



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

**SPECIAL MEETING
SANTA BARBARA ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Thursday, June 18, 2015

**Carrillo Recreation Center
100 E. Carrillo St.**

Special Meeting: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER 2:30pm

ROLL CALL

Committee

Mr. Longo - Arts – Present
Jim Hockin – Arts - Present
Marilyn Dannehower – Crafts - Present
Rebecca Plum – Crafts - Present

Staff

Jason Bryan - Senior Recreation Supervisor
Xochitl Camarena – Recreation Specialist
Parks & Recreation Commission Liaison
LeeAnne French – Not Present

1st Alternate Members

Charlotte Barnard – Crafts - Present

2nd Alternate Members - Open

Member At Large - Open

CHANGES TO AGENDA None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Richard Paluch suggested a chalk-painting activity be integrated into the show somehow to attract families. Richard Paluch also requested that someone be assigned next to him in the future.

Marilyn Loperfido recommended a different voice for the video that's being prepared to promote the show.

Charlotte Barnard suggested that the show participate in the I Madonnari event by recruiting show members to paint a square to market the show.

New Business

1. Violation Hearing for Tony Longo

For this agenda item, Tony Longo stepped down from the board as required by the show's procedures and regulations.

Jason Bryan presented information on the Notice of Violation he issued to Mr. Longo on March 20, 2015. Mr. Bryan stated that he reviewed monitor notes from March 15, 2015 that suggested Mr. Longo was verbally abusive to show monitors when monitors attempted to place temporary signs for artists setup in the 2nd row due to the bridge construction project. Mr. Bryan contacted both show monitors, Trisha Dalziel and Bruce Chavez, to investigate what occurred that day; both monitors indicated that Mr. Longo raised his voice and argued with them in an unprofessional and demeaning manner in front of other show members and the public. Ms. Dalziel's notes referred to a similar situation on March 1, 2015 where Mr. Longo yelled at her because Mr. Longo did not

feel a weather day vote should have occurred that day. Both monitors indicated that Mr. Longo argued about the placement of the signs, then brought up other topics of complaint against the city that were not related to the signs nor within the monitors' areas of responsibility. The incident continued for what Ms. Dalziel estimated to be more than a half hour. Ms. Dalziel did state that she raised her voice at Mr. Longo at the end of the conversation out of frustration for begin berated for over a half hour. Ms. Dalziel and Mr. Chavez were both present at the hearing and stated that they felt harassed and berated by Mr. Longo's behavior on March 15, 2015. Mr. Bryan contacted show member David Hieter who was in the area during the incident. Mr. Hieter told Mr. Bryan that he observed part of the interaction and recalled Mr. Longo raising his voice and changing between several topics. Mr. Bryan concluded that he felt a Notice of Violation was justified in this case, but the Advisory Committee must weigh the evidence and determine if Mr. Longo is guilty of violating the Code of Conduct. The maximum penalty is a warning.

Tony Longo addressed the Committee stating that he felt a violation was unwarranted in this case. Although Mr. Longo admitted to raising his voice on March 15, 2015, he stated that he was equally embarrassed by Ms. Dalziel when she raised her voice. Mr. Longo explained that he is Italian and Italian people talk very loud. Mr. Longo also stated that he did not feel that a weather day should have been called on March 1st because of a forecast. Mr. Longo objected to Crafts section members not getting violations on March 15th who moved into the Arts section before the designated time. Mr. Longo played an audio recording from David Hieter who confirmed that Mr. Longo was loud in his conversation with staff on March 15th, but Mr. Hieter did not feel the interaction warranted a violation. Mr. Longo also played an audio recording from James Siebert who didn't feel the incident was a "big deal" and didn't feel that Mr. Longo's tone of voice was abusive. Mr. Longo then played voicemail from Jason Bryan asking him to not repeat the behavior reported on March 15th and stated this is evidence of a systemic bias against him. Mr. Longo addressed his email to Adam Hendel, claiming that his opinion was warranted and there should not have been any possibility for a code of conduct matter in that communication. Mr. Longo closed stating that he did not feel this notice of violation should be upheld.

The board asked questions to staff and Mr. Longo.

Rebecca Plum stated that she has maintained a professional relationship with Mr. Longo and was concerned about any potential impact to Mr. Longo's livelihood.

Marilyn Dannehower recalled Mr. Longo yelling during meetings and does not find staff's report of Mr. Longo's behavior to be out of character.

Jim Hockin stated that he viewed this hearing as an opportunity to appeal to Mr. Longo to be more respectful in his future interactions with show members and staff.

Charlotte Barnard stated that she has felt bullied and disparaged by Mr. Longo in her interactions with him working on developing a logo for the show.

Motioned, Seconded and Carried with Rebecca Plum objecting to uphold the Notice of Violation against Tony Longo with a penalty of a warning.

2. Violation Review for Nadinka Szaksz

Jason Bryan reviewed Nadinka Szaksz's violation notice including Nadinka's written response that she claimed she was injured while parking that morning. Mr. Bryan stated that neither the staff monitor nor the Police Officer on scene made any mention to an injury being reported that morning. The Notice of Violation was issued because

Ms. Szaksz parked her car straddling two handicap parking spaces and refused to move her vehicle when another handicap show member, Richard Paluch, arrived to setup in a space he was legitimately able to use that day. After refusing to move her vehicle, Ms. Szaksz was confrontational toward Mr. Paluch and cursed at him repeatedly. Mr. Paluch provided testimony on the incident the morning of February 22, 2015. Staff monitor, Trisha Dalziel, corroborated that Ms. Szaksz was using foul language and refused to move her vehicle until after a weather day was called, even after staff asked her to move her vehicle.

The board asked questions to staff and Mr. Paluch. Staff indicated that this is the third violation against Ms. Szaksz in 36 months and the maximum penalty would be permanent revocation of show permit. Mr. Bryan recommended a penalty of no less than six months suspension from the show and that she is placed in another area upon her return.

Moved, Seconded and Carried Unanimously to uphold the Notice of Violation with a penalty of a six month suspension. If Nadinka exceeds her grace period that would expire at the end of the July, Nadinka would not be allowed to re-apply to the show until the suspension period expired.

2. Review of Draft Video Presentation from Cristy Hamilton

Cristy Hamilton presented her draft marketing video for the Arts and Crafts Show. Overall, the board and guests present were impressed with the video. Marilyn Loperfido stated she wanted a different voice for the narration, but no one else present objected to the narration. There were two minor edits suggested: one was to make a change to one of the animations to make text easier to read and the other was the change one part of the narration that referred to the show as running "50 years" to "over 50 years".

ADJOURNMENT 4:34pm