

City of West Hollywood
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION MINUTES
September 28, 2006

CALL TO ORDER: The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission (ACAC) meeting was called to order by the Chair at 5:07 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Present: Jon Bailey, Chair
Ken Sherman, Vice Chair
Michael J. Haibach
Beverly Denenberg
Andrew Campbell
Ari Wiseman

Excused: Lyn DeShields

Recording Secretary: Prentis Bonds

Also Present: Jeffrey Huffer, Economic Development Project Administrator
Bonnie Smith, Special Events Supervisor

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 staff comments on the agenda.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 27, 2006

Commissioner Wiseman moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve the minutes of August 24, 2006. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion and, the motion carried unanimously.

II. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Public comment was heard from West Hollywood resident Stanton Coffin who expressed interested in applying for an arts grant.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Halloween Carnaval 2007

Bonnie Smith, Special Events Supervisor in the Recreation Division reported on the 2007 Halloween Carnaval and related festivities. Four, fun-filled events have been planned leading up to the October 31st Halloween Costume Carnaval on the Boulevard. Back by popular demand is the Annual Pet Halloween Costume

Contest, the Haunted House, the Drag Race and Pageant and the Halloween Youth Carnival. The Halloween Costume Carnival on the Boulevard will take place from 6:00 p.m. – Midnight. There will be three stages of live entertainment and the City will not be featuring “big name” entertainment. This year Chrysler is a new sponsor to the Carnival at the value of approximately \$80, 000. Ms. Smith informed the Commission that as a result of Recreation’s item, “Halloween Carnival Evaluation”, to City Council, staff was directed to look at all possible methods of crowd reduction. They commented on the need for community input on the event and the possibility of creating a City Council subcommittee that would include organizations in the City such as the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission and the Public Safety Commission. Ms. Smith concluded her report by requesting that two members of the ACAC volunteer to meet with promoters and organizations in the City to discuss programming and content for the event as well as participate in making observations on Halloween night.

Commissioners Campbell expressed interest in the meeting with promoters and organizations, but were reluctant to confirm their participation as a Halloween observer due to the uncertainty of their role as an observer. Commissioner Haibach expressed interest in the meeting as an alternate. Commissioner Bailey commented that he would contact Commissioner DeShields for she has expressed interest in the past concerning Halloween.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Cultural Center Feasibility Study

The Commission received a copy of the revised Executive Summary of the Cultural Center Needs Assessment Report. Following comments from Commissioners, the Commission reached consensus on drafting an official response letter to the report.

Jeffrey Huffer informed the Commission that the Economic Development Department (EDD) plans to take an item to City Council on November 6, 2006 that would call for the adoption of the Cultural Center Needs Assessment Report with a recommendation that Council approve Phase II of the Cultural Center Assessment Study. He also informed the Commission that the approved response letter from the Commission would need to be submitted to the EDD on or before October 30, 2006.

B. Art on the Outside Subcommittee

Commissioner Denenberg reported on the Art on the Outside Subcommittee meeting held September 28, 2006. At the meeting, the Subcommittee received an update from Staff on the distribution of the RFP and an update from Commissioner Wiseman on the Mark di Survero/Rikrit Tiravanija “Peace Tower”. They reached consensus on three potential sites for the “Peace Tower”. The Veterans Memorial Park was their first choice followed by West Hollywood Park on the Robertson Green and the Santa Monica Boulevard Parkway Strip @ Olive Avenue. As requested by the Subcommittee, staff will work on scheduling a meeting with

Councilmember Guarriello. The Subcommittee also received an overview of the "Man'A-Kin" project by Council Deputy Fran Solomon as suggested by Mayor John Heiman. She informed the Commission that the Subcommittee will discuss the feasibility of this project at their October meeting in addition to receiving a presentation from the MAK Center for the next art installation for the Sunset Vertical Billboard. She then moved that the Commission ratify a recommendation by the Subcommittee that the John Clement Sculpture exhibition be extended until November 2006.

