

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
MINUTES
February 26, 2004**

CALL TO ORDER: The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission (ACAC) meeting was called to order by the Chair at 5:10 PM.

A. Roll Call

Present: Richard Kaléh, Chair
Michael J. Haibach, Vice-Chair
Ken Sherman
Lynn DeShields
Jon Bailey
Andrew Campbell
Beverly Denenberg

Liaison: Alison Maxwell

Recording Secretary: Prentis Bonds

Also Present: Tatiana Rodzinek, Russian Outreach Coordinator and Dan Berkowitz - Lesbian and Gay 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: None

I. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 22, 2004 Minutes

Commissioner Haibach moved to approve the minutes of January 22, 2004. Commissioner Bailey seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.

II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Urban Arts Subcommittee – 825 King's Road

The Chair reported that the Urban Arts Subcommittee met with the developer, Richard Loring and art consultant, Mark Johnson to discuss public art proposals for the planned 18 unit condominium project at 825 Kings Roads. The developer proposed installing three video 36" x 46" screens that would show a series of moving images by artist Nicola Atkinson Davidson. Two of the screens would be located in the front of

the building. The other would be located in the interior courtyard. The Subcommittee expressed reservations about only having one artist from which to choose. The Subcommittee directed the developer to return with at least one alternate artist.

B. CSW

Representatives of LA Pride, Christopher Street West (CSW) were not present at the meeting to provide the Commission with information and an update on the 2004 LA Pride Festival.

The Commission directed staff to minute its frustration at not being provided with information from the Human Services Department regarding cultural events, as requested at previous meetings. The Commission further expressed concern that representatives of CSW had not attended the meeting.

Staff suggested that the Chair and Vice-Chair meet with the Director of Human Services to discuss policy issues relative to ACAC objectives. The Commission directed staff to work with the Chair to organize such a meeting.

C. Commission Retreat

Commissioner Campbell reported that he e-mailed commissioners a draft of the mission statement and is working on the Commission's retreat report to Council. He suggested that staff agendaize the draft mission statement and report to Council for the March meeting.

Staff will note the item under Commission Retreat on the March agenda.

D. 20th Anniversary Committee.

There was no report from liaisons who serve on the City's 20th Anniversary Committee.

E. Havenhurst Condominium Park Project.

Staff provided a verbal update to the Commission on the progress of project. The Artist Selection Committee met to review works by eight potential artists, three of whom had been invited to make presentations at the next meeting, scheduled for Monday, March 1 at 3:30 p.m.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Russian-American Arts Exhibit PDC

Tatiana Rodzinek, the City's Russian Outreach Coordinator invited the Commission to attend the Russian American Art Exhibit "Unity and Diversity" March 23 – April 30, 2004 at the Pacific Design

Center. The exhibition will consist of approximately sixty artists, many of whom are residents of West Hollywood. The official opening of the exhibit will be held Tuesday, March 23, 2004 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

B. Tom of Finland Foundation Erotic Art Weekend

Dan Berkowitz of the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board provided the Commission with a brief overview of the Tom of Finland Foundation that works to preserve Tom of Finland's art. The foundation has over 3, 000 original works by Tom of Finland including 2,000 works by other artists. The Erotic Art Weekend gives artists from around the world an opportunity to display and sell their works. The 10th Annual Tom of Finland Foundation Erotic Art Weekend will be held October 8-10, 2004. Mr. Berkowitz requested that the Commission endorse the City's co-sponsorship of the event.

After a lengthy discussion, Commissioner Jon Bailey moved that the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission recommend that the City Council support the City's co-sponsorship of the 10th Annual Tom of Finland Erotic Art Weekend October 8 - 10, 2004.

Commissioner Ken Sherman seconded the motion. The motion carried 5 to 2.

C. California Council for the Humanities – New Grant

Commissioner Campbell introduced an item regarding possible grant funding for a community art/culture project, "New Californians Story Project". The grants program will support photography/video projects with California immigrant youth. Projects must result in exhibits documenting the daily lives of contemporary California immigrants and refugees. Commissioner Campbell felt that this type of grant would be applicable to the City's Russian youth community and suggested that the ACAC work with the Russian Advisory Board and its staff liaison to consider applying for the grant.

Commissioner Bailey recommended that an ad-hoc committee be formed to further investigate the grant opportunity.

Commissioner Campbell volunteered to meet with Tatiana Rodzinek and Beverly Denenberg volunteered to provide feedback as needed.

D. Video Selection Ad-Hoc Committee

Commissioner Sherman and Commissioner DeShields were appointed to serve on the Video Selection Ad-hoc Committee to review multi-media projects for the Sunset video bill boards.

V. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff distributed postcard invites to a private viewing of the Annie Leibovitz, "Rewarding Lives" photography exhibition, Tuesday, March 16, 2004 from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Pacific Design Center.

She informed the Commission that she would be out of town on April 22, 2004 and asked if the Commission would like reschedule the April meeting. It was the consensus of the Commission that they meet as scheduled.

Staff also informed the Commission that she is in the process of ordering a new plaque for the sound piece, "Tonic".

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

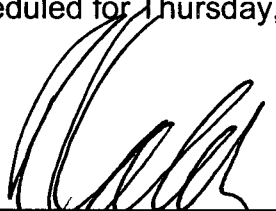
The Chair reported that there was no meeting of the Commission Chairs due to Commission training. He suggested that staff agendize an item for discussion and possible adoption at the March meeting concerning rotating the ACAC chairmanship.

VII. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

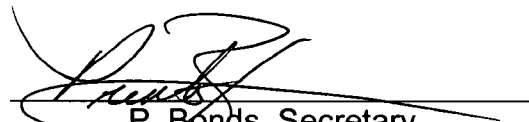
Commissioner Sherman requested that staff agendize an item for discussion at the March meeting concerning "Book Fair Team".

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The Commission adjourned at 7:00 p.m. to next regular meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 25, 2004.



R. Kaléh Chair



P. Bonds, Secretary