



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
Room 280A
455 North Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

FINE ART COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, July 27, 2017
4:00pm

OPEN MEETING

Date/Time: July 27, 2017 / 4:08pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Commissioner Vahn lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

CIVILITY STATEMENT Chair Smooke read the Civility Statement.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Hiller, Commissioner Vahn, Vice Chair Rubins,
Chair Smooke

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Kaye

Staff Present: Nancy Hunt-Coffey, Gisele Grable, Patty Acuña, Stephanie Harris,
Aida Thau

Commissioner Kaye joined the Commission at 4:20am

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Members of the public may address the Commission regarding any items not on the Agenda that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. By State law, the Commission may not discuss or vote on items not on the Agenda.

None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

With the concurrence of the Commission, the Chair may choose to amend the order of the items on the agenda.

By order of the Chair, the agenda was approved.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of Minutes of the regular meeting of June 15, 2017.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Vahn, SECONDED by Commissioner Hiller for the passage of the minutes (4/0).

AYES: Commissioners Hiller, Commissioner Vahn, Vice Chair Rubins, Chair Smooke

NOES: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Kaye

CARRIED

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

None

CONTINUED BUSINESS

2. Kusama Update

Staff reported that they have been in communication with OTA Studio regarding Kusama and the next best steps for Hymn of Life being refabricated in either Japan or the United States. Costs and a process will be researched. Additionally, Zwirnir Gallery, who represents Kusama in North America, is willing to review the piece and give an opinion. At the next Commission meeting, complete information will be provided for a decision to be made on next steps.

3. Bove Update

Staff reported they received legal communication from Zwirnir Gallery requesting the City submit final payment or return the art piece. The City Attorney's office requested staff no longer have public communication as it is now a legal matter. Staff recommends adding this item to the next Liaison meeting for discussion and the Commission agreed.

4. Education Liaison Update

Commissioner Rubins provided an update to the Commission. Given the potential changes to the Commissioners purview, a hold has been placed on the panel discussion pending further clarification. Since outreach to high school art department has been unsuccessful, a school board member has been contacted in an effort to improve contacts for the coming fall season.

Commissioner Rubins would like to proceed with the placement of articles in the newspaper and start with the Franz West to engage the public in a broad-spectrum conversation about the ways the City acquires art, where it is placed in addition to stories about the artist and the art piece itself.

Commissioner Rubins will begin to take photos of that art piece and is working with Community Services Publicist Dana Beesen to have a running series submitted to the newspaper.

5. Priority Setting

Staff reviewed with the Commission the following Priority Setting:

Commissioners requested that staff provide additional information on all proposed art donations for next meeting.

Staff-informed the Commission that they are reviewing the Developer's Brochure as Developers are asking staff about Fine Art obligation for their construction projects. It was agreed to be forwarded to the subcommittee consisting of Commissioners Kaye and Rubins.

6. Proposal of Art Donation by Ringo Starr

Staff informed the Commission that they were contacted by Mr. Starr, who in addition to being a world-renowned musician is a sculptor. Mr. Starr's representatives have provided additional information on his Peace and Love art piece. The Commission has been asked

to consider this donation. After a discussion of the needed criteria to consider, the Commission requested more information was necessary for consideration. Staff will follow-up and provide the needed information at the next Commission meeting.

7. Proposal of Art Donation by Marlene Louchheim

Staff informed the Commission that Ms. Louchheim was a resident of Beverly Hills, has participated in the Beverly Hills Art Show and her art pieces have been installed in other locations in the City.

Community Services Administrator Gisele Grable read the section of the Fine Art Ordinance regarding the criteria for submission.

After discussion, the Commission decided the art donation did not meet the criteria of the Commission and it was suggested the donation be presented to and considered by City Council.

8. Proposal of Art Loan by Ai Weiwei

Chair Smooke informed the Commission that there is discussion going on regarding the ultimate disposition of the piece. More information will be available at the next Commission meeting.

9. Proposal of Art Donation by Mr. Brainwash

Staff informed the Commission that they were approached by representatives of Mr. Brainwash regarding a donation of a piece to the City. The language of the art piece can be provided by the City. After discussion, staff will reach out to Mr. Brainwash's representatives to clarify if they would pay for the costs related to delivery and installation of the piece, if there are any restrictions on the location, who owns the rights if this is a personalized piece of art and if the piece can display graffiti.

10. Possible Donation of an Art Piece by the Winn Slavin Fine Art Gallery

Staff informed the Commission that they were contacted by the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the Winn Slavin Fine Art Gallery. The Gallery is interested in donating a bronze sculpture to the City.

