

Newport Beach City Arts Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 10, 2014 – 5:00pm
City Council Chambers

Convened at 5:03 p.m.

I. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Goldberg called the meeting to order.

II. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Rita Goldberg, Chair
Caroline Logan, Secretary
Michael Magrutsche
Robert Smith
Judy Chang (arrived at 5:25 pm)

Commissioners Absent: Arlene Greer, Vice Chair
Charles Ware

Council Present: Council Member Nancy Gardner

Staff Present: Tim Hetherington, Library Services Director
Dave Curtis, Library Services Manager
Elaine McMillion, Administrative Support Specialist
Leilani Brown, City Clerk

III. Public Comments

Jim Mosher commented on the City Arts Exhibition event, and expressed his concerns regarding the event congestion, set-up, and lack of graphic art exhibits. He also requested that the Arts Master Plan Steering Committee report be added to the agenda as a discussion item in order to allow greater public input and participation and not as a monthly report.

IV. Approval Of Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Logan and seconded by Commissioner Smith and carried (4-0-0-3) to approve the minutes of June 12, 2014.

AYES: Goldberg, Logan, Smith, and Magrutsche

NOES: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: Greer, Ware, Chang

V. Current Business

Chair Goldberg opened the Item for Public Comments, seeing none, public comments were closed.

A. Consent Calendar

1. Correspondence and Press – None.
2. Financial Report – Included in Agenda packet.
3. Cultural Arts Activities – Included in Agenda packet.

Motion made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Magrutsche and carried (4-0-0-3) to approve the Consent Calendar.

AYES: Goldberg, Logan, Smith, and Magrutsche
NOES: None
ABSTENTIONS: None
ABSENT: Greer, Ware, Chang

B. Items for Review and Possible Action -

1. Election of Officers – The City Arts Commission shall nominate and elect Commissioners to serve as Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary for FY 2014/2015.

Chair Goldberg opened the floor for consideration and formal approval of retaining the same officer slate for a second year. Chair Rita Goldberg; Vice Chair Arlene Greer; and Secretary Caroline Logan.

Motion made by Commissioner Logan and seconded by Commissioner Smith and carried (4-0-0-3) to approve the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary as noted for FY 2014/2015.

AYES: Goldberg, Logan, Smith, and Magrutsche
NOES: None
ABSTENTIONS: None
ABSENT: Greer, Ware, Chang

2. Committee Appointments – The City Arts Commission Chair will appoint Ad Hoc Sub Committees of one or more members for such specific purpose as the business of the Commission may require from time to time.

Chair Goldberg addressed each individual committee and noted that those appointed may accept or decline.

Committee Appointments are as follows:

Grant Ad Hoc Committee

Vice Chair Arlene Greer
Commissioner Charles Ware

Concert Programming Ad Hoc Committee

Chair Rita Goldberg
Commissioner Michael Magrutsche

Newport Beach Sculpture Garden Ad Hoc Committee

Commissioner Robert Smith (Chair)
Chair Rita Goldberg
Commissioner Charles Ware

Civic Center Art Placement Ad Hoc Committee

Secretary Caroline Logan (Chair)
Commissioner Michael Magrutsche
Commissioner Charles Ware

Arts Master Plan Steering Committee

Chair Rita Goldberg
Vice Chair Arlene Greer
Commissioner Michael Magrutsche

Arts Foundation Liaison Ad Hoc Committee

Commissioner Robert Smith

Juried Art Exhibition Ad Hoc Committee

Vice Chair Arlene Greer
Commissioner Judy Chang
Secretary Caroline Logan

Fine Arts Ad Hoc Committee

Vice Chair Arlene Greer
Commissioner Michael Magrutsche
Commissioner Judy Chang

Art Owned by the City of Newport Beach Ad Hoc Committee

Vice Chair Arlene Greer
Commissioner Judy Chang
Secretary Caroline Logan

Motion made by Secretary Logan and seconded by Commissioner Smith and carried (4-0-0-3) to approve the Committee appointments as noted.

