

Newport Beach City Arts Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 8, 2014 – 5:00pm
Central Library

Convened at 5:00 pm

I. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Goldberg called the meeting to order.

II. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Rita Goldberg, Chair
Arlene Greer, Vice Chair
Caroline Logan, Secretary
Michael Magrutsche
Robert Smith
Charles Ware

Commissioners Absent: Judy Chang

Council Present: Council Member Nancy Gardner

Staff Present: Tim Hetherton, Library Services Director
Elaine McMillion, Administrative Support Specialist

Arts Orange County
Present: Pat Wayne, Arts Orange County Deputy Director

III. Public Comments – None.

IV. Approval Of Minutes

Commissioner Smith noted that the motions as noted imply that five Commissioners approved and that two Commissioners abstained. The motions should be noted to show that the five (5) Commissioners present, approved the motion, and that there were zero (0) noes, zero (0) abstentions, and (2) two absent. The revisions will be made to both the April 17 and the April 28 minutes as noted.

Motion made by Vice Chair Greer and seconded by Commissioner Logan and carried (6-0-0-1) to approve the minutes of April 17, 2014 and April 28, 2014 as amended and noted.

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

V. Current Business

A. Consent Calendar

1. Correspondence and Press – None noted
2. Financial Report – Included in meeting packet.

3. Cultural Arts Activities – Included in meeting packet.

Motion made by Vice Chair Greer and seconded by Commissioner Logan and carried (6-0-0-1) to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

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

B. Items for Review and Possible Action -

1. Recap of the April 28, 2014 Boards, Commissions and Committees Training - Overview of Dr. Trudy Sopp's presentation

Chair Goldberg gave a brief recap of the training, thanked everyone who attended and stated that one of her goals is to make sure everyone on the Commission is engaged.

Commission Logan commented that this training was valuable and good and that all of the Commissioners were together. Commissioner Greer concurred and asked if the training would be done on a yearly basis. Chair Goldberg stated that she believed the training would be done on an as-needed basis. Commissioner Ware stated his appreciation that Chair Goldberg wanted to engage the Commissioners, commenting on how the nature of their discussions extended to public discourse, and wanted to ensure that the broad basis of the Commission's agenda is public.

Commissioner Greer reminded everyone that the City Arts Commission By-Laws require that each of the Committees submit a monthly report and that this should help to provide more transparency.

C. Monthly Reports -

1. Newport Beach Sculpture Garden Ad Hoc Committee -

Commissioner Smith spoke about each of the sculptures that had been selected and where their placement will be. He indicated that a report will be submitted to City Council at their May 13 meeting. If City Council approves the report at that time, then Arts Orange County will negotiate the contracts with the artists, the sculptures will be installed in August 2014, and the public unveiling will occur on September 13, 2014.

Commissioner Ware appreciated the visual part of the process and asked if this was the first opportunity the public has had to provide their input. Commissioner Smith responded that the public was welcome at the past Arts Commission meetings in which this subject was discussed. Library Services Director Tim Hetherington confirmed that the written staff report to City Council is available on the City website. Commissioner Smith stated that he believed that a thorough job had been done and that the PowerPoint presentation will help the public understand what is being planned.

2. Fine Arts Ad Hoc Committee -

Commissioner Greer spoke about the Hilbert exhibition, reminding everyone that the exhibit is hanging in the Central Library lobby and will be displayed until the end of May. She thanked the Hilbert family for sharing their collection with the City of Newport Beach.

Commissioner Greer reported on James Strombotne's exhibit. Installation at the Central Library is planned in June 2014. Council Member Gardner commented that this would need to be brought to the Commission as a whole because less than a majority of the City Arts Commission cannot make a recommendation. Discussion ensued about when the matter could be brought to the Commission and what the process should be.

Chair Goldberg suggested that the Fine Arts Committee make their exhibit recommendations for the calendar year at the next City Arts Commission meeting. Commissioner Ware requested that the Commissioners receive materials for the exhibit recommendations that this Committee would be presenting at the next meeting.

Commissioner Greer gave an overview on the Newport Beach Art Exhibition to be held on Saturday, June 14, 2014, including the number of artists involved, a comparison of prior years, and that day's schedule for this exhibition and the awards presentation. 24 Carrots will be catering and Bellagio will provide flowers. She stated that the call for art is still active and information has been posted from Huntington Beach to Dana Point. She suggested that the City Arts Commissioners spread the word to their friends and family and stated a reminder will be sent to all of those involved the day before the event. Commissioner Greer further noted that information for the call for the artists is available on the City's website under Cultural Arts and is also available on Facebook.

3. Arts Foundation Liaison Ad Hoc Committee -

Commissioner Smith gave a brief report on the October 11, 2014, Art in the Park event and stated the Committee is continuing to solicit exhibitors.

4. Art Site Suitability Ad Hoc Committee -

Commissioner Magrutsche proposed a motion to sunset the Art Site Suitability Committee until the City Arts Master Plan results were available. Chair Goldberg clarified that since a master plan is being designed that the recommendation be to sunset the committee and then revive the committee after the master plan is finalized and approved, in order to help be more responsive to the needs of the community. Commissioner Ware suggested amending the proposed motion to ensure materials generated by the Arts Commission were passed on to the Ad Hoc Committee.

