



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

REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, January 21, 2016
3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

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

MINUTES

Arts Advisory Committee Members Present: William Smithers, Margie Yahyavi, Marylove Thralls

Arts Advisory Committee Members Absent: Robert Adams, Chair; Nathan Vonk, Nina Dunbar, Elizabeth Owen

Visual Arts in Public Places Committee Present: Judy Nilsen, Chair; Martha Gray, Mary Heebner,

Visual Arts in Public Places Committee Absent: Susan Keller, Teen Conlon, Jacqueline Dyson, Phyllis de Picciotto, Suzanne Fairly

Liaisons Present: Frank Hotchkiss, City Council, Michael Drury, Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC)

Liaisons Absent: Judith Cook, City Parks & Recreation, Courtney Miller, ABR

Staff Present: Hannah Rubalcava, Contracts/ Grants Manager; Maiza Hixson, Visual Arts Coordinator/Curator of County Collections

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Marylove Thralls, called the meeting to order at 3:39 PM and Roll Call was taken. There was not a quorum so no action items can be taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kenneth Loch- Reforming fine arts education. @kenneth_loch

There were no changes to the agenda.

Introductions of Arts Advisory Committee members and new Arts Advisory Committee Member William Smithers.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Subject: Approval of the Minutes

Recommendation: That the Committee waive further reading and approve minutes from the regular meeting of November 19, 2015. *Motion tabled.*

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Subject: Selection of Arts Advisory Vice-Chair

It is recommended that the Committee select a vice-chair of the Arts Advisory Committee. *Motion Tabled*

Subject: Update on the relocation of Donald Davis' "Crescent Crossing" Public Art Bench – M. Hixson

Public Works recently removed the Crescent Crossing bench on State Street and City Engineer Brian D'Amour provided a helpful update on the relocation effort, stating: "The work being performed this week is by City crews to prepare the benches for the move to the depot site. The work consists of removing brick surrounding the sculpture and excavating beneath the

Arts Advisory
CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

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footing. The sculpture itself is to remain intact. On Monday, a crane operator is going to relocate the two benches to a staging area at the depot. Sometime next week, we'll request bids from local contractors to permanently relocate the artwork to the approved location at the depot. That work should commence in February. I apologize for the lack of notification, we were planning for this work to begin next week but the opportunity presented itself to begin sooner."

The reinstallation process is dependent upon the bid process timeline, which should be in place before the artwork is installed. Donald Davis's widow, Wendy Davis expressed the wanting to be informed of plans regarding Crescent Crossing. Artist Blake Rankin said he would like to help oversee the successful relocation of Crescent Crossing.

Discussion from the Committee: Questions were asked about how secure the staging area is at Amtrak and how stable the bench is without the bricks in place. It was suggested that a letter be written to the City regarding protocol of notifying both the Arts Advisory Committee and the HLC. Mary Heebner will draft a letter to send to the chair of Arts Advisory, Robert Adam, and to VAPP Chair, Judy Nilsen, for signatures.

Subject: Update on developing protocols identifying City parcels for Public Art going forward. –M. Hixson

Staff is updating the inventory of public artworks with changes that reflect the impending move of Crescent Crossing and the relocation of Working Harbor mosaic tile work. The inventory will be shared with appropriate City departments.

Subject: Arts & Economic Prosperity 5 Study –H. Rubalcava

Ms. Rubalcava reported on the upcoming Arts & Economic Prosperity Study. She will be coming to the committees looking for volunteers to assist in collecting audience surveys.

Update on the Community Arts Workshop- N.Vonk/J. Nilsen

Construction is currently at a stand still primarily because of fundraising. There were a few groups that used it before the holidays. Revels used the space to make costumes, murals were painted there and the downtown organization used it for float building. There is some space that is available for current use- for small workshops. Fundraising is in the works but it will not be used for anything large until after Solstice.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Subject: Executive Director

No executive director report was given at this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT – 4:17

CALL TO ORDER VISUAL ARTS IN PUBLIC PLACES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order at 4:18 by VAPP Chair Judy Nilsen

ROLL CALL

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Subject: Update on the replacement of the public art piece "Working Harbor" at West Beach. –City of Santa Barbara Public Works Staff

City of Santa Barbara Public Works Staff, Theresa Lawler, reported on the suggested location of the "Working Harbor" artwork within the boardwalk at the beach. The VAPP committee recommended that instead of

putting it into the boardwalk, that the artwork be re-installed in concrete near its original location. The commission determined that the artwork needed to stay in its original location because it tells a story of the history of the Santa Barbara Harbor and because the original placement of the artwork was intentional. The VAPP committee also recommends that the wood boardwalk remain intact for aesthetic and practical reasons. The committee does not approve of having to restructure the boardwalk to support the extra weight that would be necessary to place the mosaic inside the boardwalk. The VAPP committee would like this information to go back to Jaime Limon and to the Historic Landmarks Committee.