AYES: Goldberg, Logan, Smith, and Magrutsche
NOES: None
ABSTENTIONS: None
ABSENT: Greer, Ware, Chang

Commissioner Chang arrived and joined the meeting at 5:25 p.m.

Chair Goldberg noted that the next two items were under the direction of Vice Chair Greer who is not in attendance. She then called for any comments from the commissioners serving on this committee.

Commissioner Magrutsche spoke regarding the call out for all of the Artists, and on the Strombotne exhibition.

3. Exhibition of Art in the Central Library –The Fine Arts Committees requests that the Arts Commission approve the work of Raymond Otis for display in the Central Library.

Chair Goldberg opened the floor for comment on this Item.

Commissioner Magrutsche, stated he believed that Raymond Otis had already been accepted, expressed his understanding of artist interpretation, and that he will be abstaining.

Chair Goldberg commented that Mr. Otis had been recommended but not voted on, asked for any others familiar with Raymond Otis' work, and expressed her confidence in Vice Chair Greer's recommendation.

Motion made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Chang and carried (4-0-1-2) to approve the Raymond Otis exhibit to be displayed in the Central Library.

AYES: Goldberg, Logan, Smith, and Chang
NOES: None
ABSTENTIONS: Magrutsche
ABSENT: Greer, Ware

4. Rex Brandt 100th Year Anniversary Event Update – At the June 12th meeting, the City Arts Commission approved a 100th Anniversary event for local artist Rex Brandt and requested that the Fine Arts Committee present the date and details of the program at the July meeting.

Chair Goldberg called for comments from Commissioner’s who were in attendance at the City Arts Commission June 12th meeting.

Commissioner Magrutsche commented he was not in attendance, but understood everything to be working well.

Library Services Director Tim Hetherington noted that the event was approved at the June 12, 2014 City Arts Commission meeting, and direction was given to plan an event, set a date, and move forward. The staff report outlines the event scheduled in the afternoon of November 1, 2014, in the Friends room which will include a lecture, refreshments, and possibly a display of some of Rex Brandt art pieces.

Chair Goldberg noted that Rex Brandt is a very prominent local artist, and it is appropriate for the City of Newport Beach to commemorate his 100th anniversary.

Motion made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Logan and carried (5-0-0-2) to approve the 100th Anniversary event for local artist Rex Brandt to be held in the Friends room at the Central Library on November 1, 2014.

AYES: Goldberg, Logan, Smith, Chang, and Magrutsche
NOES: None
ABSTENTIONS: None
ABSENT: Greer, Ware

Council Member Nancy Gardner noted that former Mayor Don Webb and former Manager Bob Shelton have been in communication with Vice Chair Greer regarding placing a plaque at the location of Mr. Brandt’s studio “Blue Sky” in Corona Del Mar.

C. Monthly Reports -

1. Newport Beach Sculpture Garden Ad Hoc Committee
Commissioner Smith reported that he, Tim Hetherington, Janis Dinwiddie and Katherine Mielke met and that plans are coming together very nicely. A save the date e-mail reminder has been sent out for Saturday, September 13, 2014 at 2:00pm. The schedule for installation of the sculpture is set for mid August. The event will offer the opportunity for the public to participate in crafts at the individual sculptures such as origami, and taking “selfies” self-portraits which will be displayed on a large screen, quick response codes allowing the artist to respond to the public on their cell phones, as well as an opportunity for the public to vote on a favorite sculpture. More details will be provided at the August meeting.

2. Fine Arts Ad Hoc Committee

Chair Goldberg noted that she broke out the Fine Arts Committee appointments a bit to ensure adequate time and effort can be devoted to each event and activity.

Commissioner Magrutsche noted that everything went perfectly.

Commissioner Smith reported that the Arts Foundation turned out in full and really helped at this event and that net revenue of about \$600 was gained from sales at this event.