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

C. Urban Arts Subcommittee

Commissioner Haibach reported on the Urban Arts Subcommittee meeting held September 21, 2006 at which members of the Subcommittee commented on the public art conservation tour held September 13, 2006 with Andrea Morse of Sculpture Conservation Studio (SCS). As a result of the tour, several policy and legal questions were raised. The City Attorney has been consulted concerning legal questions and Staff is awaiting a response. Additionally the Subcommittee discussed amending the Agreement for Services contract with SCS to include additional scope of work as follows:

- Include percentage of art budget applicable for each art object (itemized when possible)
- Include whether the artwork has a maintenance covenant
- Provide information on the ratio of success regarding the survivability and preservation of art works since the maintenance covenant was implemented
- Include a listing of the artwork in chronological order followed by SCS rating system
- Include the "owner of record" for each artwork, if known
- Include any unusual history for each object
- SCS to provide ongoing consultation for the review of future artwork projects
- Meet with the Urban Arts Subcommittee to discuss policy options.

Commissioner Haibach also reported that the Subcommittee has begun preliminary discussions surrounding the possible relocation of the sound piece "Tonic". He then moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission ratify a recommendation by the Subcommittee authorizing staff to amend the Agreement Services Contract with SCS to include additional scope of work as mentioned.

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

D. ACAC Retreat

Chair Bailey provided the Commission with an update on the ACAC Retreat. The retreat will be facilitated by Phil Hetteema and will be held Sunday, November 12, 2006 at the Le Montrose Suites Hotel located at 900 Hammond Street in West Hollywood from 10:00 – 3:00 p.m. The morning session will begin with a

Continental Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. From 10:00 a.m. to Noon, the Commission will brainstorm possibilities for new programs and/or opportunities that would in-part focus on arts opportunities for local artists in conjunction with existing programs funded through the Percent-For-Art program as well as cultural events under the Commission's purview such as, but not limited Halloween, the Book Fair, and the CSW Pride event. Lunch will be served at noon. In the afternoon session, the Commission will focus on strategic planning and developing a three year work plan.

E. Arts Grants Update

Staff provided the Commission with an update on the distribution and public noticing of the 2006-2007 Arts Grants Guidelines. Guidelines were mailed to approximately 150 arts organizations in West Hollywood and the greater Los Angeles area. Public noticing of the grants included a display ad in the West Hollywood Independent, a news brief generated by the City's Public Information Department, and a posting on the City's website at www.weho.org/art and Los Angeles Culture Net. The Economic Development Department generated several e-mail blasts that were received by fifty arts organizations. An Arts Grants workshop will be held Thursday, October 5th in the Community Conference Room beginning at 5:00 p.m. Immediately following, the Los Angeles County Arts Commission will host it 2007-2008 Organizational Grant Workshop. This workshop is in-part sponsored by the West Hollywood Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR

There were no additional items from the Chair.

VII. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

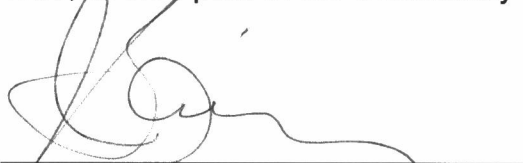
Commissioner Campbell announced that the Annual Arts Commissioner Forum for all cities' arts and cultural affairs commissioners will be held in Culver City Saturday, October 28th from 9:45 to 3:00 p.m. The forum is being hosted by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission. There is no fee to attend. He also spoke on the 2nd "Arts Tune Up" workshops for individual artists and small budget arts organizations. More information about "Arts Tune Up" can be obtained at www.lacountyarts.org (keyword search "arts tune up") or by phoning 213-974-1343.

VIII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff distributed a letter of invitation from the Tom of Finland Foundation to its 12th Annual Erotic Art Fair to be held October 7th through October 8th. The Tom of Finland Foundation was a recipient of a 2005-2006 Arts Grant.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The Commission adjourned at 5:55 p.m. to its next meeting scheduled September 28, 2006, at 5:00 p.m. in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.



~~Michael Haibach~~, Chair
Jon Bailey



Prentis Bonds, Secretary