



**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION MEETING**

Monday, March 18, 2024

4:00 PM

**Location: Manhattan Beach City Hall and
Hybrid virtual**

A G E N D A

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

C. ROLL CALL

Chair Spackman
Commissioner Karger
Commissioner Dohner

Vice Chair Tokashiki
Commissioner Patterson
Commissioner Ehrlich-Fein

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 21, 2024

E. CEREMONIAL

F. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit)

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

G. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Work Plan Item Discussion
 - a. Utility Box Beautification – Phase III
 - b. Murals
 - c. Sculpture Garden
 - d. New Art Initiatives

H. STAFF ITEMS

Cultural Arts Division updates
PATF Budget update
City Council updates

I. COMMISSION ITEMS

J. ADJOURNMENT

If unable to attend in person, the Cultural Arts Commission encourages the Cultural Arts Commission encourages the public to participate by submitting comments on agenda items or other subject matter within the jurisdiction of the Cultural Arts Commission via email to both estewart@manhattanbeach.gov and Irobb@manhattanbeach.gov, no later than 3:00 PM, the day of the meeting.

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 4:00 PM 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/aByWMMRmYK>. 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 21, 2024

Hybrid format: by teleconference (Zoom) and in person in accordance with procedures on agenda
1400 Highland Avenue
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Spackman called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

C. ROLL CALL

Present:, Erlich-Fein, Karger, Patterson, Vice Chair Tokashiki, Chair Spackman

Absent: Dohner

Staff present: Cultural Arts Manager (CAM) Eilen Stewart, Ceramics Supervisor Eric Brinkman,
Recording Secretary Rosemary Lackow

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 18, 2024, January 17, 2024

It was moved and seconded (Karger/Patterson) to approve December 18th minutes as submitted. The motion passed by voice vote: 5-0-1: Ayes:, Erlich-Fein, Karger, Patterson, Vice Chair Tokashiki, Chair Spackman; Absent: Dohner

It was moved and seconded (Tokashiki/Karger) to approve January 17th minutes as submitted. The motion passed by voice vote: 5-0-1: Ayes:, Erlich-Fein, Karger, Patterson, Vice Chair Tokashiki, Chair Spackman; Absent: Dohner

E. CEREMONIAL - None

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

G. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Work Plan Item Discussion

a. Utility Box Beautification (Phase III):

CAM Stewart updated: Phase II – all wraps are completed, however the installation contractor will be going back and making repairs on some cabinets. Phase III: in progress. After the RFP is closed, staff will vet submittals and bring back a list to the Commission for review for 28 locations (includes those added

downtown/Highland north end).

b. Murals

CAM Stewart updated: Murals are being installed. The first, by Emily Tanaka is in at MBAC; the next one will be by Armelle Vervialle Ngo at Manhattan Heights (facing MBB) to be followed by the Dave Titus piece on Parking Lot 2 near the pier. Following these will be the pier restroom, beach stairs, Marine Avenue fire/police facility, CAM Stewart will report progress at each commission meeting and will be recorded in the minutes. The shark mural will be going back to council tentatively March 19th.

Discussion followed as the commission expressed a desire that the great progress being made in installing community art be publicized. It was noted that there is an “Art in Public Places” “Story Map” showing art in the city already on the city website but this needs to be updated. CAM Stewart requested that the Commission inform her of any or all possible locations that they have in mind (including new Fire Station 2).

c. Sculpture Garden.

CAM Sewart updated that on 1/17/24 the CAC finalized the list of sculptures to send on to the council for consideration, which hopefully will be on the 3/19/24 council agenda.

