



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

REGULAR MEETING

February 18, 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:** Robert Adams, Chair; Nina Dunbar, Elizabeth Owen, William Smithers, Marylove Thralls, Nathan Vonk, Margie Yahyavi

**Arts Advisory Committee Members Absent:** none

**Visual Arts in Public Places Committee Present:** Judy Nilsen, Chair; Darian Bleecher, Teen Conlon, Jacqueline Dyson, Martha Gray, Phyllis de Picciotto,

**Visual Arts in Public Places Committee Absent:** Susan Keller, Suzanne Fairly, Mary Heebner

**Liaisons Present:** Michael Drury, Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC); Nina Johnson, City of Santa Barbara

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

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

**ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Robert Adams called the meeting to order at 3:31 PM and Roll Call was taken.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Kenneth Loch- discussed the honor of being a student of Fine Arts

There were no changes to the agenda.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**1. Subject: Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve Meeting Minutes from the regular meeting of January 21, 2016. **M/S/C Yahyavi; Thralls.** Vote: Aye: 3 Nay: 0 Abstentions: 3 (Abstentions were not in attendance at January meeting)

**2. Approval of the Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2015 Tabled.**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

Arts Advisory  
CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

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**A. Subject: Selection of Arts Advisory Vice-Chair [ACTION ITEM]**

Nathan Vonk volunteered to serve as the Arts Advisory Committee Vice-Chair. Aye: 5 Nay: 0  
Abstentions: 0

**B. Subject: Selection of an Arts Advisory Committee Member to serve on the Airport Public Art Committee. [ACTION ITEM]**

**Recommendation:** Select a member to serve on the Airport Public Art Committee. Robert Adams read the responsibilities and time commitments required to serve a two-year term on the Airport Public Art Committee. Margie Yahyavi volunteered to serve Vote: Aye: 7 Nay: 0  
Abstentions: 0

**C. Subject: Collaboration of Arts Advisory Committee and the Theatre Group of Santa Barbara City College [ACTION ITEM]**

William Smithers proposed a collaboration between Santa Barbara Arts Advisory Committee and the Theatre Group of Santa Barbara City College to provide complimentary tickets to veterans for productions at SBCC's Garvin Theater. The committee commented that this program was not vetted in advance, according to procedure, by an executive director prior to presentation. Robert Adams clarified that the role of the organization is to review proposals on behalf of the city. Nina Johnson, City of Santa Barbara, clarified that Arts Advisory is not authorized to approve this type of program. The proposal does not meet the criteria. Chair Adams asked to take a vote on the proposal. Vote: Aye: 1 Nay: 6 *Motion not approved.*

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

Ms. Hixson would like to thank the City and City Engineer Brian D'Amour in particular for their efforts to keep VAPP, Arts Advisory and the Arts Commission apprised of the safe and successful removal and staging of the Crescent Crossing Bench at the Amtrak Station. Ms. Hixson expressed that she looks forward to working with Mr. D'Amour and the City over the course of the next few months to ensure the installation and rededication of Donald Davis's artwork. D'Amour provided a very helpful status update to the Arts Commission, VAPP, and Arts Advisory about the bid for installing the work. D'Amour reported that city staff received an acceptable bid to re-install the Crescent Crossing sculpture at the HLC-approved location on the train depot site. Note: The bidding was extended one week to increase the chance of an acceptable bid. The contractor ~~has~~ plans to start on April 4, 2016. City staff will meet with Wendy Davis and Blake Rankin before any work begins associated with the final relocation. D'Amour will provide another update in about a month to confirm the start date.

Michael Drury, HLC liaison, reported that the site is a great location and is currently secured.

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

Ms. Rubalcava reported on the upcoming Arts & Economic Prosperity Study. She will be attending the SLO County Kick-Off Breakfast on February 23<sup>rd</sup> to learn more about how SLO County conducts their study.

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

Nathan Vonk reported no updates since the last meeting. The CAW is still fundraising and will start a capital campaign in the spring. They are using the site as much as possible before construction begins again.

**COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

**Subject: Executive Director**

Hiring process is ongoing.

