



Minutes City of Sacramento Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Linda Merksamer, Chair
Dan Gorfain, Vice-Chair
Joanna de la Cuesta

Jennifer Tachera
Margi Park-Landau
Patti Miller
Jan Geiger

Charles Barr
Daniel Pane
Patricia Sandefur
Patrick Finnegan

CITY STAFF:

Rhyena Halpern, Executive Director
Randy Mackay, Administrative Analyst
Jeanette Louis, Typist Clerk III

MINUTES

September 10, 2007

Historic City Hall
915 I Street, 2nd Floor – Hearing Room

All items listed are heard and acted upon by the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission unless otherwise noted.

Call to Order – 02:03 p.m.

Roll Call - Present: Barr, de la Cuesta, Finnegan, Geiger, Gorfain, Merksamer, Miller, Pane, Park-Landau, Sandefur, Tachera

Absent: None

Consent Calendar

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered and acted upon by one motion. Anyone may request an item to be removed for separate consideration.

- Approval of Minutes for August 13, 2007**
Recommendation: Approve Meeting Minutes
Contact: Jeanette Louis, Typist Clerk III, 566-3992.

Motion: Approve Minutes of August 13, 2007 as written.

Second:

Vote: Ayes 11, Noes 0, Abstain 0.

Motion Carries.

Staff Reports

Staff reports include oral presentations and those recommending receive and file.

- Nomination and Approval of New Committee Members**
Recommendation: Approve new committee members.
Contact: Linda Merksamer, Chair, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, 566-3992.

Motion: Approve Leslie Birlson for the APP Committee, Christine "Cy" Wylie and Robert Schumacher for the Visual Arts Committee and Arabella Grayson, April Hass and Deborah Marois for the Grants and Cultural Program Committee. Gorfain.

Second: Tachera

Vote: Ayes 11, Noes 0, Abstain 0.

Motion Carries.

3. FY07 Draft Annual Report and Budget Status

Recommendation: Receive and file.

Contact: Rhyena Halpern, Executive Director and Randall Mackay, Administrative Analyst, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, 566-3992.

Halpern presented the second Annual Agency report emphasizing the executive summary, organizational chart, program achievements, organizational development and biographies.

Mackay presented the nearly \$3 million agency budget overview, and, described "Total Dollars Spent on Art" as a figure ranging from \$1.5 – \$2.0 million annually. Expenses for the ongoing business plan are already encumbered. Arts Education will be a larger program in years to come. Geiger marveled at all of the accomplishments with available resources. Merksamer praised all staff for their contributions and Halpern credited Anne Oncken for much of the writing and coordinating functions for the document. Additional feedback should be directed to Rhyena Halpern. Biography updates should be sent to Jeanie Louis.

4. Juvenile Hall, Public Entry Plaza Arts Plan

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of arts plan for Juvenile Hall Plaza.

Contact: Walker-Smith, Consultant, Art in Public Places, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, 566-3992.

Walker-Smith stated that the budget is approximately \$192,000. "Taking Flight" consists of impressionistic birds with arching wings constructed of brushed stainless with bronze patina. Birds are attached to the building with lattice woven cables. There are arched benches near entry and dozens of bird forms overhead will provide dappled light in plaza area. The design symbolizes regaining freedom and becoming responsible citizens. Youth will be suggesting the wording for the pedestal. County will allow change order for bamboo plantings.

Motion: Approve the Arts Plan for Juvenile Hall Plaza. de la Cuesta.

Second: Tachera

Vote: Ayes 11, Noes 0, Abstain 0.

Motion Carries.

5. Poet Laureate Park Proposal

Recommendation: Approve proposal by artist Troy Corliss for Poet Laureate Park.

Contact: Cari LaZansky, Program Assistant, Art in Public Places, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, 566-3977. and Troy Corliss, Artist, 566-3992.

LaZansky reviewed background of project. Project is collaboration between APP and the Poet Laureate Program. Artwork will be located in South Natomas Park, and will not only function as a sculpture, but as a repository for poetry for past, present and future Sacramento poet laureates. LaZansky introduced artist, Troy Corliss. "Set in Stone" is

an environmental installation featuring oversized granite letters, blocks to be located on a landscaped mound near children's play area. Poetry will be sandblasted into the surface of blocks. Artist will work with city project manager on surrounding landscaping, a combination of D.G. and wood chips. Surface should accommodate poetry for next 25 – 30 years.

