



**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH  
CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION MEETING  
Monday, March 21, 2022  
6:00 PM  
Location: Virtual – Instructions within Agenda**

**A G E N D A**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

**B. ROLL CALL**

Commissioner Marcy                      Commissioner Tokashiki  
Commissioner Manna                      Commissioner Rubino  
Commissioner Spackman

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

February 7, 2022

**D. CEREMONIAL**

**E. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit)**

The public may address the Commission regarding City business not on the agenda.

**F. GENERAL BUSINESS**

Discussion of 2022 Work Plan items:

- a) Rainbow Crosswalk
- b) MBAC Revamp Project
- c) Art Grant – Utility Beautification
- d) Art Grant – Murals
- e) Art Grant – Digital Wall Art
- f) Art Grant – Performing Arts
- g) Art Grant – Sculpture Garden
- h) Art Grant – Permanent Sculpture
- i) Art Grant – School/Education

**G. STAFF ITEMS**

**Cultural Arts Division updates**  
PATF Budget update  
City Council updates

**H. COMMISSION ITEMS**

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Orders No. N-25-20 and No. N-29-20, City Council Chambers is not open to the public. In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, the Cultural Arts Commission encourages the public to participate by submitting comments on agenda items or other subject matter within the jurisdiction of the Library Commission via email to both [estewart@citymb.info](mailto:estewart@citymb.info) and [lrobb@citymb.info](mailto:lrobb@citymb.info), no later than 5:00 PM, March 21, 2022 (the day of the meeting), if you are unable to join the meeting via Zoom.

**Zoom Meeting Instructions:** There are multiple ways to join the meeting. Please Note - the Cultural Arts Commissioners and Staff will be visible via video, members of the public may choose to turn on their video during public comment during their turn.

If you plan to speak during the meeting, join via Zoom at 5:45 p.m. in order to request to be on the speakers list.

1. Join Zoom Meeting via the internet (download app if needed): Direct URL: <https://comb.zoom.us/j/92330757540> , Meeting ID: 923 3075 7540  
Please name yourself to include the item(s) you wish to speak on, and your First & Last name. Example: G.1 – Jane Smith.
2. Join Zoom Meeting via Phone Application (download app if needed): Download Mobile Apps: <https://zoom.us/download>, Enter Meeting ID: 923 3075 7540  
Please name yourself to include the item(s) you wish to speak on, and your First & Last name. Example: G.1 – Jane Smith.
3. Join Zoom Meeting via Phone Conference (Voice Only): Phone Numbers: +1 669-900-6833 or +1 346-248-7799. Meeting ID: 923 3075 7540.  
Find your local number: <https://comb.zoom.us/j/aByWMRmYK>. Upon calling in, you will be "muted" until you are prompted by the Host to state which item you wish to comment on. Your mic will be unmuted when it's your turn to provide Public Comment.

Please Note - All microphones for non-Commissioners or Staff will be muted during the meeting, except during Public Comment periods for which you have requested to speak.

The City strongly advises you of the following:

1. Download the Zoom app to your respective device well ahead of the meeting time. Visit <https://zoom.us/> for the download link. Please make sure you have downloaded the most recent version available.
2. Familiarize yourself with the Zoom application prior to the meeting.
3. Check the condition of all personal electronic equipment, internet and phone connections, and microphone/speaker functionality. The City is unable to support this equipment.
4. Join the meeting prior to the start time. Due to security or technical limitations, admittance to the meeting may not be possible after the meeting begins.
5. Every effort will be made to "rename" participants on Zoom as quickly as possible, so that phone numbers are hidden, however, phone numbers may be partially visible for a brief time.

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

February 7, 2022

Meeting by teleconference (Zoom) – in accordance with procedures on agenda  
1400 Highland Avenue  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Marcy called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Present: Manna, Spackman, Tokashiki, Chair Marcy

Absent: Ryan

Staff present: Eilen Stewart, Cultural Arts Manager (CAM), Ginna Muzingo, Agenda Host, Parks and Recreation, Rosemary Lackow, Recording Secretary.

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES -**

December 20, 2021: Moved and seconded (Tokashiki/Manna) to approve as submitted.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Manna, Rubino, Spackman, Chair Marcy

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ryan

ABSTAIN: None

The motion carried by a 4-1 (Ryan absent)

**D. CEREMONIAL – None**

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

**F. GENERAL BUSINESS**

**1. Leadership Manhattan Beach mural discussion**

CAM Stewart provided an overview with the aid of graphics, summarizing that the request is from the Leadership Manhattan Beach (LMB) to implement as its annual project. It involves a community painted mural on the parking lot wall of the Manhattan Beach Art Center, facing the public right-of-way on 11<sup>th</sup> street. The project has a tight, fast-tracked (6-month) timeline and is congruent with one of a number of components of the current CAC Work Plan Art Center Revamp project. The task for the CAC now is to review and give input regarding two proposed mural designs and if possible, indicate a preference. The project has already been approved by City Council. In a show of hands, three of the five currently seated Commissioners (Manna, Marcy, Tokashiki) indicated they are alumni of the LMB program.

