

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 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 March 23, 2023 meeting agenda was **motioned by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Moreno-Freedman, and approved unanimously.**

E. Approval of the February 23, 2023 Meeting Minutes

ACTION: Approval of the February 23, 2023 meeting minutes was **motioned by Commissioner Deaton, seconded by Chair Faltz, 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 Vice Chair Aviles, seconded by Commissioner Deaton, 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 March 23, 2023, and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Commissioner Lee shared that on April 17, 2023, Jessica Goehring will install *LightWave*, a kinetic artwork comprised of two layers, artwork on aluminum with an organza overlay, at the West Hollywood Aquatic and Recreation Center from April 2023 – March 2024.

Commissioner Lee also shared that Keenan Hartsten will present *Honeycomb Harmonies*, an interactive, hands-on painting and music-making event to be held at Plummer Park and West Hollywood Park on four Saturdays, April 15, April 29, May 6, May 20, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The event will alternate between the two parks.

Commissioner Lee also shared that Sophia Lee will launch *Acorn Treasure Hunt*, an interactive installation featuring 60 hand-crafted paper-mâché “acorns” that will be temporarily on view at West Hollywood Park on April 29, 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.

Commissioner Lee also shared that the Subcommittee reviewed the temporary art project *The Jaguar's Eye* by Optical Animal (JR Skola and Max Nova) for installation at 7715 Santa Monica Blvd. (Pleasure Med).

Commissioner Lee also shared that the Subcommittee reviewed the temporary art project proposal *Be the Change* organized by Skirball Cultural Center with artwork by Alex Abli, Michelle Guerrero, River Garza, Marni Gittleman, Holocaust Museum LA, and Nature Nexus Institute for installation at the Plummer Park Community Center, 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard.

Commissioner Lee concluded her report by sharing that the Subcommittee reviewed 57 applications for the WeHo Muralist Roster Application

ACTION:

- 1) Received and filed the Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report.
- 2) Approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to approve the temporary art project proposal, *The Jaguar's Eye* by Optical Animal for installation at 7715 Santa

Monica Boulevard (Pleasure Med). **Motioned by Commissioner Moreno-Freedman, seconded by Commissioner Deaton and approved unanimously.**

- 3) Approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to approve the temporary art project proposal *Be the Change* organized by Skirball Cultural Center with artwork by Alex Abli, Michelle Guerrero, River Garza, Marni Gittleman, Holocaust Museum LA, Nature Nexus Institute for installation at Plummer Park Community Center, 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard. **Motioned by Chair Faltz, seconded by Vice Chair Aviles and approved unanimously.**
- 4) Approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to approve the WeHo Muralist Roster applications submitted by Akira Usagi, Alexandra Fisher (clamdiggin), Anna Siqueiros, Anthony Woods, Bree Stallings, Britt Flood, ChiChai Mateo, Christine Nguyen, Daniel Antelo, Daniel Dick, Ed Irmen, Ellie Balk, Erika Lopez, Evan Mendel, Federico Massa, Heather Medau, Janaeah Holloway, Jean Bradbury, Joha Harrision, Cynthia Lujan, Karina Velasco, Katie Vonderheide, Melanie Posner, Michael Che Romero, Michael Hamel, Misha Tyutyunik, Morgan Zion, Mz Icar, Nasim Golkar, Pamela Edwards, Paz De La Calzada, Ryan Yanoe x Zoueh Sarfati, Sarah Nelson, Sarah Stone, Sei Shimura, Shakir Manners, Shaylen Broughton, Sherman Parnell, Summer Mormeneo, Taylor White, Timothy Smith, Vanessa Gomez, Vojislav Radovanovic, and Yuke Li. **Motioned by Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Deaton and approved unanimously.**
- 5) Approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to deny the WeHo Muralist Roster applications submitted by Cody TheCreative, Darius Dio, Dominique Labaki, Sophia Lee, Sarah Nelson, Rachel O'Donnell, Richard Tucci, Jose Trejo Maya, and Michaela Saracco. **Motioned by Chair Faltz, seconded by Vice Chair Aviles and approved unanimously.**

B. Urban Art Subcommittee Report

The Commission received a report from Commissioner Lee on the Urban Art Subcommittee for its meeting held March 16, 2023 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Commissioner Lee shared that the Subcommittee received a presentation from Public Art Administrator Marcus Mitchell and artist Karon Davis for the STAGE III Final Art Plan, *Before Picasso* by Karon Davis, for the Melrose Gathering Place: Weaver's Walk and considered recommending approval of the Final Art Plan to the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission. The only significant change to the Art Plan was the additional drawings for the artwork's foundation.

Approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to approve the Final Art Plan, *Before Picasso* by Karon Davis. **Motioned by Chair Faltz, seconded by Vice Chair Aviles and approved unanimously.**

C. 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 February 9, 2023 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

Vice Chair Aviles shared that the Subcommittee reviewed the proposed guidelines for 2024 Arts Grant Program.

ACTIONS:

- 1) Received and filed the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Report.
- 2) Approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to approve the 2024 Arts Grant Program grant guidelines for the Arts Project, Community Arts, Organizational Development, Transgender Arts Initiative, and WeHo Artist categories. **Motioned by Commissioner Deaton, seconded by Chair Faltz and approved unanimously.**

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation from Tina Calderon about the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kisch peoples

The Commission received a presentation from Tina Calderon about the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kisch peoples.

ACTION: None.

B. City Playhouse Steering Committee Update

The Commission received an update from the City Playhouse Steering Committee members regarding the March 14, 2023 meeting. It was mentioned that the next City Playhouse Steering Committee Meeting will take place on April 18, 2023.

ACTION:

Received the update.

C. City Playhouse Programming Scenarios

The Commission reviewed the proposed programming scenarios for the City Playhouse and provided feedback and guidance to staff.

ACTION:

Provided feedback and direction to staff on the preferred programming scenario for the City Playhouse.

V. EXCLUDED CONSENT

None.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Chair Faltz congratulated Commissioner Deaton and Commissioner Lee on their

reappointments to the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission.

Commissioner Lee thanked staff for their hard work and expressed her gratitude for inviting Tina Calderon to present about the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kisch peoples.

Commissioner Deaton also thanked staff for Tina Calderon's presentation.

Commissioner Moreno-Freedman echoed the comments made about Tina Calderon's presentation. Commissioner Moreno-Freedman also suggested that the City of West Hollywood Playhouse should be renamed to a name that reflects the range of visual and performing arts that will take place in this theater.

Vice Chair Aviles also thanked Staff for inviting Tina Calderon. Vice Chair Aviles also suggested for any outreach meetings to not take place on a holiday.

Chair Faltz also thanked Staff for inviting Tina Calderon, asked staff to ask Tina how Commissioners can help. Chair Faltz also thanked the City Playhouse Steering Committee and staff for their hard work.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

Grants Coordinator Eva Angeloff shared the following grantee events information: Chanel Lumiere presents *100 Faces 100 Stories The Collective* on March 24 at 6:00 p.m., and Up & Coming Actors present *Meant To Be Pilot* on April 8 at 3:00 p.m., Eva also shared that the Artist Bootcamp continues to take place and all the artists are enjoying it. Eva also thanked the Commissioners for approving the 2024 Arts Grant Program guidelines.

Arts Coordinator Michael Che shared that City Council will issue a proclamation for National Poetry Month at its April 3, 2023 meeting and our Poet Laureate Brian Sonia-Wallace will attend to read an original poem he wrote celebrating the City of West Hollywood. A temporary public art installation, Poetry Walk, will be installed on April 6 on the Santa Monica and Doheny median. Michael also shared that staff helped put together the Lesbian Speaker Series Panel: *I Know You See Me* taking place on April 25, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. which features queer female and non-binary identifying artists. Michael invited the Subcommittee to the WeHo Reads/National Poetry Month event called *Lounging with Poets* on April 26, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Aquatic and Recreation Center (ARC) Respite Deck. Michael also shared that the Open Call for 2023-26 West Hollywood City Poet Laureate (RFQ) is open to apply until April 4, 2023. Michael concluded his comments by sharing that the Drag Story Hour event will take place on April 15, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.

Arts Manager Rebecca Ehemann shared that the Drag Laureate application is now open and the deadline to apply is April 26, 2023. Rebecca also shared that 27 patrons both in person and virtually attended the Laurel House Residency meeting on March 17, 2023.


IX. DEVELOPMENT OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

The Commission authorized staff to develop the agenda for the meeting on Thursday, April 27, 2023.


X. ADJOURNMENT

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned at 6:58 p.m. to its meeting scheduled on April 27, 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 23rd DAY OF MARCH 2023.

DocuSigned by:

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DAN FALTZ
COMMISSION CHAIR

ATTEST:
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DENNICE OCEGUERA,
RECORDING SECRETARY