



**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

May 12, 2015

Manhattan Beach City Hall
City Council Chambers
1400 Highland Avenue
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
6:00 PM

A G E N D A

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

C. ROLL CALL

Chairperson Nancy Dunn
Vice Chairperson Loli Ramezani
Commissioner James Gill
Commissioner Russ Samuels
Commissioner Jaquelyne May

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 14, 2015

E. CEREMONIAL

None

F. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit)

The public may address the Commission regarding City business not on the agenda.

G. STAFF ITEMS

Update on Current Exhibition
Update on Sculpture Garden
Update on Exhibition Calendar
Update on "Feel Good Festival"
Update on monthly budget details
Update on Strand bench policy

H. COMMISSION ITEMS

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

15/0512.1 Youth Art initiative "Art Lab"
15/0212.1 Marlo Bartels Strand Bench
14/0708.1 Decommissioning Policy for Public Sculpture
Selection of 2015/2016 Cultural Arts Commission Chair

J. ADJOURNMENT

TO:

Members of the Cultural Arts Commission

FROM:

Mark Leyman, Parks and Recreation Director
Martin Betz, Cultural Arts Manager

SUBJECT:

Art Lab initiative Discussion

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Cultural Arts Commission discuss *Art Lab*, a new education initiative for youth and that the Cultural Arts Commission makes a recommendation to the City Council regarding the implementation of the program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

The fiscal impact will be \$24,300.00 from the Public Art Trust Fund pending further funding options to be developed and presented to the City Council for consideration.

BACKGROUND:

At the December 9th, 2014 meeting of the Cultural Arts Commission, staff asked the Commission to consider discussing an art education initiative for teens, recognizing the need to provide an outlet for Mira Costa High School students to engage in a constructive and advanced level of art making and art theory to better prepare them for college, or other creative pursuits. The program is also designed to give advanced art students the opportunity to build their portfolios. The Commission members unanimously desired to seek City Council approval to explore the initiative. The City Council approved the exploration of the initiative.

DISCUSSION:

Over the last year, the Cultural Arts staff has been assessing the needs of the community as it relates to the arts. This assessment has shown a gap in afterschool intensive art making program for youth, specifically between the ages of 14 and 17. Art students at the local high schools have excellent art programs at their disposal, but for the advanced students or students who are not in an art program there is little exposure to professional artists and art making material. The unique approach to *Art Lab* hopes to foster a particular type of creative energy that is exemplified through project-based learning models. We will offer youth access to artistic resources and instruction, and promote a practical "do-it-yourself" ethic that fosters artistic independence and entrepreneurialism. During studio time students will be able to work on projects of their choice, collaborate with other students on a project or receive instruction from educators. *Art Lab* has the capacity for 30 students and will be one of the primary programs based at the Manhattan Beach Art Center.

CONCLUSION:

Staff recommends that the Cultural Arts Commission discuss the *Art Lab* initiative and develop a recommendation for City Council approval.

TO:

Members of the Cultural Arts Commission

FROM:

Martin Betz Cultural Arts Manager

SUBJECT:

New Architectural Bench Design Proposal for the Strand Alcove Bench Program

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission discuss and provide a recommendation to the City Council for the architectural bench design proposal for the Strand Alcove Bench Program submitted by Manhattan Beach resident, Kraig Kalinich:

Ceramic Bench by Marlo Bartels

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no fiscal implications on the General Fund associated with the recommended action. The program will be supported through private purchase.

DISCUSSION:

The Cultural Arts Commission will be reviewing its recommendation to City Council of the following design proposal:

1. *Ceramic Bench* by Marlo Bartels

The bench is built with a 1"x 1" steel tubing frame, powder-coated against rust. The interior has a 1/2" Hardie-backer tile board, glued and screwed to the frame. The bench is secured to the pavement using a normal wrench with hidden bolts within the structure and completed by tiling at the base. The approximate weight of the bench is 700 lbs.

CONCLUSION:

Staff recommends that the Cultural Arts Commission discuss and provide a recommendation to the City Council for the new architectural bench design proposal for the Strand Alcove Bench Program.

Attachment:

1. New Architectural Bench Design:

Ceramic Bench by Marlo Bartels

CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

MEMORANDUM

TO: Cultural Arts Commission

FROM: Martin Betz, Cultural Arts Manager

DATE: May 7, 2015

SUBJECT: Selection of 2014/2015 Cultural Arts Commission Chair

Annually, the Cultural Arts Commission is required to select a Chair and Vice Chair for the Commission. In the past, chairs have been selected on a seniority basis. Commissioner Loli Ramezani would be next in line to serve as Chair, followed by Commissioner Russ Samuels. Although this has been the past practice, it is not the rule. The Commission has the right to choose any member of the Commission they feel is most qualified.

CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

April 14, 2015

Manhattan Beach City Council Chambers
1400 Highland Avenue
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM.

B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

C. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners, Dunn, Gill, Samuels, May, Ramezani*

Absent:

*Commissioner Ramezani arrived at 6:06

Others present: Cultural Arts Manager, Martin Betz and Recording Secretary, Linda Robb

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Gill moved to approve the March 10, 2015 minutes with the change listed. Commissioner Ramezani seconded the motion.

Commissioner May requested that the words “works for hire are excluded” be added to the 6th paragraph on page 3 for clarification.

The motion passed.

Ayes: Commissioners May, Ramezani, Samuels and Gill

Nays: none

Abstain: Commissioner Dunn

Absent: none

E. CEREMONIAL

None

F. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Chairperson Dunn opened the floor to audience participation.

Seeing none, the floor was closed.

G. STAFF ITEMS

Cultural Arts Manager, Mr. Betz distributed invitations to the Feelgood Festival, a collaboration of Cultural Arts and Sports Divisions to produce a festival that encompasses whole body wellness.

Commissioner Dunn inquired about the timing of the Ansel Adams exhibition. Mr. Betz stated he would check the schedule and that he is working on that.

Commissioner Ramezani asked to be informed ahead of time of things involving Cultural Arts so that the Commissioners can offer feedback and start talking about and promoting the events to the public.

Friday will be the opening for the Mira Costa High School Art Show. There are 150 participants and the art was juried today and prizes will be awarded. The reception will be from 5:00-7:00 p.m. The jurors were professional artists. Commissioner Dunn suggested that perhaps in the future, a commissioner could be invited to be a juror. Commissioner Dunn stated that the attendees will be a great audience to market what is going on with Cultural Arts in the City. This is a great opportunity to talk about and garner new excitement for the upcoming programs. Mr. Betz stated that FOLA is the host of the event.

Commissioner Ramezani stated that promoting Cultural Arts on social media would also attract a younger crowd. Commissioner May suggested also contacting La Vista (Mira Costa newspaper) to promote events.

Update on Sculpture Garden finalists - Mr. Betz showed the Powerpoint presentation that was shown to the City Council for their final approval.

The following locations are being considered:

Butterfly – Civi Plaza or Veterans Parkway

Rocketship – Art Center

Egrets – Civic Plaza or Metlox Plaza

Dragon Tales – Metlox Plaza

Puff of Wind – Civic Plaza

Zeppelinus – by the elevator to underground parking at the corner of City Hall parking lot

The pieces should to be installed at the end of June. Mr Betz is working on getting the contracts together.

Commissioner Ramezani and Samuels agreed that it would be nice to have the reception at the Art Center but the piece would need to be in place.

H. COMMISSION ITEMS:

Commissioner Ramezani stated that Leadership Manhattan Beach worked with Mimi Anderson with the landscaping. Ms. Anderson shared the research she had done regarding the Harold Roach sculpture placement and would be willing to come speak to the Commission.

Commissioner May announced that the Grand Opening of the library will be May 1st at 4:00. She stated that the artist commissioned for the library art piece, may be present at the grand opening.

Commissioner Gill asked about what is coming for the future. Mr. Betz stated that the Art Lab is on the City Council agenda to approve for discussion.

Commissioner Samuels asked about creating the guidelines for the Strand Bench program, separate from the process of getting a piece accepted into the catalog. Commissioner Samuels stated that the commission would like to create a master plan for the catalog, designating the number, types and prices of benches, etc. Mr. Betz suggested the Commission look at the policy that is being presented to the City Council. Commissioner Dunn agreed that the Commission should create a master plan for the bench program, separate from the policies and procedures and it should be put on the May agenda for discussion. Commissioner Ramezani mentioned that functionality should be defined in the master plan.

Commissioner Gill asked for an update on the Public Arts Trust Fund. Mr. Betz will email the budget report to the commissioners.

Decommissioning plan – Mr. Betz to email decommissioning plan to commissioners for review and add to agenda.

Commissioner Gill recommended that Mr. Betz take more comprehensive notes in order to keep everything moving forward.

Commissioner Dunn inquired about the progress of the Strand Stairs. Mr. Betz stated that he thought they were going back out to bid. Commissioner May stated that she thought that a bid had been accepted.

Commissioner May stated that the Light Gate film should have Peter DeMaria's name on it instead of hers.

Ann Pitts, resident addressed the Commission and thanked them for the placement of the two new turquoise Strand Benches.

I. GENERAL BUSINESS:

None

J. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner May moved to adjourn. Commissioner Ramezani seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Ayes: Commissioners Dunn, May, Ramezani, Samuels and Gill

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none