Gallery Director Christopher Cummings was in attendance and updated the Commission on the Aurora Beneficent sculpture by Sculptor Ira Bruce Reines for consideration to the City's Public Arts Program. The Gallery is requesting an approval in August 2017 since they are hosting a Chairman's Circle and there will be an unveiling of a one of the artists' sculptures at that time.

Commissioner Kaye informed Mr. Cummings that the Commission would not be able to provide an answer by August 2017 because there is a process which includes the Commission Liaisons in addition to City Council.

The Commission agreed that more information was needed such as a letter from the curator of the solo exhibition of the artist Reines, documentation as to where the art is

located in addition to validation of the pricing of the art pieces. There was discussion to whether this artist met the criteria of a Fine Artist.

NEW BUSINESS /PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

PROJECT UPDATES, STATUS REPORTS, STAFF REPORTS

11. Director's Report

- Information only items:

A. Fine Art Fund Report

Fine Art Fund Reports were included in the packet.

Commissioner Kaye had requested additional information on the evaluations which was provided. There were no changes on the fee revenue.

B. Tom Friedman Commission

Staff reported that they have scheduled a conference call with the City Attorney, the Gallery and their legal team, along with staff for the following week to discuss the areas in the agreement not agreed upon. Staff has provided an update to City Council.

C. William Kentridge *World on Hind Legs*

The installation of this piece has been completed except for the lighting.

D. Public Art Archive

City Council Liaisons had requested a list of other cities that had their collections online at the Public Art Archive. Information needs to be brought back to Liaisons. This will be added to the Liaison agenda.

E. Sisyphus Lighting

Senior Recreation Supervisor Patty Acuna reported that they are ready to move forward with the lighting fixture that was selected

F. Draft of August FAC Agenda

As part of our commission standardization process, the Commission was asked to identify the agenda items to be heard at the August 2017 meeting.

G. Cultural Art Commission

A meeting has been requested with the City Council Liaisons to provide direction on how they envision the Fine Art Commission taking on a broader or different responsibility for the Cultural Art Commission.

H. Art Signage

Due to the current construction, the Art Signage for the Bove is on hold

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

12. Chair's Report

A. Mayor's Cabinet Meeting

The Mayor's Cabinet meetings are now recorded and can be viewed in the City's website.

Chair Smooke informed the Commission and staff that Mayor Bosse requested an update on the Kusama. Staff will provide the Mayor an update.

B. Ad Hoc Committees

There were no reports by the Ad Hoc Committees:

- Education Liaison (Rubins, Vahn)

- Recreation and Parks Commission Liaisons (Hiller, Kaye)
- Fine Art Program Development (Hiller, Smooke)
- Donations and Loaned Art (Smooke, Vahn)
- Big Picture Project (Kaye, Smooke)
- Web Submission for Priority Exercise (Hiller, Rubins)
- Burton Way Median (Rubins, Hiller) – Currently on hold

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

13. FAC Upcoming Meetings

Chair Smooke informed the Commission that he has on conflict on the August 17, 2017 Commission day and will not be able to attend.

The Commission changed the date for the September Commission meeting to September 18, 2017, 3pm – 5pm, to respect the Jewish Holidays.

The Commission along with staff congratulated Chair Smooke on his cover/article in the Beverly Hills Weekly newspaper.

Staff informed the Commission about Mayor Bosse's BOLD initiative event called, Portraits of Hope, Neon lights in 3D, being held August 2, 2017 at 8pm at the Lily pond. The kick off to the BOLD events being held the month of August will be August 3, 2017 from 5:30pm to 9pm which will include a street closure on Rodeo Drive from Wilshire Boulevard to Little Santa Monica Boulevard which will include music, performers, food carts, and tables on the sidewalks.

Commissioner Hiller asked staff about the piece at Santa Monica & Wilshire Boulevards in front of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. Staff informed the Commission that the piece was not a Fine Artist and did not meet the criteria. The piece was installed on the property and is considered an architectural piece. As a result, it was reviewed by the Architectural Commission.

Commissioner Kaye commented on the two pieces of art in Crescent Mini Park. Staff informed the Commission that there is a proposal by the developer of that building to also redevelop the park that is there. The land is owned by the building but by Covent to be a public park. The developer has requested an interest in relocating those pieces.

Chair Smooke informed the Commission that Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) just opened Chagall: Fantasies for the Stage displaying opera costumes. The exhibit is showing from July 31, 2017 to January 7, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

Date / Time: July 27, 2017 / 5:50 pm

PASSED, Approved and Adopted on this 17th day of August, 2017.



Michael Smooke, Chairperson