

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023 – 5:00 P.M.  
WEST HOLLYWOOD PLUMMER PARK COMMUNITY CENTER, ROOMS 5 & 6  
7377 SANTA MONICA BLVD.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Faltz at 5:00 p.m.

**A. Land Acknowledgement:** Chair Faltz read the Land Acknowledgement.

**B. Pledge of Allegiance:** Chair Faltz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**C. Roll Call:**

Present: Commissioner Lindsey Deaton  
Commissioner Catherine Lee  
Commissioner Moreno-Freedman  
Commission Vice Chair Mito Aviles  
Commission Chair Dan Faltz

Also Present: Arts Manager Rebecca Ehemann  
Administrative Specialist IV/Recording Secretary Dennice Oceguela  
Public Art Administrator Marcus Mitchell  
Arts Coordinator Michael Che  
Grants Coordinator Eva Angeloff  
Arts Specialist Joy Tribble  
Public Art Consultant Jessica Rich

**D. Approval of the Agenda:**

**ACTION:** Approval of the April 27, 2023 meeting agenda with note that item 3B recommendation number 4, Musicians and Performers Roster short list be edited from twenty (20) artists to twenty-two (22) artists was **motioned by Chair Faltz, seconded by Commissioner Deaton, and approved unanimously.**

**E. Approval of the March 23, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

**ACTION:** Approval of the March 23, 2023 meeting minutes with edits to Commissioner Moreno-Freedman's Commissioner comments **motioned by Vice Chair Aviles, seconded by Commissioner Lee, and approved unanimously.**

**F. Public Comment None.**

**II. CONSENT CALENDAR**

The following routine matter was acted upon by one motion.

Approval of the Consent Calendar was **motioned by Commissioner Moreno-Freedman, seconded by Commissioner Lee, and approved unanimously.**

**A. Posting of the Agenda**

The agenda was posted per proper noticing procedures at City Hall, Plummer Park, West Hollywood Library and West Hollywood Sheriff's Station.

**ACTION:** Received and filed. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

**III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report**

The Commission received a report from Commissioner Lee on the Art on the Outside Subcommittee for its meeting held April 27, 2023, and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Commissioner Lee shared information on the Moving Image Media Art Program (MIMA) recommended items for approval: *Screen Shaver (2014/2023)* by Wong Ping, for exhibition on the billboard at 8743 Sunset Boulevard (Invisible Frame) and the artwork *The Land at The Bottom of the Sea* by Jen Liu at 9157 Sunset Boulevard (Streamlined Arbor).

Commissioner Lee also shared information on the final proposed artwork for *We've Always Been Here* by Britt Westveer, a temporary mural that will be wheatpasted to the exterior of City Hall from May 15, 2023 to April 30, 2024.

**ACTION:**

- 1) Received and filed the Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report.
- 2) Approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to approve the artwork *Screen Shaver (2014/2023)* by Wong Ping for exhibition on the billboard at 8743 Sunset Boulevard (Invisible Frame) from June 1, 2023 – September 30, 2023. **Motioned by Vice Chair Aviles, seconded by Chair Faltz and approved unanimously.**
- 3) Approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to approve the artwork *The Land at The Bottom of the Sea* by Jen Liu for exhibition on the billboard at 9157 Sunset Boulevard (Streamlined Arbor) from June 1, 2023 – September 30, 2023. **Motioned by Commissioner Deaton, seconded by Chair Faltz and approved unanimously.**
- 4) Approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to approve the artwork *We've Always Been Here* by Britt Westveer for temporary exhibition on the exterior of City Hall at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard from May 15, 2023 – April 30, 2024 with the direction to get a clear understanding of the exact size before installation. **Motioned by Commissioner Deaton, seconded by Vice Chair Aviles and approved unanimously.**

**B. Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Report**

The Commission received a report from Vice Chair Aviles on the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee for its meeting held April 13, 2023 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Vice Chair Aviles shared that the Subcommittee reviewed the 2023 Winter/Holiday Artwork RFQ Applications.

Vice Chair Aviles requested staff to share the information discussed for the Laurel House Artist Residency Program item.

Commissioner Moreno-Freedman asked how many Artists will be in the program for the duration of the year.

In response to Commissioner Moreno-Freedman's question, Arts Manager Rebecca Ehemann stated that there will be four residents in the house and the number of the garage/day use studios is to be determined.

Arts Manager Ehemann stated that the Subcommittee agreed that all artists applying should be 21 years of age or older, that the residency will be open for anyone in the US to apply, any level of career of the artist is welcomed, having partners join in the apartments is still under review, that children should probably not be permitted in the program for various reasons, pet allowance in the main house and in garage/day use studios are still being discussed, the garage/day use studios will only be utilized by WeHo residents, parking is still under review, artist section will be conducted in an interview process, and that activities will take place in some capacity at the grounds.

Commissioner Lee asked if artists would receive some type of stipend while being in the residency.

