

THE MINUTES OF THE
SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN ARTS COMMISSION

Tuesday, May 1, 1984

Commissioners Present:

Jackie Caplan
Pam Johnson
James G. Neagle
Diana Perham
David Rible
Terezita Romo
Laurie Smith
Gerald L. Treaster
Audrey Tsuruda

Commissioners Absent:

Thomas E. Smail, Jr.
Jacqueline Springwater

The May 1, 1984 meeting of the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by Vice Chair Johnson. The minutes of the April 3, 1984 meeting were approved.

CHAIR REPORT (Johnson)

Commissioner Johnson reminded the Commission that nominations for chair will be taken at the end of the meeting. The Ad Hoc Committee has not been able to meet to discuss Appendix C of the Commission Handbook (description of committees). Appendix C will be completed before the next Commission meeting. Commissioner Johnson asked that commissioners interested in chairing or serving on committees should contact Chair Springwater.

Commissioner Johnson announced that the APP Committee will meet May 8 at 3:00 p.m. and May 25 at 8:00 a.m. at the SMAC office. Commissioners interested in attending the meetings should contact Jennifer Dowley.

Commissioner Johnson asked Sharon Baker to speak before the Commission. Ms. Baker, of the Sacramento Community Opera Theatre, invited commissioners to attend the musical production of "Carnival".

Commissioner Perham introduced Ann Saibeni from Elk Grove; Ms. Saibeni is interested in Commission activities and the arts community.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

APP Committee (Rible)

Senate Bill 1326

Commissioner Rible reviewed Senate Bill 1326, the California Percent for Art in Public Buildings Program and requested that the Commission, by resolution, ask the Sacramento City Council to endorse the bill. Director Moskin stated that the Crocker Art Museum Association is also being asked to endorse the bill. Barbara Gibbs, Director of the Crocker Art Museum, and Director Moskin will jointly ask the City Council to adopt the resolution.

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A motion was made by Commissioner Rible and seconded by Commissioner Caplan that SMAC, by resolution, endorse and recommend that the Sacramento City Council endorse SB 1326, the California Percent for Art in Public Buildings Program. The motion was approved unanimously.

Light Rail

Commissioner Rible presented an update on the Light Rail Art Program. The panels will meet at Coloma Community Center, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., to select the final artists, on the following dates:

- May 11 - (Banners & Watt/80)
- May 16 - (Pavement pieces & Tree grates)
- May 21 - (K St., O St., & Cathedral Square)

Commissioners are encouraged to attend.

Connie Lewallen, Curator, Matrix Gallery at the Berkeley Museum, has replaced Dianne Vanderlip on the K and O Streets, Cathedral Square panel. Ms. Vanderlip is not able to continue as a panelist because of schedule conflicts.

Under federal regulations the Sacramento Transit Development Agency is obligated to allocate specific percentages of contracts to minorities. SMAC has to meet the same requirements in its art program. If the requirement is not met with the present configuration of artists, changes will be made in the pavement pieces area.

Deaccessioning policy

Commissioner Johnson reported on the deaccessioning policy. The policy draft was written in response to the need to reduce the City's art inventory (many works acquired through the CETA program) and to set policy for future acquisition and deaccessioning procedures.

There was some concern expressed about who determines the quality of a piece of art (V. B. 1. and 4.). Commissioner Johnson and Coordinator Dowley explained that safeguards are built into the policy - work must be reviewed by a panel and approved by the APP Committee, the Commission, and the Sacramento City Council. The Commission can amend the policy at any time through City Council action.

A motion was made by Commissioner Neagle and seconded by Commissioner Caplan that SMAC approve the deaccessioning policy with the following changes:

- V. C. will follow V. A.
- V. B. will follow V. C.
- V. B. 1. and 4. will read: "1. It is deemed by the jury to be of clearly inferior quality or not representative of the best work by that artist."
- V. D. 1. : a provision will be added to notify the donor during deaccessioning procedures.

The motion was passed unanimously. The draft will be sent to the County Counsel and City Attorney's office for review and then to the City Council and Board of Supervisors.

Florin Reservoir

Commissioner Rible asked Coordinator Dowley to report on Florin Reservoir, a City Cluster project. Coordinator Dowley showed drawings and a maquette of Gerald Heffernon's proposal for the site. The project is budgeted for \$2,300. City Parks Division staff and the APP Committee have approved the proposal. A motion was made by Commissioner Rible and seconded by Commissioner Romo that SMAC approve Gerald Heffernon's proposal for Florin Reservoir. The motion was passed unanimously.

Capitol Bank of Commerce

Susan Willoughby, art consultant to the Capitol Bank of Commerce, updated the Commission on the art program at the Bank. David Von Schlegel has been commissioned to do the fountain sculpture. The remaining two sites include the lobby and 6th floor roof garden. Ms. Willoughby showed slides of Richard Smith's artwork. He is being considered to develop a piece for the lobby.

