

City of West Hollywood
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
February 23, 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
Beverly Denenberg
Andrew Campbell
Ari Wiseman

Staff Liaison: Nicole Kading

Recording Secretary: Prentis Bonds

Also in attendance: Nancy Beard, Manager Recreation and Parks Division

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 – January 26, 2006

Commissioner Sherman moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve the minutes of January 26, 2006. Commissioner Haibach seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

II. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no items from the public.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Halloween Carnival

The Commission received, reviewed and filed a staff report from Human Services Department on the Halloween Carnival held October 31, 2005 at which approximately 400,000 persons were in attendance. The report contained a synopsis on logistics, safety, enhancement, entertainment and parking and information on arrests and paramedic calls within the festival boundaries on Santa Monica Boulevard between LaCienega and Doheny. Staff requested that the Commission determine whether the Halloween

Carnaval should continue as the regional or be marketed to a more local audience.

Members of the Commission expressed comments ranging from downsizing the event to a more local audience to cancelling the event for five years and then revisiting it as a local event thereafter.

Following the discussion, the Chair moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission recommend that the City consider taking measures to reduce the size and scope of the event by possibly decreasing the number of stages, food booths, and marketing opportunities in addition to not partnering with Clear Chanel. Commissioner Jon Bailey seconded the motion and the motioned carried unanimously.

B. Christopher Street West Recommendations Report

The Commission received, reviewed and filed draft recommendations of Christopher Street West (CSW) Task Force report. The recommendations were the direct result of seven months of meetings with members of community and staff who were charged with assessing the LGBT Pride event in West Hollywood as directed by City Council.

The Chair commented that the City Council needs to hold CSW accountable for the implementation of task force recommendations and that the City consider formalizing their relationship with CSW in order to have more of a say in the event.

After a lengthy discussion on task force recommendations and the best way to move forward on the item, Commissioner Bailey moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission direct the Cultural Affairs Subcommittee to draft an official response to CSW Task Force recommendations.

Commissioner Wiseman seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Bailey expressed interest in serving on the Cultural Affairs Subcommittee to assist with the development of a response to the report.

C. Art on the Outside Subcommittee

Members of the Art on the Outside Subcommittee reported on their meeting held February 8. They informed the Commission that City Council approved the John Clement sculpture exhibition at their February 6 meeting. The sculptures will be installed March 12 and the artist reception will held March 16 at The Lobby in West Hollywood from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Staff commented that postcard invitations will be mailed by March 6 to approximately 100 individuals.

The Chair requested that staff provide Commissioners with extra post card invitations for their guests.

D. Urban Arts Subcommittee

The Urban Arts Subcommittee reported on their meeting held February 16 at which they considered three potential artists, Marlo Bartels, Ries Niemi and David Wiseman, for the preservation housing project at 1236-1252 N. Harper. As a result, the Subcommittee approved Reis Nami as the project artist. The Subcommittee also received an update from staff on the collection of bids concerning the 1% for Art Preservation program and approved March 9, 2006, as the meeting date for stakeholders concerned with the subcommittee's Percent-for-Art ordinance modification study.

E. Cultural Center Feasibility Study

Staff reported the City Council approved phase one of the Cultural Feasibility Study on a vote four to one at their February 21st meeting.

IV. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no additional comments from staff.

V. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported on his involvement with the Taste of West Hollywood Formation Committee authorized by City Council at their December meeting. In addition to assisting staff with developing an RFP to identify an event operator and promoter, the formation committee is charged with exploring the feasibility of an event that would promote the WEHO brand, showcase WEHO's superior kitchen design resources, enhance the cultural activity of the city and encourage hotel stays resulting in increase revenue to the city. The committee is required to report back to City Council in 120 days.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Campbell requested clarification on the City Council item concerning signage on the Sunset Strip.

Staff will research the item and report back to Commissioner Campbell once the information is obtained.

VII. Adjournment

The Commission adjourned at 6:10 p.m. to its next meeting scheduled March 23, 2006, at 5:00 p.m. in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.



Michael Halbach, Chair



Prentis Bonds, Secretary