



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

**Monday, September 16, 2024
4:00 PM**

**Location: Joslyn Community Center Sunrise Room
1601 North Valley Drive,
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
and Hybrid virtual**

A G E N D A

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

C. ROLL CALL

Commissioner Patterson
Vice Chair Karger
Commissioner Colmey

Chair Tokashiki
Commissioner Dohner
Commissioner Padnos

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 15, 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. RLA Art Assessment Report Presentation – Christina Varvi
2. Work Plan Item Discussion
 - a. Utility Box Beautification – Phase III (on hold)
 - b. Murals update
 - c. Sculpture Garden
 - d. New Art Initiatives
 - e. Memorial for the Fallen

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 ebrinkman@manhattanbeach.gov and lrobb@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**

July 15, 2024

Location: Manhattan Beach City Hall and Hybrid (remote) format: by teleconference (Zoom)
City Hall: 1400 Highland Avenue
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tokashiki called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

C. ROLL CALL

Present: Dohner, Padnos, Colmeley, Patterson, Vice Chair Karger, Chair Tokashiki

Absent: None

Staff present: Parks and Recreation Director Mark Leyman, Senior Management Analyst Linda Robb, Recording Secretary Rosemary Lackow

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 17, 2024

It was moved and seconded (Dohner/Patterson) to approve subject to one change: Page 2, bullet for City Art Tour, last paragraph, first line: strike “Commissioner Karger”, replace with “Chair Tokashiki”.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote: 6-0

E. CEREMONIAL - None

F. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit)

Debrah Henderson, resident, 1) suggested that a newly installed cinderblock stairway/walkway providing access from the Manhattan Villas senior apartments to the lower soccer field/park area would be an opportunity for a mural, perhaps with an intergenerational theme; and 2) recently attended some poetry events in El Segundo led by that city’s Poet Laureate and suggested that the Commission could look into that program.

Tony Antich, engineering consultant, introduced himself stating he has been hired by Public Works to provide assistance in matters relating to the physical placement of improvements such as art in the public right of way. Director Leyman stated that Mr. Antich has a great deal of experience and will be a great fit for the city.

G. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. RLA Art Assessment Report Update

Director Leyman distributed a report prepared by RLA Conservation, Inc. dated June, 2024, “City of Manhattan Beach Public Art Collection Survey”. The comprehensive report provides an accounting for all City-owned art and assesses the condition and cost estimates for maintaining. A presentation with

recommendations (repair, maintenance or decommission) will be made by RLA at the September 16th Commission meeting. The role of the Commission will be to review and make recommendations to the City Council for each artwork.

The Commission received the report and Director Leyman briefly responded to questions, including that the report covers works installed prior to 2020 and will be updated as there have been a handful of artworks added after 2020; staff will be looking into what resources are needed and what work can be done in-house by city employees.

2. Work Plan Item Discussion

- a. Utility Box Beautification (Phase III) – Director Leyman noted that Phase III is on hold but staff is working to bring an outside contractor on board to implement; meanwhile Phase II is complete.
- b. Murals Update – Director Leyman noted most are installed. The pier comfort station and shark murals are outstanding; staff is working with artist Charles Bragg for a start date on the comfort station and installation of the shark mural requires discussions with LA County in that it will be located on county property.
- c. Sculpture Garden – Director Leyman confirmed this project is still paused until staff resources are in place.
- d. New Art Initiatives
 - City Art Tour (Tokashiki, Karger, Dohner): Chair Tokashiki reported that the committee has met and her notes summarizing their discussion and progress is attached to this meeting’s agenda. The Chair highlighted the project objective and anticipated phases/products including an updated website, a physical pamphlet, installing QR codes installed at artworks providing background information and possibly a guided bus tour. Chair Tokashiki noted they have identified source documents and are developing a plan to proceed; a spreadsheet provided by Recreation Supervisor Brinkman has been very helpful. While there is a lot of information on the city website currently, it will need to be checked and updated. The committee has divided up tasks: 1) draft brief descriptions of the art (Commissioner Karger); 2) update spreadsheet (Chair Tokashiki), and 3) identify artwork locations on a map (Commissioner Dohner). Director Leyman affirmed that artist bios are on file and can be provided through Recreation Supervisor Brinkman.
 - Poet Laureate (Patterson, Colmey, Padnos): Commissioner Patterson has some basic information on the committee’s thoughts on this project and she has provided info first to the two new commissioners and now to the other commissioners. She feels that Manhattan Beach already has a key ingredient in that there is an existing poetry group that meets regularly at Joslyn Center but would like to see younger people exposed to and participating in poetry. She has begun to develop an outline of things that need to be determined such as the main program elements and the manner in which the Poet Laureate would be chosen. **Commissioner Patterson** feels that a Poet Laureate should be somewhat known, with experience to offer in support of classes or programs that are offered. Commissioner Patterson will contact the City of El Segundo to obtain information about their program in advance of the September meeting.

