



CITY ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE and  
VISUAL ARTS IN PUBLIC PLACES (VAPP) COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 20, 2014

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

David Gebhard Public Meeting Room  
630 Garden Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

MINUTES

**Arts Advisory Committee Members Present:** Robert Adams, Darian Bleecher, Nina Dunbar, Elizabeth Owen, Marylove Thralls

**Arts Advisory Committee Members Absent:** Carol Taylor, Nathan Vonk

**Visual Arts in Public Places Committee Present:** Judy Nilsen, Darian Bleecher, Phyllis de Picciotto, Jacqueline Dyson, Suzanne Fairly-Green, Martha Gray

**Visual Arts in Public Places Committee Absent:** Teen Conlon, Mary Heebner, Susan Keller

**Liaisons Absent:** Frank Hotchkiss, City Council; Paul Zink, ABR; Judith Cook, Parks & Recreation; Barry Winick, HLC

**Staff Present:** Ginny Brush, Executive Director, Lyn Semenza, Business Analyst

**Staff Absent:** Rita Ferri, Visual Arts Coordinator/Curator of Collections

**1. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 3:30PM.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**3. ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**A. Approval of Minutes**

**Action:** Darian Bleecher made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2014 meeting. Motion seconded by Marylove Thralls. Nathan Vonk abstained from voting. *The motion passed.*

**B. Approval of Chair and Vice-Chair Nominations.**

During the January 16, 2014 meeting, nominations were accepted for the Arts Advisory chair and vice-chair. Robert Adams was nominated for Chair and Darian Bleecher was nominated for Vice-chair.

**Action:** Nathan Vonk made a motion to approve Robert Adams as Chair and Darian Bleecher as Vice-chair. Motion seconded by Nina Dunbar. *The motion passed.*

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Arts Advisory  
CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

### C. Director's Report – Ginny Brush

- 1) California Arts Council convening was held February 12<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento. The **Joint Committee on the Arts Hearing**, Headed by Senator Ted Lieu, focused on *California's Creative Economy: First Statewide Assessment and Opportunities for Growth*. Research funded by CAC and developed by the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation and Otis College of Art and Design featured experts addressing the policy implications of the research and links between arts and job creation and job preparation. Senator Lieu announced his intention to sponsor a bill to increase State funding for the California Arts Council to \$25 million (an amount comparable to what the funding support was before the “.com” economic collapse).

SLPP members convened at the Capitol to hear specifics of the Council's new Strategic Plan, new grants programs and new initiatives followed by a gathering of Californians for the Arts (CFTA). The Arts Council provided an additional \$250 to each SLPP grant to offset the cost of attending this convening.

- 2) The committee(s) heard an update on the **Community Arts Workshop Space** at the January 27<sup>th</sup> meeting of City Council to review funding requests (23 in all) for the approximately \$4.2 million in one-time funding from the City. Though the proposal request from the Arts Collaborative for \$300,000 for the Community Arts Workshop Space project was placed last on the list, it received unanimous approval from the Council. This was a project that had been approved to receive over \$1 million in Redevelopment Agency funds prior to its dissolution. The approved \$300,000 will help attract private funding support and will allow the Arts Collaborative and the CAW Task Force to move forward in updating the plans, and make necessary improvements to the space to address safety, security, ADA requirements and update the space to meet current codes once a lease agreement is in place.
- 3) Report on the **Public Art Program for temporary murals in the Funk Zone**. Ms. Brush shared a copy of the proposed document that was presented to the Architectural Board of Review (ABR) for comments at its January 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. Nils Hammerbeck presented the proposal that grew out of Focus on the Funk Zone events and the AMASS gallery. The proposal for temporary murals was developed by a number of collaborative organizations and Funk Zone advocates including Laura Inks with funding provided by the Santa Barbara Foundation. Ms. Brush represented City Arts Advisory and VAPP at the presentation citing the Arts Advisory and VAPP committees' recent support and adopted guidelines for review of temporary murals. Ms. Brush gave an overview of the proposal and recognized Laura Inks, Nils Hammerbeck and the Santa Barbara Foundation for their efforts in developing a model for temporary murals in the Funk Zone.

ABR members were very supportive and the concept of having a temporary mural program help define the Funk Zone as an arts-centric zone and felt that the approach as presented was going in a positive direction.

### D. Update on Funk Zone Community Engagement – Nathan Vonk

The Nancarrow property was recently purchased by Mesa Lane Partners. The property, which is near MichaelKate Interiors & Art Gallery and the Arts Fund Gallery, includes the entire block minus 2 small lots and was for sale as a single unit. While it will take several

years until Mesa Lane Partners can do something permanent with the space, they have come up with ways to use the space in the interim and incorporate the arts.

March 8<sup>th</sup> will be the first 2<sup>nd</sup> *Saturday* event in the Funk Zone. There will be at least 12 venues, including galleries and artist studios, participating and will go from 1 to 5PM.

There will be several events on Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup> in the Funk Zone, including *Demystifying Opera* at MichaelKate.

15,000 Funk Zone maps have been printed. The goal is to print 15,000 maps each quarter and they will be distributed to local hotels, the Visitor's Center and provided to visiting cruise ship visitors.

