

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

August 11, 2015

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

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM.

B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

C. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Ramezani, May and Samuels

Absent: Commissioners Gill and Dunn

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

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Samuels moved to approve the July 14, 2015 minutes as written.

Commissioner May seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Commissioners Ramezani, May and Samuels

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Commissioners Gill and Dunn

E. CEREMONIAL

None

F. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Chairperson Ramezani opened the floor to audience participation. Seeing none, the floor was closed.

G. STAFF ITEMS:

Cultural Arts Manager, Martin Betz presented the following:

SUR Biennial - Mr. Betz made a short presentation on the SUR Biennial, the first show in next year's exhibition lineup starting September 24th. SUR Biennial will focus on artwork by LA artists from Mexico. 5 artists, Francisco Siqueiros, Carolyn Castano, Eamon Ore-Giron, Yreina Cervantes and John Valadez will exhibit here in Manhattan Beach. The exhibition will run through October 21.

Update on Sculpture Garden, the Arnold Martin piece, *Presbyornis Zeppelinus* (*Archimedes' Goose*) was installed near the elevator in the Civic Center parking lot.

Commissioner May stated that she had heard many great comments about the placement of the piece at the Art Center. She asked if more locations could be added. Mr. Betz stated that is something the commission could consider for the sculpture garden next year.

Commissioner Ramezani asked about the outside treatment of the art center. Mr. Betz stated that it is still being debated. There are a few options are currently being considered.

Update on decommissioning policy – The policy is back with the legal team to make some revisions and will be brought back to the Commission for review when available.

Youth Art Initiative (Art Lab) will be presented to the City Council on August 18th. Commissioner Ramezani asked for a reminder to attend the City Council meeting.

Commissioner Samuels inquired about the Strand Stairs. He stated that it looks like work is being done but that repairs still need to be made. Commissioner Ramezani asked for the Commission to be updated on the progress as Public Art Trust funds are being used. Mr. Betz stated that he would follow up on that.

Commissioner Ramezani asked if the commission could start thinking about new projects since there is money in the trust fund. She would like to create a running list of ideas to discuss and consider. Commissioner Ramezani moved to seek approval from the City Council to create a list of ideas for artistic projects presented by the commission or the public for reference in the future. Commissioner May seconded the motion. Commissioner Samuels stated that he prefers to deal with the ideas as they come along. Commissioner May stated that the ULI study recommended more public art, so to have a list of possible projects could not hurt. She stated that on the other hand, when ideas are presented to the City Council, they need to have some background. The motion passed.

Ayes: Commissioners Ramezani and May

Nays: Commissioner Samuels

Abstain: none

Absent: Commissioners Gill and Dunn

H. COMMISSION ITEMS:

Commissioner May followed up on the kiosk museums and spoke to Elsa Cameron, the artist who came up with the idea for the art kiosks in San Francisco. Commissioner May reported that the project started with a grant from the business community in Union Square and received money from large retailers. Work was done by the community and materials were donated. Examples of the kiosk museums may be seen at [Facebook.com/kioskmuseum](https://www.facebook.com/kioskmuseum). Commissioner May stated that the artist expressed her willingness to help in any way possible. Mr. Betz stated that it would make the most sense to have Ms. Coleman come and present it as a project for the Commission's consideration. Based on the presentation, the Commission may decide whether to ask the City Council if they may discuss it further. Commissioner Samuels stated that he would support requesting permission from City Council to discuss the subject but would like for Commissioners Gill and Dunn to be present and offer their input first. Commissioner May will communicate with the artist to see if she would be interested in doing a kiosk museum in Manhattan Beach. Commissioner Ramezani asked if the kiosk could be considered an additional venue for display of art or educational items instead of a public art project managed by one artist. Mr. Betz stated that another possibility would be to do an RFP for kiosks and then contract out for curatorial services.

Commissioner Ramezani stated that she will represent the Commission and will be presenting to the Neptunian Womens Club in January 2016.

I. GENERAL BUSINESS:

None

J. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Samuels moved to adjourn. Commissioner May seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Ayes: Commissioners Ramezani, May and Samuels

Nayes: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Commissioner Gill and Dunn