

## **CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

### **Minutes**

December 08, 2009

Manhattan Beach City Hall

6:00 p.m.

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Cultural Arts Commission (CAC) was called to order at 6:08 p.m.

#### **II. ROLL CALL**

Present: Susannah Rosenthal, Chair  
Susan Sweeney, Vice Chair  
Peter De Maria, Commissioner  
Candy Duncan, Commissioner  
Nancy Humbarger, Commissioner  
Juanita Purner, Cultural Arts Manager

#### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the November 10, 2009 meeting were approved as written.

#### **IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

None

#### **V. GENERAL BUSINESS**

##### **02/0612.18 Sculpture Garden and Art Trust Fund**

Mr. Gill, Director of Parks & Recreation, spoke to the Commission regarding the Sculpture Garden Program and the allocation of Art Trust Funds. A staff report scheduled for the December 15th City Council meeting allocates \$100,000 for the Sculpture Garden program over the next four years. Mr. Gill explained the allocation would safeguard the loss of funds from this account. The Commission has the option to re-direct these funds for other projects if needed.

He also suggested that the Commission consider issuing a resolution annually to identify funds for special projects. The Commission then voted to support resolution #6237 for the allocation of \$100,000.

Mr. Gill also referred to the discrepancy between the City's Art in Public Places Master Plan and the State Ordinance, which differ in the area of "Temporary Works of Art." It is the City Attorney's opinion, the programs and cultural events listed in this section are not eligible for funding.

Art Trust funds are available if approved by Council for permanent programs such as the Sculpture Garden because it is a long-term program with revolving one-year exhibitions. Staff will provide copies of the State Government Code Section 66000, Et. Seq. to the Commission.

Chair Rosenthal expressed concern regarding how the funds are monitored, and that the CAC needs to be informed of the fund activity. Mr. Gill informed the group that Staff and the Finance Department will provide the Commission with annual Art Trust report giving them access to

Community Development funds collected and dates and amounts paid for Cultural Arts project expenses.

The Commission will research other cities and how they deal with the State ordinance and use of Per Cent for Art funds. The following cities will be reviewed: Culver City, Pasadena, San Diego, Santa Monica and Carlsbad

The Chair expressed interest making the CAC more effective and a plan is needed to work toward the goals established at this time. The Chair feels strongly that the Sculpture Garden pieces should not be restricted to the pot and pole format; she looks to a more creative selections for the next exhibition and the Commission should not rely only on San Diego's art pieces. The Commission was informed that the availability of the San Diego art works has changed from June to October 2010.

The Chair's vision for networking and brain storming for 2010 will begin at the next meeting. Each Commissioner was asked to invite three people who were interested in contributing to January's meeting.

## **REPORTS & OTHER BUSINESS**

### **"Slater Bowl" Art Proposal**

Alison Wright presented her site-specific work entitled "If Slater Bowled." The piece is composed of a 10' red bowling pin and a 4' pin was exhibited in a recent Culver City Art Walk. Alison proposed the following locations be considered for installation: Metlox Plaza; Sand Dune Park, the space under the Manhattan Beach Pier.

- Moving the piece to a variety of locations inspires an element of surprise; the public is left wondering "Where's Waldo." The multiple outdoor locations move away from a conventional gallery space giving the community greater access.
  
- The "*Slater Bowl*" piece conveys several aspects:
  - A mundane object that is changed by its environment
  - Its larger-than-life size and vivid color attracts viewers.
  - The red bowling pin also functions as a surf board.

The Commission plans to view the art work this Sunday, December 13, 2009 and determine the degree of interest in the project. If the Commission agrees on moving forward then approvals from the City and the County for use of the pier and beach area beneath the pier are needed. A project budget that includes the artist's stipend, installation fees, Public Works charges, plus insurance coverage is needed. The Commission voted on pursuing the Slater Bowl project.

The Slater Bowl proposal project costs will be presented at the next CAC meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m. The next Cultural Arts Commission meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.