

City of West Hollywood
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
MINUTES
January 26, 2006

CALL TO ORDER: The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission (ACAC) meeting was called to order by the Chair at 5:06 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL

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

Excused: Beverly Deneberg

Staff Liaison: Nicole Kading

Recording Secretary: Prentis Bonds

Also in attendance: Ray Reynolds, Economic Development Director

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

Staff requested that an item concerning be added to the agenda concerning LUX Art Design as Item IV-B.

The Commission concurred.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 1, 2005

Commissioner Bailey moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve the minutes of December 1, 2005. Commissioner Sherman seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

II. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Public comment was heard from West Hollywood resident and Gay and Lesbian Advisory Board Member, Dan Berkowitz on behalf of the Tom of Finland Foundation. He thanked the Commission for awarding the foundation an arts grant.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Urban Arts Subcommittee

Commissioner Campbell reported that Urban Arts Subcommittee met January 29th to review and consider approval of artists for a condo project on Ogden and Cynthia. Upon completion of their review, the Subcommittee approved Robert Drummond for the project at 1021 Ogden Place and Christina Ulke as the artist for the project at 8833 Cynthia. Additionally, the subcommittee authorized staff to request proposals from professional art conservators to create an art conservation and rehabilitation program. Concerning the direction to modify the Percent-for-Art Ordinance based on staff's recommendations, the Subcommittee decided to defer the discussion to the full Commission.

Following review of the three proposals and comments from Commissioners on the value and quality of art in the Community as well as incentives vs. disincentives of percent-for-art projects, Commissioner Wiseman moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve beginning a process that would investigate modifying the ordinance so that projects who wish to install on-side art to pay a slightly increased amount (1.3%, instead of 1%) in order to cover administrative and on-going maintenance costs. Developers wishing to pay the in-lieu fee would continue to contribute the 1%. Commissioner Bailey seconded the motion and the motion carried five to one. Commissioner Sherman was not in favor of the motion.

B. Art on the Outside – John Clement Exhibition

Members of the Art on the Outside Subcommittee reported on their meeting held January 11, 2006. At the meeting the Subcommittee discussed the proposed installation of three sculptures by artist John Clement on the median near the intersection of Santa Monica Boulevard and Dohney. It is estimated that the exhibition will cost approximately \$35,000.00 to install and market. The sculptures would be on exhibit for approximately six months beginning March 2006; however, the final timeline is still being negotiated with the artist.

Staff reported that the loan agreement has been reviewed by the city attorney and that the artist has reviewed the site and is pleased with the location. Staff plans to take the item to Council on February 6, 2006 and to work on the artist reception planned for March 16, 2006 as well as work with the graphic artist on the exhibition catalog.

C. Cultural Center Feasibility Study

Staff reported that the Feasibility Study Subcommittee met January 12, 2006 to interview three firms that responded to the Cultural Feasibility RFP. As a result of the interviews, the Subcommittee selected Pfeiffer Partners. Currently staff is negotiating the scope of services with the Pfeiffer. Staff will request that City Council approve \$44,500.00 for the 1st phase of the study. It is estimated that the first phase would take up to six months to complete.

D. Arts Grants 05-06

Staff provided an update on grants workshop held January 31, 2006. Most grant recipients were in attendance to receive information on the contracting process and contract requirements. Grants recipients also received a media kit to help them promote their events. Members of the Grants and Performing Arts Subcommittee spoke on the planned Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission WEHO Arts Festival.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Art on the Outside

The Art on the Outside Subcommittee requested input from Commissioners on the next Art on the Outside exhibition. The Chair commented that the goals of the Art on the Outside program would need to be redefined and whether or not the Commission plans to work with a consultant to realize the 2006-2007 Art on the Outside Exhibition. The Commission would also need to determine whether or not the next exhibition would be commissioned works by various artists similar to the Edges and Hedges concept or an art installation with an educational component involving the community, etc. The Commission brainstormed a variety of ideas including a laser light show, photographic exhibition of West Hollywood from above, West Hollywood from below that would involve school children or a project that involves professional artist working with the community to develop a community based project. The Subcommittee will continue discussion of these ideas at future meetings and report back to the Commission.

B. Coaléscere LUX Art & Design

Staff informed the Commission that this item was brought to her attention by Nancy Beard in the Recreation Division. She provided the Commission with a copy of a proposal prepared by LUX Art & Design. The proposal requested that the City allocate \$500.00 to purchase the necessary equipment to repair the artwork and that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission write a letter in support of an application to the Durfee Foundation by February 6, 2006. She explained that the artwork "Coaléscere" was commissioned in 2004 by the West Hollywood Convention and Visitor's Bureau from artist Julian Siminski and Rob Wilson and presented to the City on December 5, 2004 in honor of the City's 20th Anniversary. Staff informed the Commission that the Recreation Division would allocate the funds.

It was the consensus of the Commission as well as a direction to staff that a letter be drafted in support of the firm performing the necessary repairs on the artwork for the Chair's signature and that upon completion of the art an event be organized by the City's Recreation Division for the installation.

V. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no additional comments from staff.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

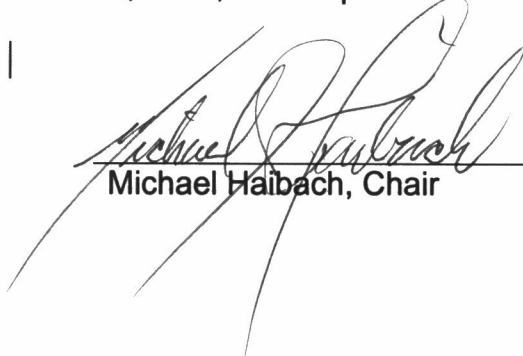
The Chair reported that the Christopher Street West (CSW) Task Force of which he is a member has met seven times over several months and that the Commission will have an opportunity to review the report before it goes to City Council.

VII. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

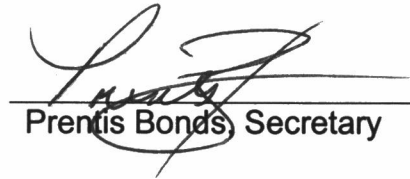
Commissioner DeShields commented on the art show at the Gay & Lesbian Center.

VIII. Adjournment

The Commission adjourned at 6:05 p.m. to its next meeting scheduled February 23, 2006, at 5:00 p.m. in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.



Michael Haibach, Chair



Prentis Bonds, Secretary