Commissioners expressed concerns about the installation process, need for lighting, safety and readability of the poetry on the granite. Corliss stated that substantial foundations are needed. He confirmed that the 3 – 5 foot size letters should not cause injury if a child loses footing. The edges will be rounded for further safety. There is currently no budget for lighting. Corliss said wireless projection could be a means of providing further poetry in the future. He will create a receptacle for this technology, should it become available.

Motion: Approve the Arts proposal for Poet Laureate. Park Geiger.

Second: Barr

Vote: Ayes 11, Noes 0, Abstain 0.

Motion Carries.

6. Update: Airport and public art plans

Recommendation: Receive and file.

Contact: Rhyena Halpern, Executive Director, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, 566-3992.

The largest and most exciting APP project for the Sacramento Art Community is planned, with the total terminal budget in the range of \$1.2 billion dollars. Project is at 30% design and includes: roadways, terminal, utilities, demolition of Terminal B and addition of new parking. An important APP meeting is scheduled for November 14th from 4:00 until 6:00 p.m. to discuss the airport and public arts plan. The location for the meeting is Coloma, unless otherwise announced.

While the county follows the 2% ordinance, public arts funds are subject to the approval of the Board of Supervisors. We are negotiating to get the most we can for public art while considering that it is in our benefit, considering lack of political support to be very aware of the Airport's constraints.

Finnegan hopes to make Terminal B just as nice as the \$2.5 Million spent on Terminal A. Merksamer summarized: "This project will involve many people and concerns about scope and budget." Gorfain pressed for Commission to "have input along the way" stating that a process for that will first need to be established. He suggested creating a trust fund or endowment insuring funding for ongoing maintenance. The environmental impact report is expected in October or November. Halpern, Jennifer Tachera, John Nicolaus and an artist designee will be meeting with the county supervisors in future. Relationship-building and dialogue will be at the heart of the projects' development, and Halpern hopes this is a project we can unite around.

7. Presentation: Children's Coalition and Children's Report Card, 2:45 p.m.

Recommendation: Receive and file.

Contact: Donna Sneeringer, Children's Coalition, 447-7063 and Erika Kraft, Arts Education Coordinator, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, 566-3983.

Donna Sneeringer stated the County Children's Coalition is an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors charged with assessing community needs, evaluating existing services and making recommendations to the Board and other policy-making bodies to promote health and well-being of children and families. She reviewed the fourth report card highlighting demographics, family economics, education, health, safety, social and emotional well-being. She encouraged the Commission to review results and look for partnerships for future progress.

8. Chair's Report:

Recommendation: Receive and file.

Contact: Linda Merksamer, Chair, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, 566-3992.

- Merksamer officially welcomed new Commissioners, Patrick Finnegan from Folsom and Patricia Sandefur from the Elk Grove Community.
- Jan Geiger is working on the Prelude to the Arts luncheon
- 30th Anniversary will be on October 17th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at City Hall.
- September 25th 11-5 is the Business Plan, Mission and Visioning meeting at Tsakapulus Gallery, downtown.

9. Director's Report: Agency Report review, Business Plan Retreat plans, Personnel update. Commission meeting date change to Nov. 13th meeting, Prelude tickets

Recommendation: Receive and file.

Contact: Rhyena Halpern, Executive Director, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, 566-3989.

- A commission quorum is needed on November 13th from 2 – 5 p.m. to hear the Business Plan Draft by Morrie Warshawski. Optional date is November 16th.
- Cari LaZansky will be leaving to work with a non-profit agency. Halpern acknowledged her program support for Art in Public Places.
- Linda Bloom, Administrator for Art in Public Places will be leaving on January 18, 2008.

- Pins will be ordered after Jan Geiger's replacement is named.

Public Comments - Matters Not on the Agenda

10. To be announced

Questions, Ideas, and Announcements of Commission Members

- Tachera announced that the 2008 Olympic Landscape Sculpture Exhibition, featuring work of 65 competition finalists, will take place from October 9 – October 24 at the Sacramento Convention Center and the Art Foundry Gallery. There will be an opening ceremony and reception honoring the Beijing delegates on October 9th.
- Miller announced a workshop available in Ink line and Tombow/Waterbrush Wash sketching on Saturday, September 29th from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. taught by David Lobenberg. Lesson and materials all for \$75.

11. To be announced

Adjourn:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p.m.