d. New Art Initiatives

- Downtown Art Walk: Commissioner Karger updated that she has met with Jill Lampkin (Downtown BID) and City staff and found there is strong support for a downtown art event. The Commission discussed challenges of a traditional art walk (as experienced in the North End working with that BID a few years ago). CAM Stewart showed slides regarding a Skateboard Art Walk as an alternative to a traditional art walk. There are many advantages. First it would solve a number of challenges as experienced in the North End walk (require a smaller footprint in stores; will involve a standardized artwork (skateboard), would mitigate liability concerns in that a simple installation method would only be needed, provided by the City) and also various decorative methods can be used. To go forward, CAC approval is needed and an ad hoc committee is needed that will develop a plan in coordination with walk (the downtown BID. Timing-wise, staff is looking at the first quarter, 2025 for implementation. City staff will create a “call to artists” coordinating with local artists. The Commission discussed; this may not be a “one-off” event, perhaps becoming an annual event, and the Manhattan Village mall may be included in the future. Commissioner Karger will contact the City of Huntington Beach for information.
- Staff Report - List of Projects discussion. The Commission discussed the running list of projects that is provided in the staff report. It was agreed that on page 3 of the staff report, under Proactive Research of Additional Arts Opportunities, the project /bullet Surfboard on Parade be combined with the Public Art Tour, as the new skateboard project. Commissioner Tokashiki inquired if the two projects’ Young at Art for Older Adults and Art Therapy should be removed from the list or status updated, if these are now staff items. Commissioner Erlich-Fein has done some research on Art Therapy (has found a person who could teach it) but this is separate from the Young at Art item.

There was a brief discussion on what is “Public Art Tour” with Commissioner Tokashiki stating she feels this could be about putting together a brochure promoting the City’s public art and feels that this

is a high priority. CAM Stewart clarified that the origin of the art tour was a suggestion by a former CAC Commissioner to have a physical tour and this is what the Council approved. The concept of a brochure would be a separate work plan item and involves a lot more staff work and would require new council approval. CAM Stewart discouraged personally contacting the Chamber to generate interest in this as it is not a council approved project. CAM Stewart noted that the city has an online component “Story Map” of Art in Public Places is on the city website and this needs to be updated once the current projects are all done. If the Commission wants to develop a work plan item that would develop a brochure (paper) from the existing online Story Map, that could be suggested for the future.

Other work plan items that were discussed as needing further discussion included the Chalk Art Festival and Art Vending Machines; many issues need to be worked out such as location, dated, parking and traffic considerations (Chalk Art Festival). An ad hoc committee will be needed; Commissioner Tokashiki was suggested to lead this effort.

CAM Stewart will update the list for the next meeting.

H. STAFF ITEMS

Cultural Arts Division updates – Ceramics Supervisor Brinkman and/or CAM Stewart reported:

- As previously reported, a new ceramics kiln will be installed in time for the summer, but it now appears that, in order to accommodate the work, a portion of the spring ceramics programming will have to be shut down. The existing kilns will continue to be used. An overview of the ceramics studio and kiln locations was presented.
- Cultural Arts staff is working on Concerts in the Park – almost all booked up and working with other staff on the Juneteenth Event planning (2-day event).
- The mural at Manhattan Heights is currently going up the Dave Tius mural is next, then PD & Fire Departments building (nautilus shell) and then the Strand and Strand stairways.
- Staff with HAI is working with the Historical Society in the historic collection archive project (next step is digitization). Perhaps, on March 19th the City Council may consider the future use of the Red House, along with other Cultural Arts items.
- 4/19 will be the community ceramics exhibit, inviting ceramic artists in the LA area.
- On March 7th there will be a Bruce’s Beach committee meeting, they will be considering how to best reformat the RFP to get submittals that are desired; Public Works is working on replacing the stolen plaque.
- City Council/City Manager actions: City Manager Moe has directed that the concerts in the park proceed with funding from the arts fund (first time this done).
- Arts Assessment project update: once a report is done by the consultant, it will be brought to the CAC.
- PATF (Public Art Trust Fund) report: no changes since last meeting (total fund balance about \$1.7+ million; of that, +- \$1 million is allocated; and +- \$680k unallocated; projected expirations: 2023 - none; 2024 – about \$241k; 2025: about \$46,00.

I. COMMISSION ITEMS – None

J. ADJOURNMENT

At 5:37 p.m. Chair Spackman without opposition, adjourned the meeting to 4:00 pm, March 18 (Wednesday) at 4:00 p.m.