**ADJOURNMENT – 4:15**

M/S/C Vonk; Owen. Vote: Aye: 6 Nay: 0

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**CALL TO ORDER VISUAL ARTS IN PUBLIC PLACES COMMITTEE**

Judy Nilsen called the meeting to order at 4:16 PM and Roll Call was taken.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

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

Karl Treiberg, City Waterfront Dept., reported that the mosaic artwork that had been removed from West Cabrillo Blvd. to replace the gas pipeline has been restored & replaced (with the assistance of mosaic artist Betsy Gallery) to the original location in the concrete sidewalk. The original mosaics that were removed from West Cabrillo Blvd. will be re-purposed and relocated into the wooden boardwalk at Sea Landing, creating a duplicate mosaic. The city worked directly with the two original artists, Rafael Perea de la Cabada and Richard Irvine, to assure their approval of all aspects of the relocation, etc. Mr. Treiberg clarified the width of the walkway-will be 8 feet wide; the walkway will expand to 10 feet wide at the location of the he mosaics. The Committee asked that signage acknowledging the artists be placed near the wooden walkway.

**B. Subject: Selection of a Visual Arts in Public Places Committee Member to serve on the Airport Public Art Committee. [ACTION ITEM]**

**Recommended:** that the VAPP Committee select a member to serve a three-year term on the Airport Public Art Committee. Darian Bleecher volunteered to serve on the Airport Public Art Committee. *M/S/C Dyson; Gray.* Vote Aye: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0-

**C. Subject: Relocation of Santa Barbara Postcard Mural exhibition to temporary fencing along East Cabrillo Blvd. –Nathalie Gensac, Founder and Director of Youth Interactive [ACTION ITEM]**

Nathalie Gensac reported that all but one of the original murals were removed from State Street. One was stolen. Fess Parker’s Doubletree Hotel expressed a willingness to install the murals on their property at East Cabrillo Blvd.. The hotel has offered to replicate any damaged art work on canvas.. Ms. Gensac is seeking concept approval to exhibit the mural temporarily (approximagely one year) on the hotel fencing along East Cabrillo Blvd. Ms. Gensac will return to VAPP with examples of the finished artwork for final approval before it is displayed. *M/S/C Dyson; Conlon.* Vote: Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Abstentions: 0

**COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

**Subject: Visual Arts Coordinator/Curator of Collection’s Report – M. Hixson**

On March 3, 5-8 pm during 1st Thursday, the American Institute of Architects will host talks by architects whose winning designs are currently on view in the Channing Peake Gallery. The talks will take place in the Planning Commission Hearing Room adjacent to Channing Peake Gallery. Clay Aurell of AB Design Studio, responsible for Lucky Penny, will speak followed by Neumann Mendro Andrulaitis, and Barry Winick of Winick Architects will present their design for a Louis Vuitton store. Select architects will be speaking on the subsequent First Thursday in April the Planning Commission Hearing Room.

Ms. Hixson was pleased to announce that she will be curating the next exhibition at Channing Peake Gallery that will open on May 2 and continue through July 29. The exhibition entitled

American Flags features artwork by Philadelphia-based artist Emily Erb who will show 10 silk flag paintings of U.S. Currency. Erb employs the ancient Indian technique of silk painting to depict paper currency produced by the U.S. between 1862 and the present. Erb will be giving a presentation on her artwork in the Planning Commission Hearing Room during her 1st Thursday reception in May. Erb will also be conducting a silk painting workshop in downtown Santa Barbara and would like suggestions from VAPP as to where this could be held and how to involve young people in a dialog surrounding financial literacy through the arts.

Ms. Hixson announced that the LightWorks Isla Vista Request For Proposals for California artists was officially released. A press release announcing the RFP was distributed through the county's media outlets but Ms. Hixson urged any interested artists to contact her for the RFP. All submissions are due on March 4. 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 is working with UCSB's Art Department to host a Q & A Session about LightWorks on Saturday, Feb. 20, 12-2 pm. Ms. Hixson is meeting with President and CEO of American Riviera Bank Jeff Devine to review a 9 x 12 foot painting of the Mission by Ed Lister, which the Bank is interested in donating to the Commission's Art Collection.

Ms. Hixson is researching artists and themes for the next City Hall Gallery exhibition and announced that the current Ray Strong exhibition will continue through March.

Ms. Hixson met with Councilmember Frank Hotchkiss about his idea for a State Street public art project. He plans to formally present his idea at the next VAPP meeting in March.

**Announcements:**

Judy Nilsen reported that Susan Brindle, who worked for the Arts Commission, had a stroke last week; there is a gofundme website with regular updates if anyone is interested.

Robert Adams: Phyllis de Picciotto and Stan Roden made 16 Local Heroes documentary films shown at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival. The documentaries are available on the website [www.baba2films.com](http://www.baba2films.com)

**ADJOURNMENT 4:50 PM**

The next meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2016, from 3:30-5:00 pm 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Rotunda Tower, and agendas and reports are also posted online at [www.SBArtsCommission.org](http://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, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Rotunda Tower during normal business hours.