

City of West Hollywood  
**ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES**  
**November 29, 2007**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission meeting was called to order by Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission Chair, Lyn DeShields at 5:00 p.m.

**A. Roll Call**

Present: Lyn DeShields, Chair  
Beverly Denenberg, Vice Chair  
Michael J. Haibach  
Ken Sherman  
Jon Bailey  
Madeleine Rackley  
Whitney Weston

Staff Liaison: Andrew Campbell, Cultural Affairs Administrator/Staff Liaison  
Recording Secretary: Prentis Bonds, Jr.

**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.

**C. Staff Comments on the Agenda**

There were no comments from staff on the agenda.

**D. Approval of the Agenda**

Commissioner Denenberg moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve the November 29, 2007 meeting agenda.

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

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – SEPTEMBER**

Commissioner Bailey moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve the meeting minutes of October 25, 2007.

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

**II. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

The were no comments from the public

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. General Plan Update**

The Commission received and filed a written update from staff on the General Plan, which City Council has asked be added as a standing item on all board and commission agendas.

**B. Arts and Cultural Affairs Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Support Promotion of the Arts**

The Commission considered appointing two commissioners to serve as an ad hoc advisory committee to work with City staff on matters relating to the promotion of arts and cultural activities in the City pursuant to the Commission's 2007-2009 Work Plan.

Commissioner Haibach expressed interest in being the Commission's liaison to City staff on public relations matters.

#### **IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### **A. Art on the Outside Subcommittee**

The Subcommittee received a report from Subcommittee Chair Beverly Denenberg on the Art on the Outside Subcommittee meeting held November 29, 2007. At the meeting, the Subcommittee unanimously approved in concept "The Women in the City Project" presented by ForYourArt that would feature a new work by artist Barbara Kruger with a direction that the organization provide images of the art to be installed on Sunset Videotrons and the Sunset Vertical Billboard. The Subcommittee also received a progress report from staff on the 2008 Light Exhibition. They were informed that staff is working diligently on pending issues that include soil sample, utility poles and location confirmation of the art reception. Finally, the Subcommittee received an update from staff on their follow-up with Phantom Galleries LA. They recommended that Phantom Galleries develop a proposal that would support the arts in West Hollywood and concurred with staff's recommendation that the Economic Development Department facilitate introducing Phantom Galleries to commercial brokers who attend the City's quarterly Brokers Roundtable.

Commissioner Denenberg then moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission ratify the recommendation of the Subcommittee to approve in concept the "The Women in the City Project" with a direction that staff share this information on this project with Fran Solomon, Council Deputy to Councilmember John Heilman in conjunction with the Women's Leadership Program.

Commissioner Sherman seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

##### **B. Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee**

The Commission received a report from Subcommittee member Madeleine Rackley on the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee meeting held November 8, 2007. At the meeting, the Subcommittee discussed cultural programming opportunities to creatively enhance the celebration of 'Pride' in West Hollywood with Mike/Michelle Dennis of the Transgender Task Force and Rodney Scott, President, of Christopher Street West (CSW). As a result of the discussion, the following were suggested:

- City consider collaborating with OUTFEST and ethnic communities to develop collaborative events as well as seek sponsorship dollars from corporations who desire to build a cultural connection with the LGBT community or who wish to improve upon their diversity outreach programs,
- Develop projects that contain educational components aimed at LGBT youth in order that they can gain an appreciation for the many contributions of lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgenders and consider partnering with CSW to realize their concept for a LGBT "Walk of Fame" and
- create arts and cultural events/programs that allow for participation by transgender youth and seniors as well as cultural events that artistically and creatively provide public awareness of the transgender issues.

