consent item authored by Councilmember John Duran and Councilmember Lindsey Horvath. Staff will be present to respond to Council questions, should they exclude it from the Consent Calendar.

V. EXCLUDED CONSENT

None.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR

There were no items from the Chair.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

There were no items from the Commission.

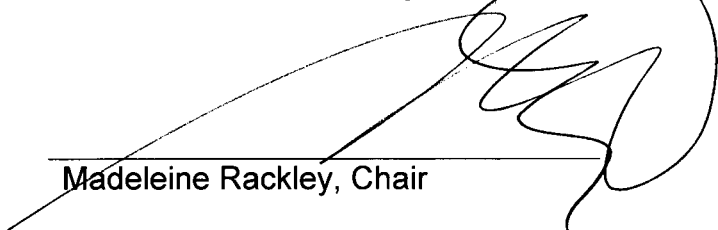
IX. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were not items from staff.

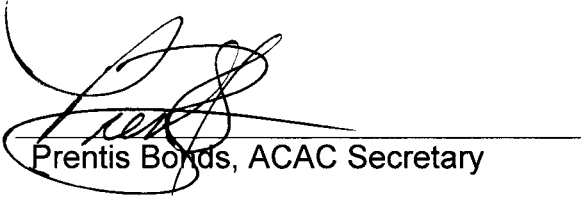
IX. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Rackley moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned to its next meeting scheduled April 22, 2010 at West Hollywood City Hall in the Community Conference Room.

Commissioner Denenberg seconded the motion, and the meeting was at 6:55 p.m.



Madeleine Rackley, Chair



Prentis Bonds, ACAC Secretary