

MINUTES OF THE
SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN ARTS COMMISSION

SEPTEMBER 7, 1977

3:00 P.M.

Housing & Redevelopment Conference Room

Commission Members

Present:

Edward Beimfohr
Gloria Flores
Muriel Johnson
John King
Emily Strand
Ken Waterstreet
Jane Watkins
Judith Weintraub
Susan Willoughby

Commission Members

Absent: (Excused)

Doreen Mauk

(Unexcused)

Maurice Read

City Staff Present:

John Whitehead

The meeting of the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission was called to order by Chair Ed Beimfohr at 3:00 P.M. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted with one correction: John Carillo, not Ed Carillo, was a guest at the meeting.

Ben Hiatt, Greater Sacramento Area Co-ordinator for the Poets in the Schools Program was introduced and given an opportunity to explain the "PITS" program. He also offered his assistance to the Commission.

Chair Beimfohr then called for committee reports:

Personnel

Chair Jane Watkins reported the committee had met with the City Personnel Department. An ad for the Executive Director position has been placed with Art Week to run in their September 10, 17, and 24 issues (cost -- \$86.24). The ad will also run in WestArt in their September 9 and 23 issues (cost -- \$24). Copies of the job announcement were sent to the Schools of Fine Arts at all campuses of California State University and the University of California, and many private colleges. 150 copies of the announcement were mailed to the Cultural News Service. Gloria Flores volunteered the media mailing lists of the California Arts Council.

The number of applications we receive for the executive director position will determine the procedure developed for the selection process. Deadline

for applications is September 30, 1977.

Architecture/Art in Public Places

In the absence of Chair Maurice Read, Commissioners Ken Waterstreet and Judith Weintraub reported on the meeting the committee held on August 30th with the City Architect and the architects of three new City projects -- the Single Person's Facility, the Oak Park Community Center Complex and the Robertson Community Center. The architects made a brief presentation on the design of each project and made recommendations on how they felt the 1% for Art money should be spent. The committee will further study each project and then make specific recommendations.

John King moved, Gloria Flores seconded, that the Commission recommend to the City Council that 3% of the total construction costs, rather than 1%, be allocated for art in neighborhood projects. There was much discussion on the advisability of the Commission approaching the Council with this request considering the newness of both the Commission and the 1% for Art policy. Several members felt the request might be more appropriate after some projects had been completed and the Commission had an opportunity to demonstrate how important this money is. Motion failed.

The Committee felt it was not necessary to hold a public meeting to explain the parking garage competition at this time. Increased newspaper coverage has helped to make the arts community aware of the competition. If artists have questions about the details of the competition, a special meeting will be called. So far, about 50 information packets have been picked up.

CETA

Chair Susan Willoughby reported on the picnic for the City and County CETA artists, and the Commission, on August 31 at Alumni Grove, California State University, Sacramento. She also distributed information on the location of CETA art work already placed in City buildings. The Commission will be responsible for this collection.

Planning

The Planning Committee scheduled its first meeting for Tuesday, September 13th at 3:00 P.M. The location will be announced later. Commission Chair Ed Beimfohr will notice this meeting.

Under Old Business, due to the absence of Commissioner Read, Chair Beimfohr postponed discussion of the Arts TV commercial and the bill before the legislature on the renovation of state property in downtown Sacramento.

Chair Beimfohr announced that he and Judie Weintraub would be attending the Alliance of California Arts Councils Conference in San Francisco at the end of September. They will take recruiting material for the executive director position with them.

Gloria Flores asked to excused from the September 21st Commission meeting.

Susan Willoughby reported she had received a phone call from the National Endowment for the Arts in Washington about our "City Spirit" grant application. NEA indicated they were interested, and were sending us a comprehensive packet of information. We will need to hold a series of discussions or meetings with several segments of the community -- e.g. labor unions, school districts -- to find out general areas of community interest before Washington will send us a "facilitator." Since the Commission had already decided that extensive public meetings would best be held after the new director is hired, the proposal will be given to the Planning Committee for future consideration.

Under New Business, Chair Beimfohr asked all commissioners to sign a list with their names, addresses and phone numbers. He also asked that at the Reception for the Commission at Artspace this evening, we all make ourselves available for introduction at about 6:00 P.M.

Gloria Flores announced that the California Arts Council will meet in Sacramento at 111 I Street on September 23rd and asked permission to introduce the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission at that meeting. Permission granted. As many commissioners as possible will be in attendance.

Last year the Housing and Redevelopment Agency received a planning grant to study the feasibility of converting the old Southern Pacific Station into an inter-modal transportation and cultural center. Susan Willoughby reported that she, D. R. Wagner and Miriam Grey were serving on the Technical Co-ordinating Committee for this project. As currently proposed, the Railway Express Building would be renovated as a cultural center. It would house a 250 - 300 seat theater, rehearsal and storage space, and office space for the Arts Commission and the Sacramento Regional Arts Council. Commissioner Willoughby will keep the Commission posted on the progress of the project.

Susan Willoughby also reported on a Neighborhood Initiated Improvement Program (NIIP) announced by Sacramento County. \$50,000 is available to people living in designated "target areas" who want to undertake a special project to enhance their neighborhood. Arts projects are possible under this program. The initiative must come from the neighborhood, but the Commission should be ready to offer any assistance.

John Whitehead, Management Analyst in the City Manager's Office, announced that both the City and County budget allocations for the Arts Commission will be administered by the City Finance Department. The Commission has been given an organization number and is now authorized to spend money.

The next Commission meeting meeting will be September 21st at 7:30 P.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan J. Willoughby
Acting Secretary