

CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

November 19, 2018

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

A. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Rubino called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM.

B. PLEDGE TO FLAG

C. ROLL CALL

Present: Matsumoto, May (6:19 pm), Ryan, Taner, Vice-Chair Rubino

Absent: Chairperson Manna

Others present: Martin Betz, Cultural Arts Manager, Rosemary Lackow, Recording Secretary

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 24 and October 15, 2018

It was moved and seconded (Ryan/Taner) that the minutes of October 15, 2018 be approved as submitted, and that the minutes of September 24 be delayed until the December meeting due to a technical difficulty.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Matsumoto, Ryan, Taner, Vice-Chair Rubino

Noes: None

Absent: May (arrival 6:19 pm), Chairperson Manna

Abstain: None

E. CEREMONIAL - None

F. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit)

G. STAFF ITEMS

Cultural Arts Division report

a. Staffing update: Manager Betz updated noting that Eilen Stewart is now on family leave and the division staff will adjust during this period; Lorenzo Baker will be assisting Mr. Betz and Ginna Muzinga will focus on managing the Arts Center.

b. City Council updates: Manager Betz specifically reported:

- **Arts in the Park program:** Commissioner Rubino and Manager Betz reported that the City Council has been very supportive; it will be on the Work Plan agenda item in June and a developed proposal will be presented in July.
- **Historical Archive Project:** Manager Betz touched on a staff driven initiative that is on tomorrow's (Nov. 20) City Council meeting. The Parks and Recreation Department is recommending that the Council appropriate funds (\$109K), discuss and provide direction

on a proposal to identify, collect and ultimately protect city owned historical archives plus an educational component. The project could involve renovation of the “Red House” in Polliwog Park and possible creation of an historical document facility. If approved as proposed, the project will roll out in 4 phases and in the fifth year, it will be determined if the document facility or permanent home for the archives will be at the MBAC. The project involves multiple sources of funding, one of which will be from the Public Art Trust Fund. Discussion tomorrow before City Council is just the beginning; it remains to be seen how much of the project will involve the CAC.

Brief discussion followed. Manager Betz emphasized that the involvement of the Commission will depend on the funding sources and alignment of the project with the mission and role of the CAC. Mr. Betz also clarified that the project will be dealing with a visual presentation of the history of Manhattan Beach, with an educational component. Manager Betz emphasized that the main focus now is to archive what the City has and decide what needs to be preserved and archiving is not about disposing of historical materials. He expects long term residents to be interviewed.

- **City Hall lobby public art RFQ:** At its November 6th meeting the City Council approved the issuance of an RFQ of artists which will be released November 7. The selection and approval of finalists is anticipated in February, 2019, with presentation of the finalist’s concepts following in May, and completion and unveiling in January, 2020.
 - New lapel pins: Manager Betz distributed new lapel pins provided by the City Clerk.
- c. Presentation on Local Artist Eva Goldsheid – Ann Pitts. It was noted that Ms. Pitts was unable to attend this meeting and staff will look into a future date for a presentation.

H. COMMISSION ITEMS - None

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

18/1119.1 Utility Box Beautification Project

Manager Betz gave a brief overview, noting that 34 artists made a total of 55 proposals. Staff is very impressed with the quality of the response, noting that 50% were from Manhattan Beach. In Round 1, staff eliminated proposals that didn’t respond properly to the RFP. Tonight, Round 2, the Commission will score the 55 proposals (Amell to Toporow), with the goal of coming up with the top 20. The scoring will involve first viewing all proposals, then scoring. It was agreed to assign between 1-5 points per proposal), and Mr. Betz will be the tiebreaker if needed. He explained that the proposals depict how the design will be placed on a utility box, and if chosen the artist will partner with the installation company.

Vice Chair Rubino called for a break at 7:03 pm and reconvened the meeting at 7:13 pm and the scoring proceeded. Mr. Betz went through each artist and their proposals, answering questions and explaining that after tonight, staff will match the 20 or so selected proposals with box locations and, at the next meeting, staff will show the Commission how this matching is proposed to occur.

The scoring resulted in the selection of the following artists in alpha order: Amell, Aviram, Barnes, Berry, Billings, Brantley, Cruglez, Escopete, Ganzini, Gould, Ireland, K. Kiefer, Kracht, Meyer, Miller, Petroczy, Post, Skolarus, Stitt and Toporow.

It was subsequently moved and seconded (Matsumoto/Ryan) that the aforementioned artists be selected for Round 2 of the Utility Box Beautification Project.

ROLL CALL:

AYES:	Grayson, Matsumoto, May, Ryan, Taner, Vice-Chair Rubino
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Chair Manna

Brief discussions followed on December meetings: it was confirmed that the CAC will meet in December. Mr. Betz mentioned that on December 18, possibly, the City Council may be discussing a new ordinance for handling murals on private property which will involve the Department of Community Development with some review by CAC.

J. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:45, P.M, Vice Chair Rubino moved, second by May, adjournment, to the regular meeting of December 17, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 1400 Highland Avenue; there being no objections, it was so ordered.