



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA  
ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2021

This meeting was conducted electronically.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

**CALL TO ORDER** - 3:32 pm by Margie Yahyavi

### **ROLL CALL**

**Committee Members Present:** Margie Yahyavi, Robert Adams, Jenna Tico, Frederick Janka, Marylove Thralls, Kai Tepper

**Liaisons Present:** Oscar Gutierrez, Santa Barbara City Council

**Liaisons Absent:** Michael Drury, H.L.C.

**City Staff Present:** Nina Johnson

**County Staff Present:** Julia Rutherford Daly, Sarah York Rubin, Hannah Rubalcava

### **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

#### **Subject: Approval of the Minutes**

That the Committee tabled the approval minutes from the meetings of February 18, 2021 until the next meeting.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

#### **1. Chair and Vice Chair Selection**

A motion was made to appoint Frederick Janka as Chair and Marylove Thralls as Vice Chair. **M/S/C Adams/Tepper; Motion passes unanimously.**

#### **2. Creative Communities Phase III Report**

Patrick Bolek, founder of Momentum ProjectLab and consultant for the Countywide Creative Communities Arts and Culture Framework, shared information about the status. Bolek answered Committee members' questions about the report.

**Public Comment:** Jamie Dufek from the Arts Fund asked for clarity about the plan. Bolek clarified that the plan is for the entire county respect to each municipality and that the Office of Arts and Culture would serve as the central organizational hub for the plan. Nina Johnson requested more detailed information on the draft plan and content to be shared with the Committee.

#### **3. City Arts Advisory Business in Art Awardee Recognition**

Award recipients including Mary Lynn Harms Romo from Paseo Nuevo and Douglas Lochner from Art that Works shared information about their work and were recognized for their contributions to the community.

#### **4. Poet Laureate Recommendation**

The Poet Laureate selection panel presented a candidate, Emma Trelles, for approval to recommend to City Council for a two-year term to begin in April 2021. The presentation will take place at the April 13 City Council meeting. **M/S/C Janka/Adams; Motion passes unanimously.**

#### **5. Ortega Park Item**

Arts Advisory Committee members that were selected to join the Ortega Park Mural Committee shared an update on the Ortega Park improvements project and a public workshop for neighborhood stakeholders. Janka reported that the Arts Advisory representatives (F. Janka and K. Tepper) were invited to attend the March 17, 2021 workshop, but were not included as part of an active committee; Janka felt the workshop was inequitable, including lack of Spanish-language translation or publicity. Janka felt workshop participants were not heard or provided an opportunity for dialogue with project representatives. He shared that asking attendees to rate their favorite mural was insulting.

**Public comment:** Cass Ensberg expressed that the mural should have been the focus from the beginning and that the project should be more reflective of the neighborhood.

The Committee agreed that they would like to see more dialogue around the project as well as the role of the Arts Advisory Committee in these situations. Committee members discussed drafting a letter from the Arts Advisory Committee and would like to schedule a meeting with City Parks. N. Johnson will contact City Parks about a time to meet with City Arts Advisory.

#### **6. Design Charrette**

*Discussion of this topic was tabled until next meeting.*

#### **FUTURE ITEMS**

Ortega Park Mural meeting with the Parks Department

AIA Design Charrette

Brown Act Review

Venue Reopening and Emergency Preparedness

Cultural Masterplan Update

#### **STAFF REPORTS**

Sarah York Rubin: Shuttered Venue Operators Grant is coming online in April.

#### **ADJOURNMENT – 5:17 p.m.**

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

##### **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need auxiliary aids or services or staff assistance to 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:**

City Arts Advisory Minutes  
March 18, 2021

Copies of documents relating to agenda items are available for review and also posted online at <http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/gov/brdcomm/ac/arts/agendas.asp>.