CAM Stewart invited LMB representatives Greg Cicchino and CAC Commissioner Betsy Rubino to make a presentation.

Mr. Cicchino, using slides, provided more details, indicating that the installation is to be a community involved “painting extravaganza” that will take place on a single day. The design is intended to be relatively

simple as the technique will be similar to “paint by number”. The project is identified as a component of “Phase 3” of the Art Center Revamp Work Plan item. Regarding public noticing, a postcard will be sent mid-February to neighbors within 1,000 feet of the project in order to gauge nearby resident opinions and currently LMB website is conducting a poll. The LMB group is engaged in fund raising and is about halfway to their goal.

Ms. Rubino indicated that the Council has been given a presentation and gave its unanimous support. LMB will go back to the Council on March 1, 2022 for final approval. So far there have been 37 respondents to the online poll, 28 preferring option 1, and 8 preferring Option 2, and 1 person objecting to the project.

Mr. Cicchino and Ms. Rubino responded to Commission questions: 1) LMB is donating the mural to the City and it will then be the responsibility of the City to maintain it; 2) the mural is going to have a graffiti prevention seal coat and is expected to last 5-10 years; 3) the installation budget is approximately \$2,000; 4) While LMB is getting opinions from nearby residents, including those right across from the wall, and strong support has been received so far, LMB has a “Plan B” in case the proposals are rejected; 5) Both artists have a city connection; 6) The wall will need some prep work (e.g. power washing) but if the City cannot do that prep, LMB will get it done; 7) the wall is 137 feet in length of which about 10 feet has some adjacent vegetation which is not anticipated to be removed and the plan is to paint the entire wall including where vegetation exists.

Commissioners, one-by-one, provided input.

**Chair Marcy** stated he likes both options but leans toward #1 because of the vibrant color. He asked whether the design can in some way be more cohesive with the Van Hamersveld frieze on the site building.

**Commissioner Spackman** stated he understands the attraction of option 1, but prefers option 2 because it specifically has imagery relating to Manhattan Beach.

**CAM Stewart** advised that regardless of the CAC preference, ultimately the project design is up to LMB with approval by the City Council.

**Commissioner Tokashiki** stated that she likes both options but prefers #1 for the colors and the fact that the foliage represented is native to the local area and agrees with a comment that it would be good if the mural somehow works with the Van Hamersveld frieze.

**Commissioner Manna** stated he prefers #2 because of the city image tie-in. He understands that the color of #1 makes it stand out but he feels that the street it faces (11<sup>th</sup> Street) is a quiet and much less traveled frontage and therefore does not need to “pop out”.

**Chair Marcy** asked for any additional input and seeing none, summarized that there is a 2-2 split on the mural preference, Marcy and Tokashiki preferring #1 and Manna and Spackman preferring #2.

**CAM Stewart** advised it would be appropriate that the Commission entertain a motion to support the LMB mural project but without a design preference.

It was discussed briefly that the project regardless of which design is chosen, is consistent with CAC goals and will advance the progress of the MBAC revamp project, a component of the approved CAC work plan.

It was moved and seconded (Manna/Tokashiki) that the Commission endorse and support the subject LMB mural project while not indicating a preference of a design option.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Manna, Spackman, Tokashiki, Chair Marcy

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Rubino

The motion carried by a 4-1-1 vote (Ryan absent, Rubino abstain)

LMB representative Cicchino thanked the Commission for its support.

## 2. Discussion of 2022 Work Plan items

The Commission and/or staff discussed and provided status reports:

- a. Rainbow Crosswalk: CA staff working with PW regarding design; the x-walk by Polliwog is a top priority and a realistic timeline is being developed; anticipating bringing to Council April 5 to dovetail with a street slurry seal project at the site.
- b. MBAC Revamp Project: no significant new info: staff working on frieze mural repair.
- c. Art Grant – Utility Beautification: based on Council concerns, it is appropriate for this subcommittee to reconnect and discuss the project description and goals.
- d. Art Grant – Murals: no new information.
- e. Art Grant – Digital Wall Art: this will be discussed at the next (March) CAC meeting.
- f. Art Grant – Performing Arts: no new information
- g. Art Grant – Sculpture Garden (temporary works): no new information
- h. Art Grant – Permanent Sculpture: no new information
- i. Art Grant – School Education: it was clarified that this project is staying on the work plan, but not a priority at this time.

