

DRAFT  
CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

*MINUTES OF THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION*  
*March 14, 2006*  
6:00 p.m.

CONTENTS

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Cultural Arts Commission (CAC) of the City of Manhattan Beach, California met on Tuesday, March 14, 2006 at 6:05 p.m. in the City Council Chamber.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners  
Sharon Greco (Chair),  
Shelby Phillips (Vice-chair)  
Candy Duncan  
Susannah Rosenthal

Juanita Purner, Cultural Arts Manager  
Megumi Sando, Rec. Supervisor – Cultural Arts

Absent: Commissioner Francey Seckinger

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from February 22, 2006 were approved, but Commissioner Phillips abstained from voting because she was absent from that meeting. Commissioner Phillips raised staff's attention to frequent use of quotations in the November and December minutes, which traditionally are not appropriate for this type of document. Instead of direct quotations, it was agreed comments are to be summarized.

IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

V. GENERAL BUSINESS

06/0222.1 - PAAC Member Confirmation

PAAC applicants as of March 16, 2006 were Patrick Donahue, Homeira Goldstein, Dean Nota, Wayne Powell and Alison Wright. The Commission decided to postpone the deadline for nominations/applications to establish a larger pool of selection. In the next meeting, selection will be finalized for PAAC.

### 06/0222.2 - Fantastics Summer Performance

Local theater director Janet Miller had been proposing “Fantastics” to be performed at the Joslyn Center in July, 2006, and the project budget was \$20, 000. The Commission discussed whether they would support the performance allocating the Public Art Trust Fund. Ms. Purner explained that the group was also interested in a long-term opportunity for forming a theater company in Manhattan Beach.

Chairperson Greco asked Commissioner Phillips for her opinion reflecting her professional theater background. Commissioner Phillips made the following comments regarding the proposal:

- First of all, she was delighted with the theater movement happening in the community.
- Presentation of the proposal (e-mail message) neither was appropriate nor was professional.
- There are ambiguities in the proposed budget from the Fantastics; and details are not available related to casting, costume, set, etc.
- To cultivate future support to theatrical arts in Manhattan Beach, the first major performance should have compelling quality.
- Three types of programs are possible for the kick-off performance:
  - Community musical casting with Manhattan Beach residents
  - Cabaret-type performance featuring a local theater company
  - Traveling show organized by a professional theater company such as LA Theater Works

Commissioners all agreed that they desired a fine quality program to present as the first major theater event in the community. The Commission made a motion to expand opportunity to see other theater groups for consideration. As a sample, Commissioner Phillips introduced “Let’s Misbehave – A Tribute to Cole Porter,” an 80-minute long singing performance proposed from Dancing Dan Productions. (The commissioner stated that she had no affiliation with the company.) Commissioner Duncan suggested reviewing at least two more proposals, possibly with observation of their rehearsals. She also stated that future community involvement through auditions would be appreciated. Commissioner Greco will contact LA Theater Works for their touring availability. In the meantime, the commissioners will circulate the DVD of “Fantastics” for their review.

Commissioner Phillips reported that she was going to see a consultant to consider converting the Joslyn Center to a theatrical space with moderate expenditures.

### VII. REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Purner reported that the Division had applied for the Starbucks California Giving grant, and a children’s theater program was part of the proposal.

### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:16pm. The next Cultural Arts Commission special meeting will be held on March 30 at 9:30 a.m.