DRAFT

DATE: March 18, 2024

TO:

Members of the Cultural Arts Commission

FROM:

Eilen R Stewart, Cultural Arts Manager

SUBJECT:

Cultural Arts Commission Work Plan for 2023 – 2024

RECOMMENDATION:

Discuss Cultural Arts Commission (CAC) Work Plan items based on the input received from City Council at the March 7, 2023 City 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:

City Council met with the Cultural Arts Commission in a joint meeting on January 9, 2023 to provide direction for the 2023 Cultural Arts Commission Work Plan. Upon discussion, City Council directed the Commission to present a new work plan for consideration. This work plan was presented to and approved by the City Council on March 7, 2023.

The Commission identified the following work plan items:

- **Utility Boxes Phase II:**

- CAC identified 12 locations with 18 total utility boxes where artwork may be installed
- RFP was posted and 40 proposals received
- CAC made recommendations on artists and locations, City Council will review these recommendations and make a final decision on August 1, 2023 (this presentation was slated for the July 18 CC agenda and was moved to August 1 to alleviate overburdening the meeting)
- City Council has reviewed and approved recommended artwork and locations (18 boxes at 16 locations), staff is routing contracts to begin work
- In response to request from the Down Town Business Association and other interested parties, staff recommends preparing for Phase III of new utility box artwork.
- The CAC identified 39 individual utility boxes in 28 locations around

the City and proposal for Phase III and locations will be reviewed by City Council at the January 17, 2024 meeting.

- Installation of Phase II boxes was completed in January 2024.

- **Murals on City Property Phase II:**

- CAC identified 7 locations where murals could be installed
- In this phase murals will be applied using paint only, directly onto the surface in as is condition
- RFP has been developed and posted, closing on August 6, 2023, at 5PM
- Staff received 116 applications and assembled a PowerPoint presentation with 100 viable submissions; incomplete and redundant applications were eliminated
- CAC reviewed submissions on their August 21 meeting and put forth 27 semi-finalists for City Council review on September 19
- City Council reviewed the recommendations and approved artwork for 5 sites at their September 19, 2023 meeting; they asked that the CAC return with additional options for the two remaining sites (PD/Fire wall and MBAC)
- Staff directed artists to adjust and/or resubmit their proposals if they felt it was necessary, 47 revisions were received and added to the remaining 73 submissions not yet reviewed by City Council. The Cultural Arts Commission reviewed all 120 proposals (those remaining from Round I and those newly received) at their October 16, 2023 meeting and recommended 9 artworks for the two remaining locations
- Councilmembers Howorth and Napolitano requested to hold a discussion regarding the Eric Snyder “Shark” mural (proposed for the PD/Fire wall) at the October 17, 2023 City Council meeting.
- City Council will review all recommendations as well as the “Shark” mural at their November 21, 2023 meeting
- CC selected mural options for Heights (versions a and b by previously selected artist Armelle Vervialle Ngo), MBAC, and PD/Fire, and directed staff to find a location for the Shark mural

- **Sculpture Garden:**

- CAC identified 8 possible locations where sculptural artworks could be installed
- Staff met with other departments and discovered several challenges to the program as proposed, including the need for permits and engineering specs
- Staff met to discuss challenges of program and will present possible solutions to the CAC to review, a staff report with CAC recommendations will be drafted and presented to City Council on September 19, 2023
- City Council reviewed the four proposed recommendations and directed CAC and staff to research and return with 15 options of sculptures to purchase or commission for permanent display in lieu