**E. Adjourn as City Arts Advisory**

A motion to adjourn was made by Nathan Vonk and seconded by Nina Dunbar. The City Arts Advisory meeting adjourned at 3:56 PM.

**4. VISUAL ARTS IN PUBLIC PLACES COMMITTEE**

**Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 3:56 PM.

**A. Proposal for a Temporary Steelhead Sculpture Exhibition in the Funk Zone – Mauricio Gomez and Erin Brown, South Coast Habitat Restoration**

The committee heard a proposal for the temporary display of approximately 8 “Steelhead Sculptures” to be placed at various locations in the Funk Zone to coincide with a conference on Habitat Restoration being held at the Veteran's Building on Cabrillo Blvd. from March 19<sup>th</sup> through the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The Steelhead will be borrowed from owners who are willing to loan their sculptures for this event and will be installed one week before the conference.

Four main concerns were expressed and addressed.

1. The sculptures should be safe for the public – The sculptures will be welded onto iron poles on round metal bases which will provide it with ample stability. They will stand at approximately 4 feet high.
2. The sculptures should be secured against vandalism or any other damage particularly at night – A majority of the sculptures will be placed within the property of the participating business and out of the public right-of-way. They will be secured at night by the vendors.
3. The sculptures should be insured – South Coast Habitat Restoration will assume the responsibility and liability and will obtain additional insurance for the borrowed sculptures.
4. A memorandum of understanding should be in place between the owner of the sculpture and the venue owner or manager where the sculpture will be temporarily placed.

**Action:** Jacqueline Dyson made a motion to approve the Temporary Steelhead Sculpture Exhibition in the Funk Zone as presented with the condition that a Memorandum

of Understanding be drafted with the assurance that the sculptures be safe for the public and secure. The motion was seconded by Martha Gray. *Motion approved.*

**B. Concept review of proposal for a Public Art Program of temporary murals in the OC Arts-oriented Funk Zone- Kai Tepper, The Arts Fund and David Diamant, Artist**

The committee heard a proposal for a public art program for temporary murals throughout the Funk Zone. The proposal was presented to the Architectural Board of Review for “Comments Only” and received very positive feedback.

The support and feedback of the committee is being sought in order for this proposal to move forward. The intention of the Public Art Program is to provide guidelines that outline a process for creating agreements between business owners and artists for creating temporary murals without having to go through potentially lengthy permitting processes.

The Committee supports the spirit in which the document was created and its desire to break down barriers for artists creating art in the Funk Zone; however, in the interest of protecting the rights of both the artists and property owners, it is recommended that the organizers create a contract for the production of murals that would help expedite future mural agreements between property owners and artists and ideally set forth a community process that would be easy for this community to review and approve.

**C. Staff Report – Lyn Semenza gave the report for Rita Ferri.**

**1) Update on status of Chromatic Gate Maintenance Agreement and Plan**

Michael Fitzpatrick Fine Auto Finishing submitted his invoice of \$800 to complete the hand washing and waxing, with a fork lift for future maintenance of the Chromatic Gate on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Fitzpatrick’s company also maintains samples of all the paints in order to touch up or repair the Gate as needed. Staff is developing an agreement with the City Parks and Recreation to facilitate and coordinate oversight and payments to the City for the recommended twice-a-year maintenance at the Gate.

**2) Airport – Hazel Johns, Interim Airport Director, has set a Tuesday, March 11, 3:30PM meeting for the Airport Committee to review the completed temporary and rotating artwork guidelines, as drafted and updated by Karen Ramsdell. The committee will reconvene at that time.**

**3) Channing Peake Gallery – The Santa Barbara Art Association held an ingathering Jan 18<sup>th</sup> at the Channing Peake Gallery for an exhibition titled *Inside/Outside*. 190 artworks by 122 artists were logged in and the work hung that day by three installers. The juror, Sylvia White, had to bow out unexpectedly at the last minute and Randy Sommer, co-owner of ACME Gallery in Los Angeles took her place and chose 59 works of art by 49 artists. February 6<sup>th</sup> on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, was the opening reception and awards were given out by Supervisor Janet Wolf. The Art Association will conduct artist-led workshops starting in March from 5-7pm on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday and continuing in April and May.**

**4) City Hall Gallery – The City Hall Gallery 2014 exhibition, *Herbert Bayer: Synthesis* was de-installed on January 24<sup>th</sup>. The next exhibition, *Passionate Pursuits: Early Santa Barbara Female Artists* installs on February 28 and opens on March 6, 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, to coordinate with March being Women’s History month. Mayor Helene Schneider will**

speaking at 6pm. The work celebrates the unsung/unseen work of many women artists from the turn of the century. Works include, paintings, prints and sculpture and will be on view for one year.

**5. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**6. ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 PM

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be Thursday, March 20, 2014 from 3:30PM – 5:00PM at the David Gebhard Public Meeting Room, 630 Garden Street.

“AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to gain access to, comment at, or participate in this meeting, please contact the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission at 568-3990 or inquire at the Arts Commission office on the day of the meeting. If possible, notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the city to make reasonable arrangements in most cases.”

Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Arts Advisory Committee after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Arts Commission office located at 1100 Anacapa Street, 3rd Floor Rotunda Tower, during normal business hours.