

DRAFT

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

Minutes

July 12, 2011

Manhattan Beach City Hall

1400 Highland Avenue

Manhattan Beach, Ca 90266

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:12 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

III.

Present: Peter De Maria, Chair
Russ Samuels, Vice Chair
Susannah Rosenthal
Susan Sweeney
Juanita Purner, Cultural Arts Manager

Absent: Nancy Humbarger

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Samuels stated that the June 14, 2011 minutes should be amended to read in the motion by Chair De Maria “and informed when Public art Trust funds are “considered” (instead of earmarked) for a project.”

The minutes of the June 14, 2011 Cultural Arts Commission Meeting was approved as amended.

IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

V. GENERAL BUSINESS

01/0614.30 Sculpture Garden Program

Ad Hoc Committee Report - Alison Wright gave her report regarding artists she contacted for the Sculpture Garden’s 2011 fall installation. The three artists were: Janet Echelman; Michael A. Davis; and Alex Weinstein.

- Echelman is an international artist who creates monumental fluid sculptures made from lace and netting materials. Alison spoke to Echelman’s assistant and she will call Ms. Echelman to discuss the program. Wright is hopeful this artist would be interested in the Centennial celebration. Commissioner Rosenthal commented that this effort is exploratory and appreciated Alison’s effort. Perhaps a piece by Echelman could be installed adjacent to the new Library.

- Alex Weinstein work is of interest to the Commission and they are supportive of his participation. Commissioner Samuels commented the picture of Weinstein's work did not do it justice; those Commissioners who have visited the artist's studio came away with a very positive opinion of the water sculpture.
- The third artist Alison discussed was Michael A. Davis. His public art is included in the Los Angeles MTA Program and featured by Santa Monica and Ventura. In the early 1990's Mr. Davis created a public art piece entitled, *Man Hat Tan*, which was installed at Sepulveda and Manhattan Beach Blvd. The art piece used a *rebus* device where images are used to represent words or part of a word. Rebus has an art historical link to art from the medieval ages; Mr. Davis' contemporary version recalled that style.
- Staff will forward the Sculpture Garden's pole base diagram to Alison. She also asked if Arts Manhattan was involved with any of the Commission's art programs.

IV. REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

Slater Art Continuation

- Bowling Pin/Slater Art work – Alison questioned if the Bowling Pin could be staged at the following locations which would give her the opportunity to photograph the pin at San Dune, Live Oak Baseball field, Beach Reporter Office, or floating in Polliwog Park Pond? Alison will call Mr. Gill to discuss the possibility or "Slater on the Move" transient art project. Alison will coordinate the staging and if approved provide a copy of the photos for the City website. Chair De Maria made a motion to endorse this transient art project and it was approved.

Strand Alcove Bench Prototype Program

- De Maria referred to the Strand Alcove Bench Prototype Program and the proposed fundraising that could pay for the manufacture of the four prototypes. De Maria will draft the fundraising letter for City Council's review prior to scheduling any meetings the local business community.

Chair De Maria raised the issue of banners as a decorative element that could beautify the city and would also serve as a program promotional tool for exhibitions and concerts. Another Commissioner commented that banners could offer local businesses the opportunity for advertising which in turn could generate funds for art programming. The Commission did not make any recommendations regarding the banners at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m. The next Cultural Arts Commission's Special Meeting is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 27, 2011.