The Subcommittee received an update from staff regarding a proposal by Mayor Pro-Tempore Jeffrey Prang to develop a partnership class/program with Fairfax Adult School to provide instrument performance classes and a concert band for non-professional musicians. Staff conducted research and as a result informed Mayor Pro-Tempore Prang that there are a number of non-profit music organizations that provide opportunities for non-professionals to continue their music education as well as those seeking performance opportunities. No further action was required on this item at this time. They also discussed the Annual 2008 Arts Grant review and approval process and reached consensus that it would be in the best interest of the Commission to provide technical assistance to West Hollywood arts organizations and that the Commission consider honoring arts grant recipients in a more official and celebratory fashion.

Commissioner Rackley concluded her report commenting that the Subcommittee heard public comment from West Hollywood residents Jerry Calymn and Mike Player who expressed interest not only in finding a suitable theatrical venue for Outlaugh live performances but in the City's Pride Month.

### **C. Urban Arts**

The Commission received a report from Subcommittee Chair Michael Haibach on the Urban Art Subcommittee meeting held November 28, 2007. At the meeting, the Subcommittee received a presentation from the developer's representatives and art consultant Marc Pally on the proposed expansion of The Lot located at 1041 Formosa and approved Usman Hague as the artist for the project. The Subcommittee also received an update and presentation from art consultant Beatrix Barker on the residential development at 1234 Hayworth and approved Brad Howe as the new artist as well as the public art concept for this project. He explained that Howe is replacing Jody Zellen who declined participation after learning the wall, which would have served as the foundation for the public art was decreased substantially. Additionally, the Subcommittee received an update from staff on the public art project at 825 Kings Road. The art is scheduled to be installed mid December. Finally, the Subcommittee received an update from staff on the Public Art Conservation Study. Staff conducted a second visit of priority 1 art works before letters were sent to property owners. During the visit, staff discovered that the art at 614 N. La Peer is now missing and the art at 9041 Keith Avenue is actually missing rather than a priority 1. The Subcommittee also continued its discussion of the City Urban Art (percent-for-art) ordinance modification recommendation.

Following Commissioner Bailey moved that the Urban Art Subcommittee ratify recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee to approve Usman Hague as the artist for the development at 1041 Formosa and artist Brad Howe and public art concept for the development at 1234 Hayworth.

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

### **D. Committee Appointment**

There were not appointments

### **V. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR**

There were no additional items from the Chair.

### **VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION**

Commissioner Denenberg commented that she attended a meeting with Councilmember Land and her commissioner appointees. She also reported that she introduced the Los

Angeles Doctor's Symphony Orchestra at their concert held November 11<sup>th</sup> and suggested that ACAC consider providing introductions at all arts grant related performances, which provides the ACAC with greater visibility and a community connection.

Staff will agendize "Commission Representation at 2008 Arts Grant Performances for the January 24, 2008 meeting.

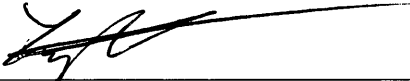
Commissioner Rackley announced that the Hollywood Master Chorale's Winter's Gift concert would be held Sunday, December 16, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wilshire United Methodist Church.

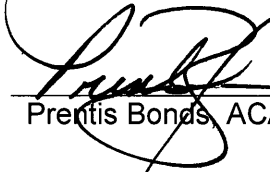
#### **VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

Staff commented on the California Cultural Data Project information workshop held Wednesday, November 14 and the Arts Grant contracting workshop on the same day. He reported that the California Cultural Data Project workshop was well attended that approximately 1/3 of the granted organizations attended the Artd Grant Contracting Workshop. He updated the Commission on the Eastside Arts Initiative noting that Mayor John Duran attended the Eastside Arts Initiative Ad Hoc Committee meeting. The ad hoc committee desires to increase the visibility of art on Eastside. Finally, he commented on the Museum to Memorialize the History Music and Entertainment on the Sunset Strip. Next steps include a Request for Proposal for a consultant to assess the feasibility of developing, operating and sustaining such a museum.

#### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The Commission adjourned at 6:10 p.m. to its next meeting scheduled December 27, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. in the Community Conference Room.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lyn DeShields, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Prentis Bonds, ACAC Secretary