Discussion, the Commission expressed enthusiasm to have a program more performance based and

it was suggested that the committee explore having both an adult and a younger laureate.

Chair Tokashiki invited public comment.

Debrah Henderson, older adult poetry group member, stated that the group (through Bob Perkins) collaborates with Mira Costa High School for intergenerational poetry activities. She has contact info for both Bob and Sam Lee, at the City of El Segundo.

H. STAFF ITEMS

Cultural Arts Division updates – Director Leyman reported:

- Cultural Arts Division staffing update: 1) full-time Cultural Arts Senior Recreation Supervisor—application filing closed today; 2) project manager, Bruce’s Beach artwork—contract is being processed; and 3) Phase III utility box beautification project manager —contract has just been signed.
- City Arts and Facility tour: Monday July 29th, leaving from the Art Center on Manhattan Beach Boulevard, 4-6 p.m. If the date does not work, can look at potentially rescheduling, or arranging one-on-one tours.
- New Fallen Memorial Work Plan Item: the Parks and Recreation Commission has completed its work on a memorial honoring residents, men and women, who have given their lives while serving for their country (approximately 26 names identified). The Parks and Rec Commission identified three locations within the civic center plaza for a memorial and the council has approved potentially a public art piece as opposed to a plain wall. The Cultural Arts Commission will explore and make a recommendation as to the artistic design.
- Concerts in the Park: continuing at Polliwog, the new food trucks have been popular.
- Shakespeare by the Sea: this Thursday, July 18 features *Cardenio* and on the 19th *Henry the IV* – in Polliwog Park
- North End surfboard artwork has been installed on west side of Highland, there will be monthly light shows; more to come.
- Community Art Exhibit opening reception will be July 26, 5-7 p.m.

At Director Leyman’s suggestion, the Commission formed a new ad hoc committee for the Fallen Memorial project consisting of Commissioners Colmey, Tokashiki and Patterson. The committee will meet with Director Leyman and report back to the Commission in September.

I. COMMISSION ITEMS

Commissioner Dohner recommended an exhibit of Leonardo da Vinci open through the Labor Day weekend at the California Science Center.

J. ADJOURNMENT

At 4:38 p.m. Chair Tokashiki adjourned the meeting, with no objection, to 4:00 pm, September 16, 2024.

TO:

Members of the Cultural Arts Commission

FROM:

Mark Leyman, Director of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT:

RLA Conservation, LLC Comprehensive City Art Collection Presentation

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Cultural Arts Commission receive the RLA Conservation, LLC comprehensive City Art Collection Assessment Presentation by Christina Varvi.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

Costs of the conservation treatments and recommended maintenance for artwork within the City's collection may be paid for from the Public Arts Fund (PAF), which currently has a total balance of about \$1.6 million with approximately \$887,000 in allocated funds and roughly \$705,000 in unallocated funds. The use of PAF funds for this project is congruent with the purpose of the PAF as detailed in the Manhattan Beach Municipal Code Section 10.90.050.

BACKGROUND:

On September 19, 2023, City Council approved a contract with RLA Conservation, LLC (RLA), to assess the condition of each piece in the City's art collection and recommend conservation treatments and maintenance plans for each artwork.

DISCUSSION:

The City of Manhattan Beach owns a collection of approximately 75 public art artworks consisting of murals, sculptures, memorials, fountains, and other assets.

RLA developed a plan for three categories of artworks: those in need of immediate repair and how to accomplish it; those in stable condition but in need of ongoing maintenance to preserve condition; and those in need of decommissioning based on deteriorated condition or the City's desire to no longer house the artwork. RLA has prepared cost estimates and comprehensive plans for each of these contingencies, to be performed at a time determined by the City, with the work done by RLA or other conservation professionals.

The Cultural Arts Commission will discuss the prioritization of the items in the RLA plan at the October commission meeting.

DATE: September 16, 2024

TO:

Members of the Cultural Arts Commission

FROM:

Mark Leyman, Parks and Recreation Director

SUBJECT:

Cultural Arts Commission Work Plan

RECOMMENDATION:

Discuss Cultural Arts Commission (CAC) Work Plan items based on the input received from City Council at the February 13, 2024 City Council work plan 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:

Cultural Arts Commission 2024-2025 Work plan items:

- Utility Box Beautification Phase III (on hold)
- Murals update
- Sculpture Garden
- New Art Initiatives
- Memorial for the Fallen