Commissioner Magrutsche responded that these shows are not just sale shows, but the social engagement of the City with the artists, and exposure to art.

Chair Goldberg added that the Arts Commission is not in the business of running a business or generating revenue, but that their aim is to provide as much art to the community as possible.

Commissioner Chang noted Vice Chair Greer's efforts on this event. At the suggestion of Commissioner Chang, Chair Goldberg thanked Vice Chair Greer and committee members for a fantastic job.

3. Arts Foundation Liaison Ad Hoc Committee

Commissioner Smith reported on the "Art in the Park" in October, the banners and publicity for the event, that several sponsors have been obtained and that they anticipate close to 100 artists, and the Foundation has also agreed to assist with the September 13th Sculpture unveiling event. In addition, Arts Orange County is going to produce a script that the docents can use to walk the public through the Sculpture and understand more about the pieces.

4. Civic Center Art Placement Ad Hoc Committee

Secretary Logan reported that people are excited about the Civic Center art placement.

5. Art Owned by the City of Newport Beach Ad Hoc Committee

Commissioner Logan commented that they are moving ahead.

Chair Goldberg commented that this has been a long process.

Commissioner Magrutsche suggested setting a deadline, and focus on a target as it seems to be going too long.

Chair Goldberg expressed her agreement with Commissioner Magrutsche, and indicated that it should be discussed. Chair Goldberg noted that everything has been addressed, evaluated, categorized, and the final step is the Commissioner's physical review. With this it should be completed within the next two months. Commissioner Magrutsche agreed that this is a realistic goal.

Commissioner Smith commented on the possible disposition of Art, and using the "Art in the Park" event as an option to do so.

Tim Hetheron, Library Services Director, noted that there are prohibitions regarding disposing of or the selling of items purchased with taxpayer funds, and noted the City does not dispose of Art, and that the items are sent to surplus or to auction. He noted that he will research the legality and options with the City Attorney.

Chair Goldberg requested Library Services Director Hetherington look into the possibility of donating the Art to the Arts Foundation, and bring the item back to the City Arts Commission.

Council Member Gardner suggested not making a gift of public funds, that the money would come to the City and the City could make a grant.

Chair Goldberg noted that either way the proceeds would come back into furthering the goals of the Arts in Newport Beach.

6. Arts Master Plan Steering Committee

Chair Goldberg, reported that Pat Wayne and Arts Orange County is in the process of interviewing identified stake holders in the Newport Beach Arts community and conducting individual and focus group interviews, with the goal being outreach and community involvement on what the City of Newport Beach is looking for in the Arts Master Plan.

Commissioner Magrutsche addressed Mr. Moser's concerns and noted that it is hard work to formulate and assess what is in the city, and noted that they are not prepared for the focus groups or to engage the public just yet.

Chair Goldberg commented that the first phase goal is to research what culture is already at the City's disposal, look into the potential opportunities, use interviews and focus groups to ultimately to make sure it is something the City fully embraces. The City Arts Commission will make every effort to engage the public in this process.

VI. City Arts Commission Announcements or Matters Which Members Would Like Placed on a Future Agenda for Discussion, Action or Report (Non-Discussion Item)

Commissioner Magrutsche commented that promotional efforts and events should be located on one central information platform for Art related events. Chair Goldberg commented that this is part of the design of the Arts Master Plan. Council Member Gardner expressed her support of this idea.

VII. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Jim Mosher thanked staff for providing the public with paper agendas, as there is difficulty for public access of agenda materials electronically while in the current meeting location. He also commented on the method of handling public comments on agenda items, and that revisions to the Brown Act are currently making their way through the legislature in order to better clarify how the public may comment on agenda items as they are heard. He questioned the City Arts Commission permitting two year terms at this meeting when as stated in their By-Laws the election of officers are held each July and are for one year terms. He further noted that items should be placed on the agenda for discussion and not in report only format.

VIII. Adjournment – 5:46 p.m.

Submitted by: *Rita Goldberg*
Chair Approval of Minutes