of the four proposed options

- **Velzy Commemorative Plaque:**
 - After extensive feedback from members of the Historical Society and the public as well as discussion by City Council, the final language adopted for the plaque will read as follows:
Dale “Hawk” Velzy opened one of the world’s first known surfboard shops on this site in the early 1950s; Photo Credit: Don Guild
 - Plaque installation is slated to coincide with the August 27, 2023 Catalina Classic Paddleboard Race
 - Plaque has been completed and will be unveiled at a celebratory event at the Hermosa Beach Historical Society on August 24, 2023
 - Public Works will install plaque after the Catalina Classic Race on August 27, 2023
 - Plaque was installed in early January 2024
- **Proactive Research of Additional Arts Opportunities:**
 - The CAC will keep an active list of arts opportunities and research the most viable options as time and schedules permit
 - The list of possible arts initiatives as of March 2023 includes:
 - Art Walk/Art Exhibition
 - Digital Art/Performance (removed 09.18.23)
 - Instruments in the Park
 - Performing Arts at MBAC (removed 09.18.23)
 - Art Nights/MB Chamber
 - Intersection Decorations (removed 09.18.23)
 - Designated Street Art Area (removed 09.18.23)
 - Mural at Dorsey Field (removed 09.18.23)
 - Decommission Mosaic Artwork at Pier (removed 09.18.23, defer to RLA assessment)
 - Small Downtown Performance Space
 - Polliwog Park Landscape Art (removed 09.18.23)
 - The Cultural Arts Commission reviewed the running list of art opportunities at their September 18, 2023 meeting, removed/renamed as needed and added several new items; the current list of projects is as follows:
 - Public Art Tour (pause until other work is complete, CC 10.19.23)
 - Instruments in the Park (removed by CC 10.19.23)
 - Art Nights/MB Chamber
 - Small Downtown Performance Space (removed by CC 10.19.23, requested programming existing spaces instead)
 - Chalk Art Festival
 - Surfboards on Parade
 - Art Vending Machine
 - Young at Art for Older Adults
 - Art Therapy at Joslyn Center
 - LA/South Bay Coalition vs Hate Community Mural (removed)

- by CC 10.19.23, staff to bring back as separate item)
 - Alley Arts Murals (removed by CC 10.19.23, more development needed)
 - The City Council reviewed this list of initiatives at their September 19th 2023 meeting and made comments resulting in the following list:
 - Art Nights/MB Chamber
 - Chalk Art Festival
 - Surfboards on Parade
 - Art Vending Machine
 - Young at Art for Older Adults
 - Art Therapy at Joslyn Center
 - Public Art Tour (paused by CC 10.19.23)
- **Bruce's Beach Artwork Recommendations:**
 - Following the closing of the RFP, staff received 26 submissions for the Bruce's Beach Commemorative artwork
 - The Art in Public Places Committee (APPC), reviewed all proposals and recommended that the following be moved forward for review and recommendation by the Cultural Arts Commission
 - [Austen Brantley](#)
 - [Amie Jacobsen](#)
 - [James Dinh](#)
 - [Forma Studio](#)
 - [Muna Malik and Tre Borden](#)
 - [Masud Ashley Olufani 2](#)
 - [James Moore](#)
 - [Rachel and Rigel Hunter](#)
 - [Joseph O'Connell](#)
 - The CAC reviewed the 9 applicants at their August 21 meeting and recommended 5 candidates for City Council Review. The CAC concurred with the APPC that more outreach to the community and development of projects is needed. The recommended candidates are:
 - James Dinh
 - Forma Studio
 - Muna Malik and Tre Borden
 - Austen Brantley
 - Joseph O'Connell (I Was Here Project & Creative Machines)
 - Next APPC meeting has been scheduled for 6pm, on January 24, 2024
 - APPC met on 01.24.24 and recommended the following action plan:
 - Split project in two: artist work and installation/permitting work
 - Split budget 50/50 for artist vs installation/permitting
 - Create a team of experts for the project: selected artist, staff,

contractors as needed from following areas: Public Works, Engineering, Architectural Design, Project Management, Community Development, Building Safety, Planning, Permitting, and Cultural Arts

- Redevelop and reissue RFP with new budget and clarified goals for artwork
- Create a short video to accompany RFP outlining new process and didactic goals of the artwork
- Host a pre-application RFP workshop to answer questions from prospective applicants and ensure quality proposals
- Next APPC meeting has been scheduled for 6pm, on March 7, 2023
- The March 7, 2024 Zoom meeting was hacked by a group of individuals who were able to completely override all controls for the meeting for a period of several minutes. They proclaimed horrible racial slurs both vocally and visually by taking over the 'share screen' function of the meeting. The technical support present on site quickly jumped into action and were eventually able to regain control of the Zoom component and remove the perpetrators from the meeting. The incident was reported to appropriate agencies including the Manhattan Beach Police Department as well as LA vs Hate.