

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

Minutes

August 9, 2011

Manhattan Beach City Hall
1400 Highland Avenue
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Peter De Maria, Chair
Russ Samuels, Vice Chair
Susan Sweeney
Susannah Rosenthal
Juanita Purner, Cultural Arts Manager
Absent: Nancy Humbarger

III. APPROVAL MINUTES

The minutes of the July 12, 2011 Cultural Arts Commission Meeting were approved as written.

IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None.

V. GENERAL BUSINESS

01/0614.32 Sculpture Garden Program 2012

The Cultural Art Commission reviewed the sculptures selected at the July 27th Special Meeting for recommendation to City Council and made the following requests:

- Contact the artists to request a jpeg image of the sculpture.
- Check with Jason Manley to find out if his work, *Believe*, has a self-contained electrical source and get the accurate dimensions.

Currently, the Sculpture Garden Program has three temporary sculptures in the Civic Plaza (*Osprey*, *Imagine if there were Dragons*, and *Fire Goddess*) with *Sweet Music* installed on the Veterans Memorial Parkway and *On Board* at the Metlox 13th Street corner.

The sculpture City Council purchased last year, *Remember When...*, is also located in the Civic Plaza in front of the Police/Fire Department facility entrance.

The Cultural Arts Commission discussed the Sculpture Garden Program and evaluated the following issues:

- Consideration of raising the stipend from \$2,500 to \$5,000 - This increase can attract artists who are willing to create new works rather than relying on artists with an inventory of art.

- Change the one-year lease for the rotating Sculpture Garden program to two years and allow sufficient time to find artists for the program.
- The idea of holding a competition for a Sculpture Garden was raised, but the Cultural Arts Commission wondered if the City would be interested in adding another permanent sculpture to the program.
- Artists expressed concern with the two-part approval process that involves the Cultural Art Commission's recommendation to City Council prior to final approval.
- The Cultural Arts Commission recognized that the pot/pole format served to jump start the program. However, it has reached a point where it needs to be revamped.
- The selection process needs to advance in order to generate a new level of art works.

MOTION: Commissioner Samuels moved to reschedule the September 13th meeting to Tuesday, September 6th at 6:00 p.m. Commissioner Sweeney seconded the motion.

Ayes: Samuels, Sweeney, De Maria, Rosenthal.

Noes: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Humbarger.

Staff was given the task of finding a meeting room. The Commission would like the Cultural Arts Ad Hoc Committee members to be invited to the next meeting and receive their input on the Sculpture Garden.

IV. REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

Centennial

The Cultural Arts Commission expressed their interest in attending a Centennial meeting and the possibility of coordinating a Centennial community art project. The Cultural Arts Commission would like to participate in the 100 year anniversary celebration.

Art Student Support

Chair De Maria inquired about the possibility of implementing a student scholarship program to support students seeking funds to pursue college art studies.

Strand Architect Benches

Chair De Maria researched the local business community for sponsorship assistance to manufacture four Strand bench prototypes.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Note: The Commission will hold a Special Meeting on September 6th at 12:00 p.m. in the City Manager's Conference Room.

In addition, on September 13th all City Commissions are invited to the Community Meeting held in the PD/FD Conference Room at 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. The plans for the library renovation will be presented.