## G. STAFF ITEMS

CAM Stewart reported:

- MBAC Charles (Chick) Lynn Bragg Retrospective: a reception was held for the opening, 150 attended including CA Commissioners; there was a strong educational component (“Color the Giant Wall”); the exhibit will close April 3<sup>rd</sup>. CAM Stewart noted that there are 4 MBAC exhibits per year and the dates are posted on the Cultural Arts webpage and calendar.
- Art classes: going well.
- Public Arts Trust Fund has had no significant change in the last month.
- City Council updates: the Rainbow Crosswalk is anticipated to be within the allocated budget.
- Manhattan Beach Education Foundation (MBEF) Proposal: CAM Stewart addressed that the item was supposed to have been called out on the agenda, however was omitted due to a clerical error. As it is a Staff Item requiring no vote, it is still appropriate to discuss it at this time. CAM Stewart provided a background and description, using slides, of a proposal by the MBEF to install a donor recognition mural with ceramic tiles on the east side (facing Shade Hotel) of the existing fountain wall located in the north Metlox plaza. Slides were shown depicting two artists’ renditions which include images reflecting educational subjects, and oval shapes that will contain names of donors, with the size of the ovals corresponding to donation amounts. The project has already been presented in concept and approved by the City Council and MBEF will go back to council on March 15, 2022 for a decision as to which design scheme to apply. The concept is being shared today to inform the CAC and provide an opportunity for CAC input.

CAM Stewart responded to questions, clarifying the wall’s location, ownership (City owns) but was not able to state whether the project is being funded fully by MBEF. She understands that the location

was chosen because it is a very visible and central to downtown, and is fitting in that the school system is an integral anchor that attracts people to the city. Discussion ensued and some concerns were expressed regarding the location, and review process.

CAM Stewart went over the City Council's sole authority to review such projects and clarified that the project will be a joint venture between the city and MBEF: the city donating the site for the project while MBEF will maintain and update the donor wall as needed. The input the Council is seeking from CAC is: 1) Are you in support? 2) Do you prefer either of the two artistic renderings? 3) Do you have any concerns? Of these the council is most wanting input on the design, which of the two is preferred.

Chair Marcy took a straw poll seeking input, resulting in the following: Tokashiki: supports but has a concern for the space/location (can it go on the school district office site; can this be reconsidered?), prefers design #2. Spackman: strongly supports in general, feels it is unfortunate that the CAC missed being in the conversation earlier, does not support a location at the school district main office in that he recalls that site as poor public visibility and prefers design #2; Rubino: supports the MBEF and council with concern for the location (would like to see closer to a school), and has a strong preference for #2. Manna: would like to see consideration for a location closer to the City Hall or library, and also prefers #2.

#### **H. COMMISSION ITEMS**

- Commissioner Spackman inquired as to the MBEF matter not being on the agenda; CAM Stewart noted that it was intended to be on the agenda but was inadvertently omitted and assured that such omission is not legally incorrect since the item was a request for input, not a formal recommendation to council.
- Commissioner Manna congratulated CAM Stewart and staff on doing a great job, especially on the Bragg retrospective, inquiring as to a previous proposal to have Bragg paint a mural on the east wall of Joslyn Community Center; CAM Stewart noted that the wall at the Joslyn Center, while a nice location and space, does not have a type of surface that lends itself to Bragg's type of mural.
- Chair Marcy will discuss the status of Commissioner Ryan with staff in light of her absences.

#### **I. ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:25 P.M, with no objection, Chair Marcy adjourned the meeting to March 21, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

**DATE:** March 21, 2022

**TO:**

Members of the Cultural Arts Commission

**FROM:**

Eilen R Stewart, Cultural Arts Manager

**SUBJECT:**

Cultural Arts Commission Work Plan for 2022

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Discuss Cultural Arts Commission Work Plan items approved by the City Council on January 11, 2022 at the City Council and Commissions joint meeting.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Fiscal implications, if any, will be developed on a project-by-project basis and presented to the City Council as necessary.

**DISCUSSION:**

The City Council met with the Cultural Arts Commission in a joint meeting on January 11, 2022 to provide direction and approve the following topics for the 2022 Cultural Arts Commission Work Plan.

- Rainbow Crosswalk
- MBAC Revamp
- Art Grant - Utility Beautification
- Art Grant - Murals
- Art Grant – Digital Art
- Art Grant - Performing Arts
- Art Grant - Sculpture Garden
- Art Grant – Permanent Sculpture
- Art Grant - School/Education

Ad-hoc committees will be assigned for each project. Committees will provide a written update prior to each commission meeting, which will be attached to the agenda monthly.