

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

Minutes

November 4, 2011

Special Meeting

Manhattan Beach City Hall

1400 Highland Avenue

Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:07 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioner Peter De Maria, Commissioner Russ Samuels, Commissioner Nancy Humbarger, Commissioner Susan Sweeney, and Commissioner Susannah Rosenthal.

Absent: None.

Others Present: Ad Hoc Committee Member Sharon Greco, Ad Hoc Committee Member Jim Murray, Ad Hoc Committee Member Alison Wright, Acting Cultural Arts Manager Megumi Sando, and Recreation Leader II Vicky Huynh.

III. APPROVAL MINUTES

None.

IV. CEREMONIAL

Ad Hoc Committee Members – Sharon Greco, Jim Murray, and Alison Wright – were formally introduced with their professional backgrounds and experiences as the former Cultural Arts Commissioners.

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None.

VI. GENERAL BUSINESS

11/1011/4 -1 - Public Artwork for 2012

Using the Public Arts Fund, the Cultural Arts Commission reaffirmed their interest in a presentation of high quality art for the City's Centennial in 2012. The Commission and the Ad Hoc Committee discussed possibilities to install a permanent piece of art or a combination of permanent and temporary artwork to increase the festive atmosphere of the Centennial celebration. Although the Commission is aware of the tight schedule to execute the selection and placement of a permanent sculpture within a year, they wanted to take advantage of the momentum of the Centennial to introduce the community to new

artwork. Purchasing completed artwork, instead of commissioning a new one, was suggested.

Commissioner Rosenthal made a motion to propose that \$150,000 to \$200,000 be earmarked for public art piece(s) used to commemorate the City's Centennial. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sweeney.

Ayes: Rosenthal, Sweeney, De Maria, Samuels, Humbarger,
Noes: None.
Abstain: None.
Absent: None.

The Cultural Arts Commission and Ad Hoc Committee also discussed using the Public Arts Fund to develop full-size modeled prototype benches originally proposed for the Strand. In November, 2010, Ball and Nogues, Predock Frane Architects, Christoph Kapeller (CK Architecture), and Sparano + Mooney Architecture presented eight design concepts to the Commission. The Commission previously thought seeking sponsorship for the prototypes to be installed temporarily on the green belt for public review. The fee for manufacturing the prototypes is approximately \$12,000 each.

The Cultural Arts Commission agreed to use the Sculpture Garden funding to develop four prototypes. The City Council approved Resolution No. 6237 in December, 2009, which allocated \$100,000 of the Public Arts Fund committed for the annual Sculpture Garden Program. The committed balance of the Sculpture Garden program is approximately \$65,000. The selected bench designs for prototypes are by Ball and Nogues ("Puddle"), Predock Frane (the motif of the surfer's wetsuits), Christoph Kapeller ("Shell"), and Sparano + Mooney Architecture (design #3).

VI. REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Rosenthal suggested a Manhattan Beach TED-X meeting with screening and discussion on public art emphasizing its value and rational.

Ad Hoc Committee Member Wright questioned if the library reconstruction will affect the open space in front of the Human Resources Department entrance at the lower level of the City Hall. She stated that the existing pavement art needs to be preserved.

Ad Hoc Committee Member Murray suggested plans for decommissioning existing public art pieces: e.g. Mariposa Butterflies on the greenbelt.

Ad Hoc Committee Member Murray also said that the City could utilize artists to design the City's utility related products or functional furniture such as manhole covers or bike racks.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.