After discussion, Chair Goldberg suggested hearing a full report and rescinding Commissioner Magrutsche's motion. Library Services Director Hetherington suggested preparing a detailed staff report and submitting it to the Arts Commission at the next meeting. Chair Goldberg agreed.

5. Civic Center Art Placement Ad Hoc Committee -

Nothing new to report.

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

Commissioner Greer stated that the purpose of the Committee is to find a location for City owned art. She reported that the art has been inventoried and Committee Members will be identifying areas in the City where the art can be exhibited. The Ad Hoc Committee will work with City department heads to distribute the art via an established process and the goal is to have all artwork installed by the end of 2014. Commissioner Magrutsche stated there are approximately 400 pieces of art owned by the City.

Chair Goldberg clarified that this is art that had been donated to the City or acquired by the City over the years. Each piece was appraised and the recommendation is to allow members of the City to check it out and place it in their facilities, and this would get the art out of the closet where it is currently being stored. Commissioner Ware commented on the quality of the art and stated it is good to have art of any quality out so that it may be seen. Commissioner Greer stated the placement of the art will be an aesthetic decision and not based on the art's value. She indicated a more detailed report and process will be brought back at the next meeting.

7. Arts Master Plan Steering Committee -

Chair Goldberg reported a contract had been executed with Arts Orange County (OC) and they are excited about the master plan. She spoke about the Committee and noted that the first meeting is set for May 29, 2014. Chair Goldberg introduced Pat Wayne from Arts OC who gave a brief overview and noted her expertise. Ms. Wayne explained that she will be scheduling interviews with the Arts Commissioners to talk about their hopes and concerns as well as what this plan may accomplish. The purpose is to allow the Subcommittee to know what is on the minds of the Commissioners. Ms. Wayne further stated that at the first meeting they will be looking at process and a timeline, how many public forums are appropriate, the possibility of focus groups and holding interviews with community leaders. The target of completion of the process and presentation of the report is November, 2014.

Commissioner Ware confirmed the process will be discussed at the next Commission meeting in June, 2014. Chair Goldberg noted that at every meeting the Commissioners will be updated and given an opportunity to weigh in. Commissioner Ware asked if what other cities have done will enter the discussion. Ms. Wayne responded they are taking a basic approach and have refreshed their thinking from what other cities have done.

Commissioner Magrutsche asked how the City would diversify itself from other cities. Ms. Wayne stated that this would be part of the balancing act that she will be helping with.

Commissioner Ware asked for a timeline and Pat Wayne responded that the timeline will be brought forward at the May 29, 2014, Art Master Plan Steering Committee meeting.

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

- Fine Arts Ad Hoc Committee – This committee has approved artist James Strombotne's exhibit scheduled to be displayed in June, 2014, at the Central Library. This committee will ask the entire City Arts Commission for review and approval of this exhibit.

Motion made by Vice Chair Greer and seconded by Commissioner Logan and carried (6-0-0-1) to put on the June 12, 2014, agenda for discussion and approval by the City Arts Commission, artist James Strombotne's exhibit scheduled to be displayed in June, 2014, at the Central Library.

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

The City Arts Commission requested that the following items be added to the June 12, 2014, meeting agenda:

- Fine Arts Ad Hoc Committee – The art exhibition schedule for the next six artist displays has been approved by the Fine Arts Committee. This Committee will ask the entire City Arts Commission to review and approve the selected exhibits for display from June through spring 2015.
- Art Site Suitability Ad Hoc Committee – Discuss the Art Site Suitability Ad Hoc Committee and its relation to the Arts Master Plan Steering Committee and to possibly sunset the Art Site Suitability Ad Hoc Committee if deemed appropriate.
- Art Owned by the City of Newport Beach Ad Hoc Committee – To discuss the City art owned process, confirm presentation of the Art Site Suitability materials prior to passing on to Pat Wayne, Arts Orange County and add the Arts Master Plan as a standing item to each agenda as review and possible action.
- Arts Master Plan Steering Committee – This committee will report to the City Arts Commission to clarify the process on the Arts Master Plan following this Committee’s meeting with Arts Orange County scheduled on Thursday, May 29, 2014.
- Artist Rex Brandt - Discussion and possible approval of hosting or co-hosting an event in honor of local artist Rex Brandt, founder of Newport Harbor Art Museum who was renowned for his watercolor paintings of Newport Beach and Balboa Bay.,
- Speak Up Newport event scheduled for June 11, 2014.

Motion made by Vice Chair Greer and seconded by Commissioner Smith and carried (6-0-0-1) to approve adding the remaining agenda items as noted above to the June 12, 2014, City Arts Commission agenda.

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

VII. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items - None.

Motion made by Vice Chair Greer and seconded by Commissioner Logan and carried (6-0-0-1) to adjourn this meeting.

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

VIII. Adjournment – 6:22 p.m.

Submitted by: _____