

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

Minutes

April 9, 2013

City Council Chambers and Conference Room
1400 Highland Avenue
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Samuels, Commissioner Gill, and Commissioner De Maria

Absent: Vice Chairperson Humbarger, Commissioner Dunn

Staff Present: Henry Mitzner, City Controller, Megumi Sando Moisen, Recreation Supervisor – Cultural Arts

III. APPROVAL MINUTES

None.

IV. CEREMONIAL

None.

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Gary McAully, Manhattan Beach Resident

Mr. Gary McAully raised the Commission’s attention to the Veterans Parkway Landscape Master Plan and Mobility Master Plan, encouraging them to attend the community meetings. He informed the Commission that the Mobility Master Plan included the staircase improvements on the Strand, which had been a discussion item of the Commission at the previous meetings.

VI. GENERAL BUSINESS

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

The Commissioners inquired when the presentation of the “Shell” bench was scheduled to go to City Council. Recreation Supervisor Moisen reported that staff will inquire and inform the Commission as soon as possible.

13/0801-3 Ansel Adams Exhibition

No further discussion took place about this item due to Commissioner Dunn's absence. Ms. Moisen distributed a preliminary budget of \$5,630 for this special exhibition, in which \$4,505 comes from the Public Art Trust Fund and the rest is from the City's general fund.

13/0208-1 2013 Sculpture Garden

Chairperson Samuels stated that the Commission had decided for the selection process to be invitational, rather than open-call, for the next sculpture garden display. Commissioner Gill expressed the importance of reaching out to the artists who applied for the City's Centennial Project (2012), especially those from Manhattan Beach. Commissioner De Maria shared his impression that at least 10 – 15 artists from the Centennial Art proposals would be suitable for the Sculpture Garden project.

Ms. Moisen reminded the Commission that San Diego Port's public art program *Urban Trees* ended, and the artists who participated in the program might still have sculptures that can utilize the concrete pots that the City owns. (The *Urban Trees* program was a temporary exhibit at the port to punctuate and activate the views of San Diego Bay and invite people to stroll along and enjoy the pedestrian promenade.)

The Commission agreed to approach the following groups of artists for the next Sculpture Garden display: 1) artists who applied for the City's Centennial Art Project in 2012; 2) artists who previously exhibited at the City's Sculpture Garden program; and 3) artists who joined the San Diego Port's Urban Trees program.

Chairperson Samuels requested staff to draft a letter to invite artists for the Sculpture Garden proposals and bring it to the next month's meeting. He also requested lists of artists from the City's Centennial Art Projects and the San Diego's Urban Trees Program.

13/0208-2 Stair Case

Responding to the comment from Mr. McAulay as stated in the Audience Participation, Chairperson Samuels asked Commissioner De Maria if he could participate in the Mobility Master Plan community meeting in April. During the February meeting, Commissioner De Maria was appointed by the Commission to be the liaison regarding the staircase improvement. Commissioner De Maria was appointed to the mobility plan. He will be report back to the Commission in May.

VII. REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

The Public Art Trust Fund

Henry Mitzner, the City Controller, explained the financial outlook of the Public Art Trust Fund showing the month-end report for February 2013. The ending balance for the month is \$418,700 including \$326,639 of the maximum permitted balance from the cumulative receipts of the prior five years. City Council previously designated

\$410,000 to four projects, and the total balance of the project budgets is \$340,549. The breakdown of the balance is as follows: \$50,967 for the Sculpture Garden, \$129,582 for the City's Centennial Art Project, \$150,000 for the new Library Art Project, and \$10,000 for the Arts Manhattan Grant. The undesignated balance of the Public Art Trust Fund is \$78,151.

Commissioner Gill questioned if the undesignated fund that exceeds the five-year period goes back to the developer. City Controller Mitzner answered that the fund should return to the developer in that case. The Finance Department keeps track of cash flow and the schedule of the fund expiration. Commissioner De Maria requested staff to periodically notify the Cultural Arts Commission of the financial status of the Public Art Trust Fund. Chairperson Samuels asked Ms. Moisen that the month-end report of the Trust Fund be part of the monthly Commission meeting.

Veterans Parkway Landscape Master Plan

Chairperson Samuels made a motion to select Commissioner Gill to be the liaison for Veterans Parkway Landscape Master Plan. Commissioner De Maria seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the Commissioners.

Recognition of Commissioner Hamburger for the Completion of her Terms

Commissioner Hamburger will be termed out from the Cultural Arts Commission next month, and the Commission wants to celebrate her completion of her service. Ms. Moisen informed the Commission that outgoing commissioners usually receive a certificate from City Council, and a small gathering with cake or light snack takes place before the regular meeting. Commissioner Gill suggested that the City request a certificate for Ms. Hamburger from the Los Angeles County for her service as the City's Cultural Arts Commissioner. Ms. Moisen stated she would ask the City Clerk's Office.

Selection of New Officers

Chairperson Samuels requested this item to be included in the May meeting agenda, and the new chair and vice-chair will start from the June 2013 meeting.

Appreciation of Local Artistic Talents

Commissioner Gill stated that he was impressed by the artistic talent of Mira Costa High School students whose works were on display at the Creative Arts Center in March. He suggested that the Cultural Arts Commission officially show their appreciation to the excellence of local students either at the Council or Commission meeting.

The Green Competition

Commissioner De Maria briefly presented his project concept of "Green Competition," which aims to create a green promenade linking Metlox Plaza to the Strand. 12th Street shall be converted to open park/green space with pedestrian focused plazas. Chairperson Samuels requested this item to be on the next month's meeting agenda for further discussion.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.