



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

FINE ART COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
January 16, 2014
4:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners present: Kaye, Smooke, Vice Chair Pressman, Chair Chalom

Absent: Commissioner Potter,

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

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None

1. COMMISSION MINUTES

The Minutes of November 21, 2013, were approved as amended.

The Minutes of December 17, 2013, were approved as amended.

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

• **Information only**

- A. Fine Art Fund is reported at \$936,103.29.
The unraveling of how the money is deposited into and paid out of the fund continues to be a work in progress. Also coming up is a brand new Citywide financial accounting system to be implemented beginning on February 3, more than likely rendering any work accomplished on this riddle outdated information. Staff will devise an interim solution.
- B. The Commission was presented with the minutes from the ad hoc meeting of the FAC and R&P Liaison's meeting with Councilmember Gold to discuss jurisdiction between the two Commissions.
- C. Plans between FIAC and the City of Beverly Hills are on hold until such time as the contractual encumbrances on the City-owned land that FIAC is interested in for their event can be resolved.
- D. Staff will meet with the City Attorney to go over the proposed Ordinance revisions in great detail.
- E. Center Obelisk has been removed from Tishman Speyer property and is at Cooke's Crating waiting for a final analysis as to the restoration needed in order to install the piece in its recommended new home, in front of the Library, just to the north of the Rexford entrance.

- F. The Arts of Palm project, associated with the Centennial Celebration, is going forward with multiple planned installations around City Hall Campus, which will be on display for the entire year of our City's celebration.
- G. Staff presented to City Council on January 21 an overview of the restoration project that was undertaken over 1 year ago, and has resulted in highlighting how exciting the City owned public art collection is. Staff also presented information on the cause of rust spots on the Kusama.
- H. Carolyn Hiller, Commissioner elect, was presented to the Commission. She will be sworn in at the end of the February 20th meeting, and her first official meeting as a Commissioner will be March 20th.
- I. A flyer outlining the Centennial Art Contest specifically for the young residents of Beverly Hills was presented.
- J. The mini-documentary surrounding the restoration and installation of the Millard Sheets mosaic has been expanded to a larger vision of this iconic Southern California artist and the multiple installations of his works in Beverly Hills.
- K. Staff has begun to update the Rules and Procedures, as requested a few months ago. Before it is brought to the Commission for discussion and input, it was decided to wait until any changes recommended by City Council could be included.

- **Other Items**

None

CONTINUED AND NEW BUSINESS

3. DISCUSSION AROUND NICOLE MALONEY'S OUT OF ONE MANY PROJECT

This project was originally presented to the Fine Art Commission, who at the time, recommended that the piece and subject matter be presented to the Human Relations Commission. The HRC is very committed to this project. Staff wanted to get a final response from the Fine Art Commission as to their interest in this project. While the Fine Art Commissioners are intrigued by the project, they do not feel it can be classified as Fine Art, therefore are reluctant to dedicate the prime location of the grassy area along Santa Monica Blvd. at Crescent Drive to Ms. Maloney's work, when that is the only location for a loaned exhibit to be installed.

4. UPDATE ON SURROUNDING CITY OWNED ARTWORK WITH DECOMPOSED GRANITE

Staff reported on the relationship with TruGreen, a sub-contractor with the City; staff is recommending we accept this company's bids, believing we will save money in the long run, since we know their work is always dependable and their pricing is very competitive.

MOTION: Commissioner Smooke moved to accept bid by TruGreen Landscaping to provide protective barriers of decomposed granite in the amount of \$1380 for Spiral of Life, and Playground, Endless V, and Erratic in the amount of \$3200 contingent upon securing a 2nd bid. Vice Chair Pressman seconded the bid.

