

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
May 26, 2005 Minutes**

CALL TO ORDER: The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission (ACAC) meeting was called to order by the Chair at 5:04 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Present: Richard Kaléh, Chair
Michael J. Haibach, Vice Chair
Ken Sherman
Lyn DeShields
Andrew Campbell
Beverly Denenberg

Excused: John Bailey
Interim Staff Liaison: Absent
Recording Secretary: Prentis Bonds

Also present:

Ray Reynolds, Director Economic Development
Bonnie Smith, Festival and Events Specialist
Harrison Kline-Aguado, Disabilities Advisory Board

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 Item VII – Public Comments precede Unfinished Business.

The Commission concurred.

Ray Reynolds, Economic Development Director, informed the Commission that Kathryn Krietzman, Interim Staff Liaison would not be able to attend the meeting.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 28, 2005

Commissioner Haibach moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approve the minutes of March 24, 2005. Commissioner Sherman seconded the motion, and the motion unanimously carried.

II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Art on the Outside

Commissioner Beverly Denenberg provided an update on the Robert Indiana Sculpture Project and spoke of her conversations with staff concerning insurance matters. The City's Finance Department is in the process of researching insurance coverage for the sculptures and will keep her informed of their process. She also spoke of her conversations with the Paul Kasmin Gallery and reported that the gallery has agreed to pay costs associated with developing and printing of the exhibition catalog. The gallery has requested that the City pay approximately \$30,000.00 to finish the new sculpture. She asked if the Commission would be willing to wait until the new sculpture is completed before exhibiting works by Indiana. It is now anticipated that the installation date of the sculptures would be sometime in July or August. She concluded by expressing confidence that the project would be realized.

Commissioner Haibach expressed reservations about the Robert Indiana Sculpture Project and commented on the two year laps of a major exhibit on the Boulevard. He suggested that the Commission establish a cut off date for sculpture project and begin discussion on future art on the outside projects.

Following, it was the consensus of the Commission to move forward with the project and not establish a cut off date. Majority of Commissioners felt that the exhibition of sculptures by Robert Indiana is significant and would warrant much attention regardless of when the sculptures would be installed. It was also the consensus of the Commission not to pay the gallery to complete the new sculpture.

B. Urban Art Subcommittee

The Chair reported that representatives of the Sunset Marquis were not present at the Urban Art Subcommittee meeting held May 19, 2005 to present initial concepts and drawing by artist, Brad Howe. Staff was directed to contact art consultant, Jeanie Denholm and inform her that the 180 day extension had expired and insist that she or a project representative attend the June meeting. He also reported that the Subcommittee met with developer, David Martin, Developer of CIM Group, associate architect, Oonagh Ryan and art consultant Marc Pally to receive a presentation and discuss public art possibilities for the mixed use project slated for the north/west corner of Santa Monica Boulevard and Hancock. The team proposed that the public art be installed at the west end of the building near the open air elevator leading to public parking. The team plans to propose highly qualified artists that are mature, diverse, visionary and new to the public realm at the June meeting. The public art budget for the project is approximately \$80,000.00.

C. City Budget Process and Staff Liaison to the Commission

The Chair introduced the item and opened the floor for discussion on how the Commission might be more effective in the budget process as it pertains to the creation of a new position in the Economic Development Department to staff the Commission before Council considers approval of the FY 05-06 Budget in June.

Following, there were no additional comments from commissioners on how the Commission might be more affective in the budget process.

D. List of City Wide Cultural Events

Staff informed the Commission that the list of City Wide Cultural Events distributed at the April meeting was compiled by a former Economic Development Department intern and not the Recreation Division. Staff clarified that the list was the first step in developing the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission event calendar pursuant to the Commission's request. Staff also informed the Commission that in lieu of a printed calendar, arts and cultural affairs events are now being posted to the City's website, in the City's calendar in advance of the event date and on City Channel 6.

Following staff's clarification on the item, the Commission felt that the item did not warrant further discussion.

III. NEW BUSINESS

None

IV. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Bonnie Smith, Festival and Events Specialist in the Recreation Division commented on the City's participation in the Christopher Street West (CSW) - LA Pride parade to be held Sunday, June 11. She also provided an update on Summer Sound and Halloween events.

Staff commented that Gregory Ganci has requested, for the third time, that the Commission reconsiders accepting a donation of \$50,000.00 for the design, construction and installation of a memorial sculpture of Matthew Shepard. Mr. Ganci would like to propose that the sculpture to be situated in a highly visible public area in the City, if not the Matthew Shepard Triangle. Staff asked if the Commission would like to agendize the item for discussion/action at its June 23rd meeting.

It was the consensus of the Commission not to agendize the item.

Ray Reynolds provided an update on the Economic Development Project Administrator position and informed the Commission that Nicole Kading, a former intern in the Economic Development Department had been hired to replace Alison Maxwell. Ms. Kading will start June 27, 2005.

V. CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no report from the Chair.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Campbell commented that Felicia Kelley, Senior Programs Manager for the California Council for the Humanities would like to conduct a two hour workshop focusing on CCH Grants in West Hollywood. He requested that staff assist Ms. Kelly in finding room for the workshop.

Staff concurred.

Commissioner Haibach requested that festival and events staff provide him with a copy of the City financial report on CSW.

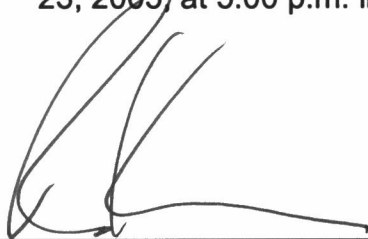
VII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Public comment was heard from Jerrie Sher, Producer, of the documentary "Mission to Matrimony", which explores both sides of the controversial issue of marriage for same-sex couples.

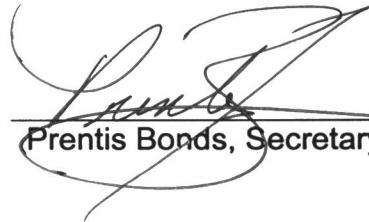
Public comment was also heard from Harrison Kline-Aguado, West Hollywood resident and member of the West Hollywood Disabilities Advisory Board. He informed the Commission that he would be periodically attending Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission meetings as a liaison from the Disabilities Advisory Board.

VIII. Adjournment

The Commission adjourned at 7:00 p.m. to its next meeting scheduled June 23, 2005, at 5:00 p.m. in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.



Richard Kaleh, Chair



Prentis Bonds, Secretary