In response to Commissioner Lee's question, Arts Manager Ehemann stated that residents will be receiving some type of monthly stipend.

Chair Faltz stated that the Subcommittee agreed that a one-year term would be ideal with an opportunity for the artist to reapply for a second year for both the main house residency and garage/day use studios.

Commissioner Moreno-Freedman asked if year two for an artist is automatic or will there be some criteria that will be followed to allow them to take the program for the additional year.

In response to Commissioner Moreno-Freedman's question, Arts Manager Ehemann stated that yes, the city will establish criteria for consideration of all applications.

Commissioner Lee asked if there will be a theme for the program.

In response to Commissioner Lee's question, Arts Manager Ehemann stated that an interdisciplinary approach will be followed, and a theme wasn't decided.

Vice Chair Aviles concluded his comments by thanking Arts Specialist Joy Tribble for putting together the short list of Musicians and Performers.

**ACTIONS:**

- 1) Received and filed the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Report.
- 2) Approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to approve the four (4) finalists CK Reed, Joey Deruy, Michelle Dinh, and Paul Longe and two (2) alternative artists Ashley Bradley and Vojislav Radovanovic to create proposal artworks for the City's 2023 winter/holiday street pole banner display with the paid finalists to not be cycled back next year with the addendum for the following year. **Motioned by Commissioner Deaton, seconded by Chair Faltz and approved unanimously.**
- 3) Approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to approve the draft Laurel House Artist Residency Program document with the changes provided in the meeting along with conducting a follow-up community survey. **Motioned by Chair Faltz, seconded by Commissioner Deaton and approved unanimously.**
- 4) Approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to approve 2023-24 Musicians and Performers Roster and a short list of (22) artists by the names of Ana Colesnicov, Angel Town Combo, Boogaloo Assassins, Brandon Coleman, Dirty Cello, DJ Jedi, EMI SECREST, Haley Fishberger, Hannah Blaylock, Hannah Wakefield, Honey Whiskey Trio, Jackie Gibson and Friends, Jason Berk, Jermaine Crawford, Julius Rodriguez, Kadima String Quartet, Keyon Harrold, Mark Christian Miller, Merc80, Ryck Jane, Sara Gazarek, and T.Nava for the 2023 Summer Sounds and 2024 Winter Sounds Concert Series. **Motioned by Chair Faltz, seconded by Commissioner Moreno-Freedman and approved unanimously.**

**C. WeHo Pride Arts Festival Update**

The Commission received a presentation/update from Sean Knapp/HIT and Arts Coordinator Mike Che about the 2023 WeHo Pride Arts Festival.

**ACTION:**

Received and filed.

**D. City Playhouse Mission and Goals**

The Commission reviewed the proposed mission and goals and provided feedback and guidance to staff.

**ACTION:**

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission approved the mission and goals for the City Playhouse. **Motioned by Vice Chair Aviles, seconded by Chair Faltz and approved unanimously.**

**E. Library Cultural Programming Committee Report**

The Commission received a report from Arts Coordinator Mike Che on the Library Cultural Programming Committee meeting held April 18, 2023, and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Committee.

**ACTION:**

- 1) Received and filed the report from the Library Cultural Programming Committee and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Committee.
- 2) Approved the Committee's recommendation to select Jennifer Y. Cheng as the 2023-26 West Hollywood City Poet Laureate and forwarded the recommendation to City Council for their approval in August. **Motioned by Commissioner Moreno-Freedman, seconded by Commissioner Lee and approved unanimously.**
- 3) Approved the Committee's approval to deny the application from Richard Tucci to present an exhibition titled "End of Pandemic." **Motioned by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Moreno-Freedman and approved unanimously.**

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**V. EXCLUDED CONSENT**

None.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**VII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Moreno-Freedman expressed her gratitude to continue serving as a commissioner in the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission, thanked City Council Member Chelsea Byers for appointing her for another term. Commissioner Moreno-Freedman also showed excitement for all current and upcoming Art events happening around the City.

Commissioner Lee congratulated Commissioner Moreno-Freedman and Vice Chair Aviles for their reappointments.

Commissioner Deaton thanked staff for all the events they are putting forward in the next couple of months.

Vice Chair Aviles also thanked Staff for all their hard work. Vice Chair Aviles also congratulated Commissioner Moreno-Freedman for her reappointment. Vice Chair Aviles also asked for an update on the Drag Laureate application. Vice Chair Aviles also asked if artists receive some kind of permit to be shown if any issues come forth while installing murals.

In response, Arts Manager Ehemann stated that the City requires a business to obtain a zone clearance permit for commercial business murals.

Vice Chair Aviles stated that he attended the Drag Story Hour event and really enjoyed the event, although he was disappointed with the sheriffs' lack of involvement when needed by City staff at the entrance of the event itself. Vice Chair Aviles continued his comments by inviting everyone to his art show *Little Man* taking place Saturday, May 6 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Culver City Arts District. Vice Chair Aviles concluded his comments by asking to adjourn the meeting in remembrance of singer, actor, and activist Harry Belafonte.