Subject: Courtesy review of proposal of temporary art installation “Shift, Stretch, Expand: Everyday Transformation” by the Museum of Contemporary Art.

Miki Garcia and Brooke Kellaway from the Museum of Contemporary Arts gave a courtesy review of the temporary art installation “Shift, Stretch, Expand: Everyday Transformations” VAPP is impressed by the diversity presented by MCA and the commitment to promoting both local artists and artists from around the world.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

**Subject: Visual Arts Coordinator/Curator of Collection’s Report
LightWorks IV:**

The Santa Barbara County Arts Commission and University of California Santa Barbara’s Institute for Research in the Arts (UCIRA) received a Creative California Communities Grant Award for an innovative public art initiative entitled Light Works: Isla Vista (IV). Light Works will be held in downtown Isla Vista from May 19-22, 2016. 10 California-based artists will be commissioned to create temporary sculptural works, performances, and/or installations designed to transform the central parks of downtown Isla Vista into illuminated spaces for art and community engagement. Ms. Hixson drafted the MOU and is currently writing the RFP which will go out with a press release announcing the jurors and artists’ submission criteria.

Channing Peake:

@200 people attended 1st Thursday and Poetry Reading in Planning Commission Hearing Room on Jan 7. Poets Laureate Emeriti and current poet laureate Sojourner Kincaid Rolle as well as Rick Benjamin read poems in response to artworks on view.

American Institute of Architects will open their exhibition of approximately 90 design awards boards during the 1st Thursday in February, 5-8 pm. Kids Draw Architecture group will also exhibit 40 drawings alongside their architectural mentors. Select architects will be speaking throughout the duration of the exhibition on subsequent First Thursdays in the Planning Commission Hearing Room.

City Hall Gallery:

Ms. Hixson is researching which artworks to include in the next City Hall Gallery exhibition and plans to extend the current Ray Strong exhibition on view. Ms. Hixson received approval that this could be a Berkus Collection exhibition, which must be exhibited in 2016.

Berkus Collection: Ms. Hixson responded to George Chapjian’s request for a Work Order to install a sump pump in the courthouse vault. Hixson met with Scott Hosking of General Services to ask for guidance in El Nino flood prevention in vault. Hosking said there was no need for a sump pump, that there would not be flooding to the degree that would warrant one. General Services suggested that the Arts Commission consider relocating the Collection to another dry location entirely.

Chromatic Gate:

Ms. Hixson will be assuming the management of projects Ginny Brush and Rita Ferri were working on prior to their retirement. Specifically, Ms. Hixson will be approaching Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary regarding the sculpture, which needs to be washed and waxed every six months.

Pianos on State Street: Ms. Hixson has already met with the committee twice to begin planning for next fall’s event.

Subject: Grants/Contracts Manager Report

Ms. Rubalcava updated the committees on the status of the website. Staff is currently waiting for the County's IT department to complete Park's website before moving onto the Arts Commission's site.

The Countywide Poetry Out Loud Competition will be held February 11, 2016 in the Board of Supervisor's hearing rooms.

Ms. Rubalcava gave an update on the status of the City Wide Grant programs. To date, the Arts Commission has paid out about one third of grants so far this year.

Ms. Rubalcava updated the Committee on research done in regards to the structure of VAPP and Arts Advisory. She found a copy of the bylaws and read through the resolutions that established both VAPP and Arts Advisory. She will be meeting with the City staff to go over the process to update the bylaws.

ADJOURNMENT 5:05 PM

The next meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2016, from 3:30-5:00pm in the David Gebhard Public Meeting Room.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, If you need auxiliary aids or services or staff assistance to attend or participate in this meeting, please contact the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission at (805) 568-3990. If possible, notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will usually enable the City to make reasonable arrangements. Specialized services, such as sign language interpretation or documents in Braille, may require additional lead time to arrange.

REPORTS:

Copies of documents relating to agenda items are available for review at the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission office at 1100 Anacapa Street, 3rd Floor Rotunda Tower, and agendas and reports are also posted online at www.SBArtsCommission.org. Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Arts Advisory Committee/Visual Art in Public Places Committee after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission located at 1100 Anacapa Street, 3rd Floor Rotunda Tower during normal business hours.