Two artists are being considered by the Bank to develop separate artwork for the roof garden: Fletcher Benton and Michael Riegel. Slides of their past work were shown. Although the artists are highly qualified, the APP Committee felt that Mr. Benton's work would reduce the impact of Mr. Riegel's work if the two were sited together. The APP Committee recommends that one artist develop work for the site and that the Commission recommend Michael Riegel as artist for the site.

A motion was made by Commissioner Romo and seconded by Commissioner Tsuruda that SMAC recommend to the Capitol Bank of Commerce, Richard Smith as artist to develop artwork for the lobby and strongly recommend Michael Riegel as sole artist to develop artwork for the roof garden. The motion was passed unanimously.

Light Rail/Alkali Flat PAC

Coordinator Dowley explained the problem that arose with the Alkali Flat Project Area Committee (PAC) regarding the 12th Street station of the Light Rail Art Program (see PAC letter dated 4/23/84 included with last month's minutes). Maria Alquilar was selected by the Pavement Pieces panel to develop a proposal. PAC expressed dissatisfaction at being denied an opportunity to provide input during the artist selection process.

Marta Bustamante, Chairperson of the Alkali Flat PAC, addressed the Commission and explained that PAC members are elected representatives of the neighborhood, acting as an advisory body to the City Council. Ms. Bustamante stated that PAC also wishes to act in an advisory capacity on any project in the Alkali Flat area and that PAC was afraid of setting a precedent if this matter was to go unchallenged.

Sandra Samaniego, Chairperson of PAC's Art Committee, stated that the Committee reviewed SMAC's slide bank and considered only artists in the "central city" area. PAC recommends that Henry Ortiz be hired to complete the artwork for

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the station, that the station be named "La Valentina", and that the theme be a realistic depiction of the historical development of the Alkali Flat area with a Mexican motif completed on ceramic tile.

Commissioner Johnson apologized to the PAC for not including them as advisors on the Pavement Pieces panel but felt it inappropriate for PAC to select an artist. Commissioner Johnson stated that the Commission's role is to insure artistic quality through a panel process that includes arts professionals as members.

Commissioner Caplan was concerned that Maria Alquilar would be the only artist forced to compete with another artist in the pavement pieces category. Commissioner Rible felt that the final selection should be based on the actual proposal.

After some discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Tsuruda and seconded by Commissioner Smith that SMAC request additional funds from the Sacramento Transit Development Agency for Henry Ortiz to develop a proposal and to convene a new panel to include minority representation to select a proposal from either Maria Alquilar or Henry Ortiz for the Alkali Flat Station, Light Rail Art Program. The motion also accepted the theme for the station. The Commission has no jurisdiction over the station's name. The motion was approved unanimously.

Commissioner Johnson suggested that the APP Committee meet with PAC to select panel members.

Sacramento Zoo

Coordinator Dowley informed the Commission that Mike Contreras' wooden artwork at the Sacramento Zoo needs \$100 worth of maintenance (to be sanded and urethaned). A motion was made by Commissioner Rible and seconded by Commissioner Romo that SMAC approve \$100 for maintenance of Mike Contreras' artwork at the Sacramento Zoo. The motion was passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Moskin)

Director Moskin announced that he met with Commissioner Smith and the Mayor of Folsom and discussed how the City of Folsom can become more involved in Commission activities. Laurie Piper, Artreach Program Coordinator, will contact Commissioner Smith regarding the possible use of the Artreach Directory by the City of Folsom.

Director Moskin stated that he has received requests to write letters of support for American River College in its efforts to raise funds for an amphitheatre and for B. L. Kennedy, poet. Mr. Kennedy, in conjunction with the Poet Tree, Inc., plans to produce a record album (Landing Signals) and an anthology. Proceeds from the sales will benefit local poets. A motion was made by Commissioner Neagle and seconded by Commissioner Tsuruda that SMAC issue letters of support for the American River College Amphitheatre and for B. L. Kennedy's album and anthology. The motion was passed unanimously.

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OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioners Johnson, Tsuruda and Neagle received nominations for Chair. Commissioner Johnson declined the nomination.

Commissioner Caplan asked Director Moskin if the issue of the \$7.50 fee for inclusion in the 84/85 Cultural Directory had been brought before the Commission. Director Moskin replied that it had not. Commissioner Caplan asked if the issue was discussed at committee level. Commissioner Tsuruda stated that the Artreach Committee has not met in some time but will call a meeting in May. Commissioner Johnson suggested that Commissioners Smith and Treaster be requested to serve on the Artreach Committee. Commissioner Caplan requested that Artreach be an agenda item in June and that the fee be discussed in detail.

Commissioner Caplan asked Director Moskin to update the Commission on the Commission Handbook. Director Moskin stated that the program goals and objectives of the Commission have been added as Appendix F. When completed, the handbook will be hand-delivered by the Chair and the Director to members of the Sacramento City Council and Board of Supervisors. The handbook will be distributed to county libraries.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Wong
Shirley Wong
Secretary

The Commission Handbook will be mailed to Commissioners and all applicants will receive a copy of the handbook before the interview process begins.