

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

Minutes

July 14, 2009

Manhattan Beach City Hall

Council Chambers

6:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Cultural Arts Commission (CAC) was called to order at 6:06 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for the June 9, 2009 Cultural Arts Commission Meeting were approved as written.

IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

V. GENERAL BUSINESS

02/0612.13 Sculpture Garden

Commissioner Duncan recapped the Sculpture Garden installation and dedication, acknowledging the tremendous effort by Public Works and appreciation to Mayor Cohen, Council Members Montgomery and Powell, and City Manager Geoff Dolan for their participation. The artists complimented the City on the Sculpture Garden layout and for the sites chosen for each of the sculptures.

The Commissioners are very happy with the inaugural exhibition and they look forward to working on the subsequent show in 2010. Susannah Rosenthal referred the Commissioners to the Sculpture by the Sea website where they could review new sculptural forms. These international art works are not readily available but they can provide food for thought with a wide variety of styles that are installed on or near a beach environment.

VI. REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

Children's Theater

Ms. Purner responded to the Commission's question regarding fundraising for the Children's Theater, a program that was suspended due to the City's budget deficit. The Commission is asked to submit a proposal for review that identifies the funding source, amount of funds raised that will cover all the performance costs plus sponsorship opportunities and collateral for the sponsors.

New Projects

The Commissioners agreed to devote time for the exploration and discussion of new cultural arts projects. Organizing an ad hoc committee is an option. Commissioner DeMaria shared his list of new items for consideration. Several of the items were of particular interest to the Commission; an Art Lecture Series; development of Student Art and Design Competitions; and creating an Artist in Residence Program that would bring artists to the City to give lectures, classes and demonstrations. Finding host housing for the artists could reduce the expense of such a program.

Fundraising ideas include a CAC booth with a public hands-on art project that invites community involvement at the Hometown Fair; or a large artist postcard project composed of individually designed postcards that can be auctioned off at the close of the exhibition.

In conclusion, the Commission agreed that before submitting proposed programs to Council, there are many policy and fundraising issues to clarify. The information-gathering phase could take until November.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m. The next Cultural Arts Commission meeting is scheduled for September 8, 2009.