

**City Arts Advisory Committee
and
Visual Arts in Public Places (VAPP) Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 16, 2009
Gebhard Public Meeting Room
630 Garden St., Santa Barbara, CA 93101**

Arts Advisory Committee

Members Present: Phyllis de Picciotto, Chair; Judy Nilsen, Darian Bleacher, Michael Humphrey, Gail Pine

Members Absent: Suzanne Fairly-Green, Tom Morey

Visual Art in Public Places Committee

Members Present: Judy Nilsen, Chair, Darian Bleacher, Teen Conlon, Jacqueline Dyson, Martha Gray, Susan Keller, Phyllis de Picciotto

Members Absent: Mary Heebner, Suzanne Fairly-Green,

Liaisons Present: Susette Naylor, HLC

Liaisons Absent: Judith Cook, Parks and Recreation Department, James Blakely, ABR, Helene Schneider, City Council

Staff: Ginny Brush, Executive Director; Rita Ferri, Visual Arts Coordinator /Curator of Collections; Linda Gardy, Business Specialist II; Lucy O'Brien, Recorder

1. **CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL:** Phyllis de Picciotto called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm and called the roll.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT - None**
3. **ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
 - A. **Approval of Minutes of March 19, 2009.** The minutes of March 29, 2009 were approved with a correction in 3.B.3 to read after the colon, "Those organizations receiving funding through a line-item in the City Budget may only apply for grant monies for project unrelated to programs, events, or projects funded by said line item." Nilsen/Pine.

B. Director's Report (G. Brush)

Ginny Brush announced applications are available for 2009/10 Community Arts & Cultural Grants and distributed the Timeline for this year's grants process. This year attendance at grant workshops is mandatory for all applicants. This will provide an opportunity to inform all applicants of recent revisions to the grant format and make them aware of projected funding cuts for this year's City Grants resulting from the City's Budget shortfall.

The Historic Landmarks Commission gave unanimous approval for the art elements of the West Beach Pedestrian

Improvement Project. The next step is to get all parties under contract with the city. The project will return to Arts Advisory and V.A.P.P. for approval of signage at a later date.

- The Annual Art Symposium will be held April 17, 2009 at the Cabrillo Arts Center. The Arts Sustainability Strategic Plan will be presented to the group. The Keynote Speaker will be Muriel Johnson President of the California Arts Council.
- Ginny Brush announced the inauguration of David Starkey as City Poet Laureate and thanked members for attending the ceremony in City Hall on April 7th.
- Ginny Brush announced that Jill Littlewood has resigned from the VAPP Committee. Her current art project will be taking her out of the area; and she feels that her absences would affect her effectiveness as a committee member. Committee members were encouraged to think about nominations to replace Jill's position on VAPP.

C. Selection of Community Arts and Organization Development Grant Review Committees –

Community Arts Review Panel will be Gail Pine, Judy Nilsen, and Darian Blecher.

Organizational Development Review Panel will be Tom Morey, Suzanne Fairly-Green, and Michael Humphrey.

Phyllis de Picciotto will serve as an alternate this year.

Michele DeCant reminded Committee members to attend the City Advisory Group Workshop with City Administrator Jim Armstrong on April 22nd in the Faulkner Gallery.

4. VISUAL ART IN PUBLIC PLACES COMMITTEE (VAPP). Judy Nilsen, Chair, called the VAPP meeting to order at 3:45 pm.

A. Storefront Gallery Project Temporary Art Exhibition Pilot Program - Ginny

Brush presented the concept for temporary art gallery pilot program, addressing use issues, and possible themes. The plan is to roll out the pilot program for the May 1st Thursday event. The proposal will go to the City Council on Tues. The budget is \$18,000 from the City Redevelopment Agency, with the Arts Commission administering the contract. The name for the new gallery is the *Storefront Gallery Project*. Partners include the Downtown Organization, City Redevelopment Agency and the Arts Commission. The first exhibition will feature poetry following on April as National Poetry Month. David Starkey, the new City Poet Laureate presented suggestions for combinations of poetry and visual art/photography to the committee. Art from Scrap was suggested as an

avenue for art in the future. The committee was enthusiastic with the level of content presented and complemented the quick action to get the gallery organized. A motion to strongly support and give conceptual approval of the project carried. Susan Keller/Jacqueline Dyson. Martha Gray suggested the color green in the logo may be misconstrued as a reference to sustainable building criteria.

B. Visual Art Coordinator/Curator of Collections Staff Report - Rita Ferri.

1. Channing Peake Gallery –The current *Fast Forward* exhibition included a dialog with artists Dan Connally and curator Heather Jenó Silva for *1st Thursday*. Next month will include a dialogue with the curator and Harry Reese. The Ralph Auf der Hyde exhibition is moving along. Funds have been raised to support the exhibition and a catalogue. The show opens during July *1st Thursday*.
2. City Hall Gallery – Rita has been working with Art Resources to remove and restore the Colin Campbell Coopers. Two are completely renovated and in the Arts Commission vault. City Risk Management initiated the restoration process following up on the recent appraisal of the Coopers this year. The exhibition of Summer Solstice posters will open at *1st Thursday* in June and will continue to the end of the year.
3. Update on restoration of Herbert Bayer’s Chromatic Gate. Rita went to the SBMA Art Library and reviewed the archives on the Chromatic Gate. There is only one set of color plates available for check out during the bid process. Most information on construction and paint is out of date. There is a painting that could be used for color matching. Teen Conlon and Rita will be working on finding updated paint.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Nominations for *Santa Barbara Beautiful Annual Awards* is now open.
- B. An exhibition of work by Barry Spacks and Neal Crosby will open at Art Resources.
- C. Santa Barbara Revels will have a May Day Celebration at the end of Stearns Wharf at 8:30am on Saturday, May 2, 2009.

6 NEXT MEETING:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm. The next meeting is Thursday, May 21, 2009 at 3:30 pm in the David Gebhard Public Meeting Room.