

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH  
CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION  
Minutes of Regular Meeting  
December 11, 2012**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Present: Chairperson Samuels, Vice Chairperson Humbarger,  
Commissioner Gill, and Commissioner Dunn

Absent: Commissioner De Maria

Staff Present: Gina Allen, Recreation Service Manager

**III. APPROVAL MINUTES**

Commissioner Dunn asked if the Commissions meetings on August 14, September 14, October 9, and October 25, 2012 were APPC meetings, and if so, if an addendum could be added to those minutes indicating they were APPC minutes. Commissioners corrected grammatical errors to Commission meeting minutes for October 9 and August 14, 2012

A motion was MADE and SECONDED (Gill/Dunn) to APPROVE the minutes of August 14, September 11, September 14, October 9, and October 25, 2012.

AYES: Samuel, Gill, Dunn, Humbarger

NOES: None

ABSENT: De Maria

ABSTAIN: None

**IV. CEREMONIAL**

None

**V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

None

**VI. GENERAL BUSINESS**

**12/0911-2 The Architectural Bench Design for the Strand Bench Donation**

The Commission discussed the architectural design for Strand benches and the desire to create a pre-approved catalog with the different designs that potential donors could choose from. There was further concern regarding the changes in pricing for the benches. It was decided that a disclaimer would be added to the catalog indicating that prices for the benches were subject to change.

In response to a question from Commissioner Humbarger, Recreation Services Manager Allen indicated that the bench catalog does not need to be presented to City Council, however, all benches would still need to be approved by City Council.

It was determined that during the next Commission meeting, the process for more designs and specifics for final approval including the history, color, and pricing will be determined, and a final vote for approval will be taken before it is presented to City Council.

Commissioner Gill commented that another call to artists for more bench designs in the \$10,000 to \$12,000 price range should be done. The commission agreed and would discuss at the next meeting.

### **12/1211-1 Additional Cost of Sculpture Garden and Extensions**

The commission requested further information regarding this issue. The issue was decided to be placed on the January calendar and a set process on how to select future sculptures for the garden will be discussed. Commissioner Humbarger will be tasked with giving a history behind the Sculpture Garden in January. For the January agenda, Chairperson Samuels would like a full budget report on all money spent on art. Commissioner Dunn asked if there is an art organization or broker who handles public art and identifying artists. Commissioner Gill stated that Commissioner De Maria knew the name of the broker in question.

Recreation Services Manager Allen confirmed that in January creating a process for obtaining additional sculpture submittals will be discussed, as well as following up with Commissioner De Maria regarding the public art broker.

The Commission then discussed the costs of removing the Believe and Ladders sculptures and the need to be cognizant of additional costs before moving forward. If any future sculptures are submitted to City Council that have extra costs that the Commission was unaware of, the Commission requested that City Council should confirm with the Commission the total cost is acceptable before proceeding.

### **12/1211-2 Eco-Art Contest and Festival**

Chairperson Samuels indicated that at the last commission meeting a member of the public presented this item. Chairperson Samuels suggested that Commissioners attend the event individually this year and support it. This event will be brought up next year in August or September so that it can be discussed in more depth. It will be determined if this is an event the Commission would be interested in participating in next year. Chairperson Samuels stated that this was a good way for the Commission to be recognized as part of the arts program, and to use it as a test booth for presentation of local arts shows and exhibitions.

## **VII. REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS**

Commissioner Dunn inquired about developing long term goals for 2013 in order to accomplish by 2014 and be more proactive in the Commissions approach to public art. For January, the Commission would like to agendize a time to develop more ideas that the Cultural Arts Commission would like to accomplish in the next 2 to 3 years.

Recreation Services Manager Allen clarified that the Commissions role is to present any new issues or ideas, develop and implement them. It is the Commission's responsibility to adopt the new idea and identify what they want to do with it.

Commissioner Dunn expressed concern that she is not always aware of all the different Cultural Arts functions that are occurring in the City and feels disconnected from many of the arts events. It was suggested to create some type of liaison program with the various arts groups in the City. A request was made to present a staff update at the Cultural Arts Commission meetings concerning the various art programs and their events.

Commissioner Dunn spoke of an Ansel Adams exhibit that was recently held at the Los Angeles Public Library. This exhibit consisted of numerous never before seen photos taken by Adams of Los Angeles during the 1940s. Chairperson Samuels indicated placing this item on the January agenda and having a small presentation on this exhibit to discuss the number of pieces, the cost of the photos, how they want them displayed and the insurance requirements.

Chairperson Samuels requested that the big action item for next meeting is for all Commissioners to review the current Public Art Master Plan and come prepared to plan the Commission's agenda for the next one to two (2) years.

In response to a question from Commissioner Dunn, Recreation Services Manager Allen answered that the department can create a budget line item to purchase different memberships from various art organizations.

Commissioner Gill pointed out that he was still in contact with the resident who was having issues with the firing of the ceramics studio kiln. Recreation Services Manager Allen indicated she would follow up with resident. She also stated to the Commission that City staff visited the ceramics studio to view the firing of the kiln. Staff then made a list of possible solutions and presented these suggestions to the Public Works Department. The Public Works Department reviewed this list and outlined what was permissible and what was not. Currently, City staff is looking into possibly installing a filter that can prevent an excessive amount of smoke from being emitted during the firing process.

Chairperson Samuels stated that the entire Commission is in agreement in wanting the ceramics program to continue as long as it is done in an appropriate, safe and environmentally conscious manner.

Recreation Services Manager Allen requested that Commissioner Gill forward the resident's information to her so that she could contact the resident. During the discussion with ceramics instructor, Recreation Manager Gina Allen inquired why the class cannot fire the kiln during normal business hours when the resident was not at home. The answer she was given was that the kiln needs to be warmed for at least two hours, and that any offsite location would be an inconvenience because it would require additional travel by the students. Furthermore, any offsite location would also require gas service in order to operate the kiln.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.