Chair Faltz also thanked Staff for all their hard work. Chair Faltz also congratulated all commissioners that have been reappointed. Chair Faltz concluded his comments by sharing that he had the opportunity to meet with Congresswoman Norma Torres' youth advisory committee to share all the great work that the City of West Hollywood's Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission has to offer.

### VIII. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

Arts Specialist Joy Tribble congratulated the Commissioners that have been reappointed. She also shared that the Human Rights Speakers Series: *AIDS Diva: The Legend of Connie Norman* is taking place on May 20, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. at the West Hollywood City Council Chambers.

Grants Coordinator Eva Angeloff shared the success of the culminating session of the Artists Bootcamp that took place earlier in the day. Grants Coordinator Angeloff shared that the 2024 Arts Grant Guidelines will be in the consent calendar of the City Council agenda on May 1, 2023. If guidelines are approved by City Council, all grant applications will open on May 2, 2023. Grants Coordinator Angeloff also shared the following grantee events information: Blair + Laur Lewis Neal presents *My Spring. My Crown* on April 30 at 2:00 p.m., Helix Collective presents *Music with a Movie* on May 7 at 1:00 p.m., Arts Bridging the Gap presents *Mural Painting Opportunity* on May 12 at 10:00 a.m. and Love Bailey presents *My Femininity is Not Drag!* on May 12 at 5:00 p.m. Rogue Artists Ensemble presents *Happy Fall: A Queer Stunt Spectacular!* on May 17 at 7:30 p.m.

Arts Coordinator Michael Che also congratulated all Commissioners who were reappointed. Arts Coordinator Che thanked everyone that attended *Lounging with Poets*. Arts Coordinator Che also shared that applications for two Arts Division internships have closed and (55) applications were received. Arts Coordinator Che also shared the following events information: *WeHo Reads: Shaping Motherhood* taking place online on May 3, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. and *West Hollywood celebrates Harvey Milk Day, featuring the Jose Sarria Drag Pageant* on May 22, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Aquatic and Recreation Center (ARC) Respite Deck. Arts Coordinator Che shared that unfortunately Robert Patrick, a prolific gay playwright and performer who had participated in the City's Stuart Timmons West Hollywood LGBTQ History Tour in 2015 and 2016, passed away.

Public Art Administrator Mitchell also shared that two events are taking place at West Hollywood Park on April 29, 2023. Sophia Lee will launch *Acorn Treasure Hunt*, an interactive installation featuring 60 hand-crafted paper-mâché "acorns" that will be temporarily on view from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. After the event, Sophia will hide the acorns throughout the city as objects of a treasure hunt intended for the public to discover with the aid of an online map created by the artist. Also, Keenan Hartsten's *Honeycomb Harmonies*, an installation of painting, and music-making event, will take place from 10:00



a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on May 6 (Plummer Park) and May 20 (West Hollywood Park), Terry Konrath's *Photographs* exhibition is scheduled for installation on May 1, 2023, Britt Westveer's wheatpasted mural *We've Always Been Here* will be installed on May 15, 2023, and Nicole Goodwin's performance *Ain't I A Woman (?/!): The Woman* will take place at the Great Hall courtyard at Plummer Park on May 19, 2023 and May 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. noting that the event requires an RSVP due to partial nudity.

Arts Manager Rebecca Ehemann also congratulated all commissioners that have been reappointed. Arts Manager Ehemann took the time to acknowledge City of West Hollywood new Marketing and Media Manager Erin Taylor who was observing the meeting in the audience. Arts Manager Ehemann shared the Melrose Gathering Place, with Karon Davis' artist contract, will be reviewed by the City Council on May 1, 2023, the artist contract for Nancy Baker Cahill's artwork commission for the MIMA program, and an item to request an increase to the Poet Laureate program will be on the City Council agenda for May 15, 2023. Arts Manager Ehemann stated that the Drag Laureate application has closed and (13) applications were received, and selection will occur at the ACAC's May meeting.

Administrative Specialist IV/Recording Secretary Dennice Oceguela also congratulated Commissioners for their reappointments.

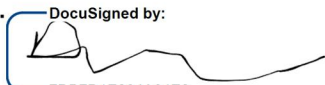
**IX. DEVELOPMENT OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA**

The Commission authorized staff to develop the agenda for the meeting on Thursday, May 25, 2023.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned at 6:53 p.m in memory of Harry Belafonte to its meeting scheduled on May 25, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. at Plummer Park Community Center Rooms 5 & 6.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION ON THIS 27<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2023.

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DAN FALTZ  
COMMISSION CHAIR

ATTEST:  
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DENNICE OCEGUERA,  
RECORDING SECRETARY