AYES: Commissioner Kaye, Chair Chalom

NOES: none

ABSENT: Commissioner Potter

CARRIED: 4/0

5. UPDATE ON PROTECTION MEASURES FOR KUSAMA'S *HYMN OF LIFE*

The concept of the inverted barrier, approved of by both the Fine Art Commission and the Recreation and Parks Commission, will be presented to the City Council for approval on January 21st. The Recreation and Parks Commission has recommended an additional barrier of a series of posts and stretch cord around the perimeter of the piece, measuring approximately 16" in height; the Fine Art Commission is opposed to this addition. The City's Risk Management team has determined that the post/cord system should not be installed due to the potential liability of someone tripping on a barrier that low to the ground. It would be a safer option if such a system came up higher, closer to the hip height.

The inverted barrier is an expensive solution. And, just to get a realistic number to attach to this project, the Fine Art Commission must commit to a \$20,000 expenditure to have plans drawn up by the landscape architect, so the project can be put out to bid.

Commissioner Smooke asked if the temporary solution that was installed to protect the Kusama due to an emergency situation could qualify as a long term solution, since it's about hip high and costs so much less than the inverted barrier?

Chair Chalom pointed out that the solution the Fine Art Commission approved of over 1 year ago was a series of posts about hip high with 5 levels of steel cording at 1' intervals to surround the piece.

Chair Chalom, Vice Chair Pressman and Commissioner Kaye will attend the Council Study session at which the inverted barrier option will be up for discussion, and will come prepared to answer any questions that might arise. Staff reported that the IT department has been able, after all, to install a camera on the outside of a parking structure, aimed at the Kusama, monitoring who might be interfacing with the sculpture inappropriately. The Commission then would be able to approve strongly stated language on the signage warning people to stay off the sculpture, or risk being "prosecuted to the full extent of the law," which, without the camera actually installed, it's illegal to state that such an outcome is possible.

6. DISCUSSION OF RECREATION AND PARKS, AND THE FINE ART COMMISSION LIAISON MEETING TO APPROVE OF PLACEMENT OF CAROL BOVE'S ARTWORK

The Liaison of both the Fine Art Commission and the Recreation and Park Commission met in Beverly Gardens' Park to discuss the FAC approved location of the proposed Carol Bove's commission, inspired by her work *Prudence*. Commissioner Gersh approved the proposed site, and Chair Anderson chose to withhold his vote until the convening of the Recreation and Park Commission meeting. Vice Chair Pressman will attend the R&P meeting for the discussion.

7. FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED LOAN BY MAURO PERUCCHETTI

The Commission can only approve loaned art installations in front of City Hall. The Arts of Palm project will take all that space for over 1 year. The Commissioners felt that since space is so limited for Fine Art around City Hall campus, that these works would be better at Roxbury, a City Park where children are more likely to frequent. These pieces, while colorful, and fun, and whimsical, don't qualify as Fine Art. The City would need to change its rules as to where loaned art could be placed in order for these pieces to find their natural home in Beverly Hills. As current rules stand now, there is no appropriate space for them, and therefore the Commission feels they must pass on this opportunity.

8. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED LOAN OF ARTWORK FROM THE RAYMOND JAMES FINANCIAL ART COLLECTION

This collection requires indoor space, not outdoor. The indoor space available to accept this proposal is problematic in that the Municipal Gallery is so limited in the time that could be committed to such a collection as to make it not worth the staff time necessary to install such an exhibit, and the Library niche Gallery does not have enough traffic to warrant the installation, not to mention there is no way, at present, to secure the pieces installed in the Library.

9. DETERMINE NEXT STEPS TO TAKE IN CREATING THE DEVELOPER'S BROCHURE

Vice Chair Pressman and Commissioner Kaye will begin the process of creating the Developer's Brochure, an informational guide to assist the developers navigate the mandates put forth in the Fine Art Ordinance, once their project has triggered a Fine Art Obligation.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

An update on Mark Leonard's, former Beverly Hills Fine Art Commissioner, educational project in Texas that has been developed in Dallas

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business, with the consent of the Commission, Chair Chalom adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes amended and approved:

February 20, 2014

Fiona Chalom, Ph.D., Chair