

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

November 20, 2017

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

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Prigozhin called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Present: May, Manna, Prigozhin, and Rubino.

Absent: Chase, Chairperson Gill

Others present: Ceramics Supervisor Eilen Stewart, Recording Secretary Rosemary Lackow.

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 16, 2017**

It was moved and seconded (Manna/ Rubino) to approve the October 16, 2017 minutes with correction of a typo on page 4, second paragraph from bottom (change “or” to “of” as: ...Cal Institute of Architecture). The motion carried 4-0-2 with a voice vote – ayes: Manna, May, Rubino, Prigozhin; noes: 0; abstain: 1: Gill; absent: 1: Chase

**D. CEREMONIAL – None**

**E. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit) - None**

**F. STAFF ITEMS**

**Cultural Arts Division Update**

Eilen Stewart, Ceramics Supervisor, reported:

- Staffing changes: Andrew Berg, who was introduced at the last meeting has accepted a position in another city. Ms. Stewart noted that his position will be dissolved and replaced by more positions of lower salaries because more basic staff resources are needed. Currently the Art Center is staffing up with 8 part time and 1 full time positions.
- Events: The open mic and costume figure drawing events are continuing, the next being on November 20 and December 7<sup>th</sup>; on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> there will be 3 events: an Art Sale of works by City art class students, instructors or city staff; a gingerbread house workshop, and a craft night at Manhattan Heights; Holiday Fireworks will be December 10<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Prigozhin proposed changing the agenda order, so that Commission Items will follow not precede General Business; there being no objection, the next item called up was General Business.

**G. GENERAL BUSINESS**

Discussion of Sculpture Garden

Ceramics Supervisor Stewart distributed copies of the draft Sculpture Garden brochure and explained the program timeline: the brochure to be sent out by end of week with a submittal deadline in February, 2018. The Commission will select three finalists at their April meeting and this will be forwarded to the City Council for a final approval.

The Commission discussed and provided input: that a 4<sup>th</sup> artist should be chosen to fill in for one of three finalists should one drop out; it seems there are some typos in the brochure (e.g. capitalization in city job titles) (Prigozhin); since the greenbelt location is not included, there was discussion about alternate locations and process for determining (e.g. CAC might forward a recommendation to the Council who would have approval authority) (May and Manna).

## **H. COMMISSION ITEMS**

**Commissioner May** noted there will be a North End MB Holiday Stroll on December 7 featuring the work of 23 artists, and there will be free food, liquid refreshments and music.

**Commissioner Manna** reminded of upcoming events including a Leadership Manhattan mock council meeting exercise prior to the next CAC meeting and a Beach Cities Health District Blue Zones Project public street design workshop in early December.

**Commissioner Rubino** inquired as to the quality of the yellow in the draft sculpture brochure; Eilen Stewart noted that she will check as to whether this is a printing error.

**Commissioner Rubino** initiated discussion that a group of people want to put on concerts at the Library and noted that the Library Commission has indicated an interest in hosting an event on their patio on a Saturday afternoon in conjunction with CAC. Janet Jones has contacted Commissioner Rubino who suggested that a proposal be prepared and brought before the CAC for discussion. The intent is to not conflict with summer concerts and to start with a trial event. If successful, perhaps would do a few times a year. An amphitheater setting is possible. LA County is interested and the proposal will be joint with them and the Library Commission.

Eilen Stewart noted that staff already works with the Library on joint events. The Commission had a brief discussion about the size of a committee, start date (could be before April, 2018 if start now), scope (only music but explore something innovative) and magnitude. Caution was encouraged due to the size of crowd possibly drawn. Commissioner Rubino noted that she would discuss this with Cultural Arts Manager Betz as to putting this topic on a future agenda. Ms. Stewart indicated that Manager Betz would be out of the office over the next 2 weeks.

**Commissioner Prigozhin** commented on a music concerts held every Friday, Saturday and Sunday at LACMA.

## **I. ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:57 P.M, Vice Chair Prigozhin adjourned the meeting to the regular meeting at 6:00 P.M. on December 18, 2017 in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 1400 Highland Avenue (or an alternate meeting room, as to be determined); and there being no objections, it was so ordered.