



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

Thursday, June 19, 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, Elizabeth Owen, Marylove Thralls, Nathan Vonk

**Arts Advisory Committee Members Absent:** Darian Bleacher, Nina Dunbar

**Visual Arts in Public Places Committee Present:** Judy Nilsen, Teen Conlon, Phyllis de Picciotto, Jacqueline Dyson, Suzanne Fairly-Green, Martha Gray, Mary Heebner, Susan Keller

**Visual Arts in Public Places Committee Absent:** Darian Bleacher

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

**Staff Present:** Ginny Brush, Executive Director, Rita Ferri, Visual Arts Coordinator/Curator of Collections, Lyn Semenza, Business Analyst

**1. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 3:40PM.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**3. ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**A. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the May 15, 2014 Meeting and was seconded. *Motion passed.*

**B. Presentation on Funk Zone Artists Village**

Chloe Kirk of Mesa Lane Partners gave an update on the Funk Zone Artists Village located at 121 East Mason Street. Prior to purchasing the property, Mesa Lane Partners had a series of meetings with the neighborhood stakeholders, which included neighbors, property owners, business owners and artists in the Funk Zone. Through these meetings, the group established goals for the project:

1. Foster the Arts – The group recognizes the Funk Zone as a world class creative hub and a hot spot for the arts in Santa Barbara.
2. Keep it Funky – Preserving the unique Funk Zone culture.
3. Deep Green – This project will be a leader in sustainable building practices.
4. Inspire Community – Engage with stakeholders, recognize the diversity of the community, serve a wide range of demographics, and create cool and engaging public art spaces.

OFFICE LOCATION:

1100 Anacapa Street  
3rd Floor, Rotunda Tower  
County Courthouse

☎ 805/ 568-3990

☎ 805/ 568-3991

MAIL:

Post Office Box 2369  
Santa Barbara, CA  
93120

Arts Advisory  
CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

Mesa Lane Partners has partnered with the Santa Barbara Foundation to create the Funk Zone Artists Village, a temporary creative community composed of repurposed shipping containers that artists can lease at a low cost.

Chloe presented an artist's rendering of the proposed Funk Zone Artists Village. Initially, there will be space for over 20 artists to practice their craft with an opportunity and plans to expand to accommodate over 40 artists. To date, they have received close to 100 applications to lease space. The proposal includes a plaza area where the community can gather and socialize. The Artists Village is Phase 1 of a larger redevelopment project that is planned for the property. It is an interim project that is expected to last approximately 2 to 3 years while the proposed larger development receives its entitlements. The permanent development will include shared artists workshop space, into which the temporary Artists Village will move.

#### **C. Update on Santa Barbara Children's Museum**

Sheila Cushman, Director of the proposed Santa Barbara Children's Museum, gave an update on the Children's Museum project in Santa Barbara, which will be located at 125 State Street. This will be Santa Barbara County's first LEED Certified museum. The building will have over 17,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor exhibits, and with an enclosed courtyard and other outdoor areas, it will have approximately 25,000 square feet of usable space. The museum will be incentivizing visitors to use alternative transportation, other than driving cars, by offering admission discounts to visitors. They anticipate approximately 95,000 visitors per year, primarily from Santa Barbara, Ventura, San Luis Obispo and Northern Los Angeles Counties. The museum exhibits will be focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEAM), using the arts as an entry and exit portal. The museum will also include a bridge space for changing artist installations and will change 3 to 4 times per year. The rooftop, Sky Garden, will serve as the museum's third floor and will include a large water feature. The museum has a 50-year ground lease at \$1 per year from the City of Santa Barbara. The cost is estimated at \$20M to open the doors. The museum's Board has raised \$14M during the quiet phase of their campaign and they plan to raise a \$5M endowment to ensure sustainability. Site work will begin the end of June with a formal groundbreaking ceremony to take place in the fall. Opening day is planned for June 1, 2016, which is International Children's Day. Branding studies are underway to consider a name for the Museum that does not include the words "children" or "museum" that will better represent the experience.

#### **D. Update on CAW Gate Public Art Elements**

David Shelton gave an update on the public art component of the CAW space, winter and summer Solstice-themed wrought iron gates, approved previously by City Arts Advisory and VAPP. The Solstice Gates link conceptually to the landscaping components that feature plants that correspondingly bloom in the winter and in the summer. Mr. Shelton's gate components have been refined and revised to accommodate some architectural changes that have been made to the site since the initial approval. The committee members were enthusiastically supportive of the proposed revisions and the direction of Mr. Shelton's public art site drawings.

#### **E. Director's Report – Ginny Brush**

### **Update on 2014-15 City Arts Grants Process**

All grants were uploaded and links were provided to the Review Panelist. The Community Arts Grant Panel met June 17th to review grants and make recommendations. The Events & Festival Grant panel will meet on Monday, June 23 from 8:15am - 4:30pm in the Board of Supervisors Conference Room and Organizational Development Grants will be reviewed Wednesday, June 25th from 9:30am to 4pm. All grant recommendations along with panel comments will be presented at the July 17th meeting for approval and recommendation of the 2014-15 Community Arts and Organizational Development grant to the City Finance Committee and then City Council. Generally, there were more grant requests this year.

