

DRAFT
CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION
Special Meeting
September 26, 2006
6:00 p.m.
CONTENTS

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Cultural Arts Commission (CAC) of the City of Manhattan Beach met on Tuesday, September 26, 2006 in City Council Chambers at 6:05 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:	Commissioners	PAAC Members
	Sharon Greco- Chair	Donna Grossman
	Susannah Rosenthal	Dean Nota
		Don Spencer
		Alison Wright
	Juanita Purner, Cultural Arts Manager	

Absent: Shelby Phillips- Vice Chair
Candy Duncan
Francey Seckinger
Jill Will (PAAC Member)

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Postpone review

IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

V. GENERAL BUSINESS

06/0711.4 Stand Alcove Bench Project

Commissioner Greco presented Stacy Duke's partially finished bench model to the panel. The recyclable material used is a plastic composite which Boeing uses in the 727 aircraft. The bench would weigh 500 lbs., and can be cast and fabricated in one piece by a company in Fountain Valley. The final product cast in a simple organic shape symbolizes a sea shell. The bench will be raised off the ground and can be finished in one of three muted material samples. The pearlized colors were not approved.

Following points were addressed during the review:

- Overall impression:
The design has a refined delicate quality, and the relationship to a sea shell was appreciated. Its simplicity is elegant, conveying Henry Moore-like quality. It has good potential. The design reminded some people of seating in a children's playground.
- Material:
The bench material is new and the material's durability was an issue for some panelists. Can it withstand the ocean elements? The panel was enthusiastically appreciative of the bench materials being "recycled" and "recyclable."
- Monolithic/monochromatic quality:
The bench looks graceful but the bottom appears a bit heavy. It fits the Strand's environment given the bench is surrounded by light colors (like the concrete walk-way and the sand). If a dark colored material is selected for the bench, a few panelists were concerned with night visibility. It was noted there is sufficient lighting on the Strand to prevent persons from colliding with the benches.
- Seating:
The high back on the bench offers a feeling of enclosure which contrasts with the openness of the Strand; though a panelist did think the back was too high. The depth of seating (16 inches) may not be comfortable for every person; however, the bench's seating comfort may not as important as the design excellence. The proportion of the design may need modification.
- Platform:
There was concern with the straight lines of the platform not having continuity with the rest of the design. The Platform needs adjustment so it has an organic shape, or the bench can rest on the ground.

A question arose as to whether this bench design is a prototype for a single bench or multiples. At this point, the panel decided to consider it for a single bench.

Since the bench model was incomplete, the panel decided to postpone making a decision. Commissioner Greco will obtain the complete design drawing from the artist and send it to the Commission and PAAC members. At this point, the Dukes proposal is not ready for presentation to the City Council.

VI. REPORTS AND OTHER BUISNESS

None

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The Commission Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.