

DRAFT
CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

MINUTES OF THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

October 11, 2005

6:00 p.m.

CONTENTS

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Cultural Arts Commission (CAC) of the City of Manhattan Beach, California met on Tuesday, October 11, 2005 at 6:08 p.m. in the City Council Chamber Conference Room.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners: Sharon Greco (Chair)
Shelby Phillips (Vice-chair)
Susannah Rosenthal
Francey Seckinger
Juanita Purner, Cultural Arts Manager
Megumi Sando, Rec. Supervisor – Cultural Arts

Absent: Candy Duncan

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from August 9th, 2005 were approved after adding the starting time of the meeting (6:11 p.m.). The minutes from August 29th were approved with no corrections

IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

V. GENERAL BUSINESS

05/0412.3 - Review Strand Alcove and Strand Program RFP and Donor

Ms. Purner updated the progress of the project. The RFP had been mailed out to 1400 recipients on the City's Art in Public Places database. In the RFP, the application due date was changed to October 24 due to the printing delay. Presentation of the finalists' projects to the City Council will be determined according to the progress of the selection process. As of October 11, there were no applications submitted.

Selection of the Public Art Advisory Committee

CAC reviewed a draft of the invitational letter and application form for the recruitment of the Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC), an ad-hoc committee to act in an advisory capacity to the Cultural Arts Commission.

Invitational Letter

Suggested changes are as follows:

- Third paragraph: Description of the requirements for the PAAC was clarified as follows:

This process would initially require one to two evenings of your time to review artists' submissions and written proposals. Through discussion and a rating process, the Commission and the PAAC would select four finalists. You will be asked to serve for one-year term.
- Fourth paragraph
“(see selection process)” to be removed.
“beginning of November” was changed to “early November.”
- Fifth paragraph
“Public art project” instead of “public memorial”

Following discussions took place during the process of the revision:

Commissioner Greco emphasized that someone with art and architectural backgrounds would be appropriate for the committee panel considering the nature of the project. Commissioner Seckinger suggested a long-time Manhattan Beach resident be on the committee to represent a historical perspective.

Commissioner Phillips referred to the Art in Public Places Master Plan (Section Two – III), in which the plan determines the term of the committee as “shall remain active until the project is completed.” CAC realized the need to establish a separate guideline for the Alcove design project, including a one-year term limit of the ad-hoc committee. Also, a discrepancy of name of the committee was pointed out; in the Master Plan, the name of “Art in Public Places Committee (APPC)” is used, and “Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC)” appears on the letter and form.

The Master Plan requires that a Cultural Arts Commission member be on the PAAC. For this project, all Commissioners will participate in the entire selection process and decisions will be made in collaboration with PAAC. Commissioner Phillips stated that there was no need to consider a commissioner as a component when formulating the PAAC. Commissioner Greco agreed to select about five members for the ad-hoc committee from outside of the Commission.

Application Form

Suggested changes were as follows:

- Fourth line: the section of “student” was removed.

- Section of “special knowledge and interest:” “Curator” was changed to “Public Art Curator”
- “Landscape” artist was changed to “Hardscape Artist”
- The order of listing needs to be rearranged; arts and public art categories should come first.

CAC questioned about appropriateness of some of the listed categories: e.g., archeology, psychology, literary arts, and technology. First, CAC thought that candidate’s areas of interest would not be meaningful to determine his/her ability as a PAAC panel, which requires specific knowledge and ability in public art, art and architecture. Later, they decided to keep the list and will evaluate the candidate’s knowledge and ability from their resumes.

Ms. Purner requested that the Commissioners e-mail her contact information of the individuals whom the commissioners would like to nominate for PAAC. The gathered information will be e-mailed to the commissioners for review prior to the November meeting.

VII. REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Greco suggested the Sculptural Garden project for the next item for the Commission to work on. (This project has been postponed because of the 9-11 Memorial project.)

Commissioner Seckinger shared her concern about a possible conflict of interest because of her business relationship with the Tolken Group. CAC did not find any conflict about her position so far.

Commissioner Phillips inquired if the CAC had interest in pursuing the development of a theater space in Manhattan Beach.

CAC requested that Ms. Purner provide account information of the Public Art Trust including the deposit history. Commissioner Phillips addressed a question about the protocol of spending the Trust fund.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the Cultural Arts Commission adjourned at 7:40 p.m. The next Cultural Arts Commission meeting will be held on November 8 at 6 p.m.