

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

January 14, 2020
City Council Chambers – City Hall
1400 Highland Avenue
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rubino called the meeting to order at 6:22 PM.

B. PLEDGE TO FLAG

C. ROLL CALL

Present: Bennett, Manna, May, Taner, Chair Rubino

Absent: Ryan

Staff present: Mark Leyman, Parks and Recreation Director, Eilen Stewart, Interim Cultural Arts Manager (ICAM), Rosemary Lackow, Recording Secretary

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - December 16, 2019

It was moved and seconded (Manna/May) to approve the minutes with no changes. Motion approved by voice vote (4-0-2-0)

Commissioner Taner was seated at 6:29

E. CEREMONIAL - None

F. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit) - None

G. GENERAL BUSINESS - None

H. STAFF ITEMS

Parks and Recreation Director Mark Leyman and Interim Cultural Arts Manager Eilen Stewart reported:

a. Cultural Arts Division updates (major events, programs): MBAC Exhibits: Mare Vitalis Opening (1/17); Murals (Civic Center elevator completed); Utility Box Wrappings (5 installed, Cultural Arts Commission (CAC) rep to report on at CC meeting); Community Grants (9 submissions, to CAC at next meeting); Public Art Assessment (report next meeting); City Hall Lobby (staff working with artists); Special Workshops (holiday wreath, craft night); February Cultural Arts CAC meeting date: (rescheduled to Wednesday, February 19 due to holiday).

b. PATF Budget update: A balance report was given to CAC (currently at \$1,325,065); Director Leyman indicated the fund has remained static for a few months; when there is a change (upon notification by Community Development and Finance) staff will advise the CAC regularly as a (“Staff item”).

c. City Council updates: New utility undergrounding district approved; security enhancements are being phased in at civic buildings including satellite parks/recreation sites; and new city management employees have been welcomed (Parks and Recreation, Community Development, Fire Department) The Commission expressed interest in inviting new Community Development Director Carrie Tai to a CAC meeting within the next year; Director Leyman indicated he will extend that invitation but she is very busy and encouraged the Commission to come to meet her at

City Hall.

I. COMMISSION ITEMS

Discussion of 2020-21 Work Plan Items

Chair Rubino thanked her fellow commissioners for supporting the Joint CAC/CC meeting held January 6 at which the Council approved three new cultural arts Work Plan items: MBAC improvements; a cultural arts marketing campaign; and having performing arts at cultural arts events.

Director Leyman provided examples of Ad Hoc Committees (AHC) used by the Parks and Recreation Commission to efficiently and expeditiously manage its Work Plan programs. He suggested that the CAC form three, one per work plan item, with two Commissioners on each committee and no official action or vote is needed to do this tonight. The purpose of tonight's discussion is to go over the concept and tentatively indicate the membership of each Committee. Once formed, typically two Commissioners will then work off-site together to gather information on a WP item, and report back monthly to the CAC. Staff will create a spreadsheet that can be updated showing progress made for each program. This will also help in reports to City Council.

Chair Rubino opened discussion. **Director Leyman** explained that there have been no specific concerns expressed by the City Council on any of the three new Work Plan items, and City Council approval is not needed to form the Committees at this time because they support programs already green-lighted by the City Council; the AHC's role will be to suggest ideas to the CAC on how to implement the Work Plan programs.

Chair Rubino steered discussion towards the AHCs and how to get started, and questioned whether this may be overwhelming work load-wise, with only two commissioners on a committee. **Commissioner Manna** pointed out that the AHCs would be charged with identifying, not solving issues as the latter will be the work of the CAC.

Director Leyman noted that it is important for the AHCs to establish a realistic timeline for implementing each Work Plan item. ICAM Stewart explained that once the AHCs are created and direction and priorities are set, then the committees will more or less be self-guiding. **Commissioner Manna** suggested that perhaps only one AHC be established, to start.

Commissioner Taner inquired whether members of the community could participate as members of an AHC; **Director Leyman** responded enthusiastically that any member of the Community should be encouraged to participate by giving advice, information etc. but the actual committee members should be restricted to only cultural arts commissioners. as sanctioned by the City Council. **Chair Rubino** cited in the Cultural Arts Master Plan that the APPC (Art in Public Places Committee) is the only sanctioned "Community Committee" that officially includes city residents. **Commissioner Taner** suggested that, in the future, the CAC might look to find a way for AHCs as being formed tonight, to include resident members as with the APPC.

Director Leyman emphasized that the main priority is to get going; the Committees should each meet with a staff liaison to set a path forward in the next month, and ICAM Stewart noted that having only a 2-person committee will actually be a more flexible situation.

Chair Rubino asked for volunteers for each of the three AHC's with the following response, tentatively establishing the following AD Hoc Committees:

1. MBAC AHC: Manna/Rubino
2. Marketing AHC: Taner/Ryan
3. Performing Arts AHC: Bennet/May/Rubino

The Chair inquired and Director Leyman responded that he will look into whether, as in the case of the Performing Arts AHC, more than two Commissioners can be on a Committee without violating the Brown Act. He directed as a next step, that Committee members as tentatively formed tonight, email Eilen Stewart to set up a meeting; the first meeting will go over "do's and don'ts".

Other Commission Items: Commissioner Bennett reported that all art classes at Mira Costa showed off their art at the recent Tedx Manhattan Beach conference; Commissioner May noted she won a "first place" award for her abstract painting of the pier at a recent art competition sponsored by Assembly Member Al Muratsuchi, held at Shockboxx gallery in Hermosa Beach; Commissioner Taner congratulated Commissioner May and commented that the competition was very well done with wonderful participation and perhaps Manhattan Beach can replicate, as it's a great way to market art in Manhattan Beach. Commissioner Manna recommended two exhibits at the Getty Center: "Manet and Modern Beauty" (just ended) and "True Grit: American Prints and Photographs from 1900 – 1950" (till January 19th) and Chair Rubino recommended the "April's Fools" improv comedy troupe show she recently enjoyed in Hermosa Beach.

J. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:33 P.M, Chair Rubino called for adjournment, seeing no objection, the meeting was adjourned to Wednesday, February 19, 2020 (regular meeting date of February 17 rescheduled due to Presidents holiday) at the City Council Chambers, City Hall.