### **Update on Community Arts Workshop Space**

As many of you may know the SB Arts Collaborative received \$300,000 in funding to support the renovation of the Community Arts Workshop (CAW) space and have a signed lease agreement from the City. The CAW Task Force has been working closely with the SB Arts Collaborative in developing a path forward with updates of the architectural plans to meet current codes and address safety issues required prior to Solstice occupying the CAW space for its workshop this year. A ribbon-cutting event/photo op was held at the site on May 16, 2014 with members of City Council, the CAW Task Force and Board members from the SB Arts Collaborative.

A branding and marketing committee has been formed to develop logo and materials that will be used in fundraising development. The Solstice Gates that serve as the Public Art element in the project are being revised and updated to accommodate some of the necessary changes to the site.

### **Follow up on the California Alliance for Arts Education CAAE Advocacy Breakfast**

Arts Commission staff has been working in collaboration with the Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation, the Incredible Children's Network (iCAN), the SB Education Foundation and The Arts Fund to increase advocacy for arts education in schools in follow up of the May 9th meeting at the Santa Barbara Bowl. A core group has been meeting, attending Santa Barbara School District Board meetings to advocate for integration of arts at all levels and consider other advocacy opportunities. This group is forming the basis for a Santa Barbara County chapter of California Alliance for Arts Education and collaborating to advocate for a Visual Arts and Performing Arts (VAPA) Coordinator position and explore ways to help the District initially fund that position.

Ms. Brush announced that the free **Summer Movie Series** begins July 11th in the Courthouse Sunken Garden.

The **2014 Business in Art Award** will be determined at the July 17th meeting. Ms. Brush provided background materials to the committee. This will be the 10th Annual Business in Art Award. Those wishing to nominate individuals or businesses should provide information in the form of a paragraph or two as to why they are deserving of consideration for the award. Please send that info to Lyn Semenza.

### **F. Update on Funk Zone Community Engagement – Nathan Vonk**

Attendance during this past 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday was good despite the having to compete with numerous local graduations.

**G. Adjourn as City Arts Advisory**

Nathan Vonk made a motion to adjourn the Arts Advisory meeting and Judy Nilsen seconded. The Arts Advisory Committee adjourned at 4:36 PM.

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

**Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 4:36 PM.

**A. Presentation on Milpas Street “Yes We Can” temporary art project**

Sharon Byrne from the Milpas Community Association gave a presentation on a temporary youth-created art project coordinated by the Milpas Community Association for Concept Approval. This proposal to turn public trash cans into art pieces is in response to the neighborhood’s request for more art on Milpas Street. The second-hand trash containers are provided by the City of Santa Barbara and many are becoming blighted and in a state of disrepair. Businesses in the neighborhood and youth arts groups would work on this project and help promote a clean and litter-free community. This project would also give Eastside youth a street venue to showcase their artwork. The project would include creating art pieces on a template that will be photographed using a high-resolution digital camera and into large vinyl or pliable Plexiglas banners that would wrap around the trash cans and attached with Velcro and grommets. The Milpas Community Association will be seeking advice on establishing a formal approval process for proposed designs. There will be no commercial messaging on the art pieces but sponsoring businesses will be given posters of their sponsored art pieces to hang in their windows.

City Environmental Services has inventoried the trash cans and there will 42 that will be wrapped with art banners. The project cost is estimated at \$7,000. The organization has received grants and is now talking to neighborhood businesses about their sponsorship program. They will be starting with 4 prototypes with Casa de la Raza doing the art. This will be used as an example to present to the Architectural Board of Review (ABR) for review and approval. If approved, the art pieces will be produced between August and October and placed on the cans by October 4<sup>th</sup>, coinciding with the Taste of Milpas event.

Jacqueline Dyson made a motion to conceptually approve the youth-created “Yes We Can” temporary art project. Susan Keller seconded the nomination. *Motion passed.*

**B. Staff Report- Rita Ferri, Visual Arts Coordinator/Curator of Collections**

**Channing Peake Gallery**

June 1st Thursday enjoyed a packed reception of almost 300 people for the current exhibition, The Berkus Family Collection *WWBD? What Would Barry Do?* exhibition featuring artwork responses from 15 young artists to 15 Berkus Collection artists. Their responses were as varied as the collection with painting, sculpture, photography, works on paper and performance-based artwork. Many people came out to honor Barry’s legacy and welcome all the new WWBD? artists. In addition, DJ Darla Bea provided music selections to enliven the space. Josef Woodard reviewed the exhibition in the Santa Barbara News-Press. On July 1st Thursday at 6pm, Ms. Ferri will conduct a walk-thru tour of the exhibition.

### **City Hall Gallery**

The City Hall Gallery 2014 exhibition, *Passionate Pursuits: Early Santa Barbara Women Artists* continues to celebrate the work of many women artists from the turn of the century to the early 1900s.

### **Chromatic Gate Maintenance**

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the County Arts Commission, City Parks and Recreation and City Public Works Department is moving forward regarding the ongoing and future maintenance of the Chromatic Gate. The MOU is currently being reviewed by the City Attorney. Once approved the Chromatic Gate will be hand-washed and waxed and the first cleaning could come as soon as the 2nd week in July. The contractor for the restoration services will need to provide necessary insurance information to the City and be under contract prior to receiving access permits from City Parks and Rec.

### **Crescent Crossing**

The Donald Davis sculpture in the 600 block of State St., currently with temporary fencing around it, is being restored by Stewart Vaughn, the mason who fabricated the sculpture under the supervision of Mr. Davis. The sculpture has undergone a deep cleaning to remove grease stains and some of the more damaged bricks are being replaced.

## **5. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **6. ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 PM

### **NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be Thursday, July 17, 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.