



County of Santa Cruz

PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES

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JOE SCHULTZ, DIRECTOR

ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES

Monday, June 1, 2009

4:30 p.m.

Meeting

Simpkins Family Swim Center

979 17th Avenue

Santa Cruz, CA 95062

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m.

Members: Bruce Arnold, Shirlee Byrd, Cynthia Kilian, James Nee, Joanna Phillips, Melinda Rambo, Judy Stabile, Bobbi Todaro, Dana Werdmuller, Matt Henry

Present: Shirlee Byrd, Cynthia Kilian, James Nee, Joanna Phillips, Melinda Rambo, Judy Stabile, Bobbi Todaro, Dana Werdmuller, Matt Henry

Staff: Joe Schultz, Christine Bennett, Kathy DeWild

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS OR APPROVAL

Agenda was approved as written (Stabile, Phillips 7/0)

III. CONSENT AGENDA

The information and reports were accepted and filed (Byrd, Rambo 7/0) and the minutes of April 6, 2009 were approved as amended (Stabile, Phillips 7/0).

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Stabile announced opening for Sierra Azul sculpture gardens on Sunday, May 31st. There will also be a reception in the gallery on June 14th – exhibit runs until October.

Commissioner Werdmuller stated that they have reserved 20 seats together at a discounted price

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kathy DeWild stated that Bruce Meyers will be presenting his art concepts for The Farm Park at the next project meeting. It would be good to let others know that art classes are proposed to be included in the project so that support is shown from the community. The Visual Chronicle received 25 submissions and the panel selected works by Bill Clark, Ted Grace, Salal Moon Rinaldo, and Marcos Weiss.

Director Schultz stated that the Parks budget hearing will be June 19th at 10:00AM. Proposed cuts of 20%, management taking 156 hours of furlough time, and SEIU is currently negotiating with the County for an agreement with the general representation unit employees.

Alberto Rafols announced via e-mail today that he is resigning from the Cultural Council effective August 29, 2009.

VI. AGENDA

A. Information Items

1. Alberto Rafols from Cultural Council

Mr. Rafols stated that after eight years with the Cultural Council, it was time to move and let someone new bring ideas. The job opening will be announced in the 2nd or 3rd week of June, and someone will be hired some time around September. The Cultural Council will hold their annual meeting on June 25th at the M.A.H. – the 1st part will be to announce the new officers and Albert will present the Annual Report in writing; the 2nd part will be for volunteer recognition. And e-mail invitation to all Commissioners will be sent to the Parks Secretary for distribution.

The Council is seeing similar cuts in the Cities of Santa Cruz and Watsonville with a 20% reduction in funding anticipated. The City of Capitola expects to reduce funding by 5%, and the City of Scotts Valley will hold a meeting next week to determine what funding they are able to provide. At this time it appears the foundations will keep funding at the same levels. It is the first time that the Cultural Council is working with a budget under \$1 million, and the employees will take 2 unpaid days per month into next year. They received 46 grant applications totalling \$113,000 and were able to approve 28 of them for a total of \$39,500.

The Fall Open Studios will include approximately 300 artists, with 40 being new to the program. Spectra Art in schools is being shifted to make it better and they are working closely with the schools and County Office of Education. The biggest project is the Artsopolis which Alberto hopes will be in Santa Cruz County in the next 2-3 years. Monterey County will launch their version this August and Council staff will observe closely to learn more.

2. Securing art donations from former Artists of the Year

This item was carried over to the August Agenda.

3. Artwork on utility/power boxes

This item was carried over to the August Agenda.

4. Alternate Funding resources for maintenance

This item was carried over to the August Agenda.

5. 2% for arts incorporated in Planning fees for professional and commercial development

This item was carried over to the August Agenda.

6. Recognition for incorporating public art in private projects

This item was carried over to the August Agenda.

B. Action Items

1. Eloise Pickard Smith Award

Commissioner Kilian delegated this task to Commissioners Todaro, Henry, and Werdmuller because she will be out of the country. Commissioner Henry stated that he is resigning his position on the Commission effective July as he has accepted a position with the UC San Diego. After contacting George Ow's sister, it was determined that some type of assistance or recognition of minority artists and/or students is the preferred "gift" for the recipient. Matt will contact Barry Swenson's office to request they fund a scholarship as the award for Mr. Ow. Commissioner Werdmuller suggesting working with staff at Cabrillo College for possible nominations of students who may be transferring to study art at a University.

Commissioner Todaro suggested a scholarship/donation to Mariposa where they work directly with minority and homeless children. The Commissioners agreed that Mariposa is a great candidate and that if Barry Swenson cannot contribute, each of them will donate \$50 to create the gift/scholarship award fund.

VII. AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:

**Monday, August 3, 2009 4:30 p.m.
Simpkins Family Swim Center, 2nd Floor**

A. Informational Items

1. Securing art donations from former Artists of the Year
2. Artwork on utility/power boxes
3. Alternative funding resources for maintenance
4. 2% for arts from Planning permit fees for professional and commercial development
5. Recognition for incorporating public art in private projects

B. Action Items

1. Ratify Director's actions related to Eloise Pickard Smith Award to George and Gail Ow.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.