



City Hall Room 280-A
455 N. Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

MINUTES

**FINE ART COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 19, 2015
4:00 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Smooke, Hiller, Vice Chair Potter, and Chair Pressman

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Kaye

Staff: N. Hunt-Coffey, B. Meyerowitz, P. Acuna, L. Foraker

1. COMMISSION MINUTES

The Minutes of January 15, 2014 Regular Meeting were approved as amended. Commissioner Kaye wrote a piece that was read into the minutes.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

none

2. REPORT BY FINE ART COMMISSION STAFF (Nancy Hunt-Coffey, Patty Acuna, and Lois Foraker)

- A. Fund balance shows a balance of \$2,571,149.00. Staff assured the Commission that Commissioner Kaye's questions regarding the projects that he put forth for consideration are being examined; clarification will be forthcoming.

Other Items

CONTINUED AND NEW BUSINESS

3. PRESENTATION BY TIFFANY LENDRUM FOR ART INSTALLATION AT 150 S. EL CAMINO

Tiffany Lendrum, representing Kennedy Wilson, presented a piece by Sam Falls to the Fine Art Commission for consideration. Her presentation of renderings depicting different views of the 150 S. El Camino building with Sam Fall's proposed piece *New Home* installed, courtesy of Photo Shop. This art piece is made of natural stone

terrazzo columns arranged in a cube shape of various colors. Sam Falls calls *New Home* a healing art piece. It will sit on a concrete pad. Engineers are working with the structure to make sure the pad can handle the load.

Sam Falls is considered an emerging artist although he has amassed a strong international body of work and support by dealers and Art Galleries. Sam Falls is employing the expertise of a master of Terrazzo in Southern California for this project. Approval is being sought for this piece so they can proceed to fabrication. The Fine Art Obligation is 25,800 and the piece is worth 100,000.

MOTION: Vice Chair Potter moved to recommend for approval the Sam Fall's installation at 150 S. El Camino Dr. as presented. Commissioner Hiller seconded the motion.

AYES: Commissioner Smooke, Commissioner Hiller, Vice Chair Potter and Chair Pressman.

NOES: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Kaye

CARRIED: 4/0

4. PRESENTATION BY REPRESENTATIVES OF WOLFGANG PUCK FOR ART INSTALLATION

Representatives of Wolfgang Puck withdrew their submission for a piece of art by Antony Gormley to satisfy their obligation to further examine of their options.

- B. Carol Bove's Gallery reported that progress is being made by the fabricator. April is the possible completion date. Staff is in process of finalizing details on engineering of the pad, lighting and signage.
- C. Richard Serra loan was approved by City Council; engineering for footings are being finalized. The loan is for 6 months, but can be extended till the end of January of 2016. However Council was very interested in the piece, so if the loan could be extended beyond January 2016 without significantly impacting the Vanity Fair event that will be installed on Crescent Drive for the next few years, at least, they would be supportive of it.
- D. Mayor's cabinet meeting notes.
- E. Staff met with Community Development staff to go over the changes to the Ordinance. All the Community Development staff who deal with issuing permits were grateful for the input and the ability to clarify issues, and the simplification of language in the Ordinance, since they are ones to interpret the details of the Ordinance on a daily basis. The new Fine Art Ordinance went into effect on February 6, 2015. Community Development staff have been encouraged to call Fine Art staff for further clarification, should the need arise.
- F. The priorities of Kusama fence project, Developer chosen art, Bove acquisition and decomposed granite issues will need to be reexamined as they progress toward solutions and resolution.
- G. Veteran's Memorial project is a citizen's driven group that is interested in replacing the hedge around *Hunter and Hounds* with a low wall that would

recognize the branches of service. It will be presented to City Council in April.

- H. Waldorf Astoria project has been finalized and 500,000 is slated to go into the Fine Art Fund. As part of their Developer's Agreement, they will be required to create a gateway statement. This gateway statement may include a piece of art. If that is the case, they will be obligated to present the proposed art to the Fine Art Commission for approval.
- I. Several people had conflict with the upcoming Fine Art Commission regular meeting date, therefore the next Fine Art Commission meeting has been changed to March 11 at 4pm. It will be posted as a Special Meeting.
- J. Following the recommendations that emerged from the Council Liaison meeting, we have received letters of support for the Kentridge piece from MOMA in NYC, MOMA in San Francisco, the Hammer Museum, and LACMA. The artist's Gallery is also working on acquiring a letter from a European institution. Staff has been in contact with Jackie Silverman who was the recommended appraiser. After she evaluates all the photographs, Sotheby's existing appraisal and rest of documentation and she will send us her appraisal report and we will present it to the Commission at the next meeting.

Other Items

CONTINUED AND NEW BUSINESS

5. COMMISSION RESTRUCTURING AND THE BROWN ACT

Lolly Enriquez from the City Attorney's Office, presented an overview of the recent changes that the Council recently implemented regarding the structure of all commissions. These changes will impact the application and training process for Commissioners, the Commission size and terms, Chair rotation and terms, attendance policy and standardizing meeting agendas.

Ms. Enriquez also provided a primer on the Brown Act.

6. DISCUSSION REGARDING FENCING AROUND THE KUSAMA

The revision of John Lavezzo's contract is almost complete; funds for the design have been appropriated. Staff is asking that the Commission approve the design by John Lavezzo of Craft, Design, Build.

MOTION: Vice Chair Potter moved to approve the design presented by John Lavezzo, of Craft, Design, Build for the protection of the Kusama piece as is with the curved arms, 34" tall, and 30" deep, with a 5' space between the arms, including the number of cables required by the City. Commissioner Hiller seconded the motion.

AYES: Commissioner Smooke, Commissioner Hiller, Vice Chair Potter and Chair Pressman.

NOES: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Kaye

CARRIED: 4/0

7. DECOMPOSED GRANITE AROUND ART PICES

If the Commission recalls, the decomposed granite border was installed to provide a water free area to mitigate damage by continuous and erosive contact with water. At the recommendation of Park staff the Commission decided to install decomposed granite around several pieces as a start. The quality of the material has proven to be problematic and has remained very powdery; it has ended up being a secondary sandbox for children at play getting the potentially damaging grit all over the sculptures. Staff hired a company to apply a bonding agent multiple times, and while somewhat better, it's still too powdery. The Commission discussed extending cement pad in hardscape, pavers, poured in place, etc. The decomposed granite in Beverly Gardens Park does not present this same problem. Staff will bring the issue back next month for more clarification.

8. DEACCESSIONING OF MAH JONG

When the new Ordinance went into effect, it gave the Commission a protocol to follow, allowing a piece from the Collection to be de-accessioned. Mah Jong was previously installed in Roxbury Park; it sustained substantial damage due to over exposure to water. Currently the piece is being stored in the yard at Roxbury Park. According to our maintenance team, Rosa Lowinger & Assoc., the restoration would be out of proportion to the value of the piece. Vice Chair Potter feels the need to document the value of the piece before we can determine that it will cost more to fix it that it is worth.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Staff pointed out Explore Beverly Hills, which is a new free app. All the Public Art photos have been updated in alphabetical order on the site. There would also be beacons in the app. These beacons are digital scan points, that will enable an art collection tour to point at the artwork and information will pop up. Thanks to Chair Pressman for representing the Fine Art Commission to Mayor Bosse's Live and Learn Healthy Luncheon where she presented a power point on public art. Chair Pressman thanked the Fine Art staff. Next month sub-committee assignments will be chosen.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:32 PM.

PASSED, Approved and Adopted

March 11, 2015



Sandy Pressman, Chair