

CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

Room 280A 455 North Rexford Drive Beverly Hills, CA 90210

FINE ART COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 21, 2019 4:00pm

OPEN MEETING

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CIVILITY STATEMENT

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present:

Frank, Smooke, Hiller, Vice Chair Vahn, Chair Rubins

Commissioners Absent:

None

Staff Present:

Nancy Hunt-Coffey, Pam Shinault, Patty Acuna, Kristin Buhagiar,

Aida Thau

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.

Resident David Gingold expressed that the inauguration of the Mayor was a great success with the exception of screaming from the public. Some people thought that it was a terrorist and this was improper. Mr. Gingold also expressed that Mayor Mirisch mentioned his interest in having a City owned art museum. Mr. Gingold disagrees with this initiative since Beverly Hills already has several art galleries and Los Angeles offers many art museums and art galleries for easy and local access. He does not think that Beverly Hills City funding should be directed towards an art museum. Mr. Gingold inquired about getting an update on the proposed Mexican Art exhibit to be held in the Municipal Gallery.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 21, 2019. The Chair asked for all in favor to approve the minutes. (5/0)

AYES:

Frank, Smooke, Hiller, Vahn, Rubins

NOES:

None

ABSENT:

None

ABSTAIN:

None

CARRIED:

2. Consideration of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 21, 2019. The Chair asked for all in favor to approve the minutes. (5/0)

AYES:

Frank, Smooke, Hiller, Vahn, Rubins

NOES:

None

ABSENT: ABSTAIN: None None

CARRIED:

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

None

CONTINUED BUSINESS

3. Fine Art Commission - Cultural Arts Expansion

The Commission reviewed the revised Fine Art Ordinance draft. The arts and culture consultant, Karen Constine, and staff answered questions in regards to the proposed language and ordinance definitions. The commission requested an additional change on the language of the ordinance to be included before final approval.

There was a communication from the audience in regards to this item.

Mr. Gingold expressed that he doesn't feel that Beverly Hills should be a cultural and arts center with all the existing museums that are already existing in Los Angeles.

MOTION by Hiller, SECONDED by Frank to amend item D on the proposed ordinance to change to fine art rather than public art in the first phrase. (5/0)

AYES:

Frank, Smooke, Hiller, Vahn, Rubins

NOES:

None

ABSENT:

None None

ABSTAIN: CARRIED:

MOTION by Hiller, SECONDED by Frank to approve the arts and culture commission ordinance as amended. (5/0)

AYES:

Frank, Smooke, Hiller, Vahn, Rubins

NOES:

None

ABSENT: ABSTAIN: None None

CARRIED:

4. Commission Priorities for FY 19/20

Staff presented to the Council Liaison the FY 19/20 commission priority list that had been reviewed by this commission during the February 2019 meeting. The liaisons felt that the priorities were too specific and that some of the presented priorities were part of this commission's charge. The Commission reviewed and approved the modified priority list for FY 19/20.

MOTION by Vahn, SECONDED by Hiller to accept the priorities recommended for FY19/20. (5/0)

AYES:

Frank, Smooke, Hiller, Vahn, Rubins

NOES:

None None

ABSENT: ABSTAIN:

None

CARRIED:

5. Chair/Vice Chair Training

The Commission reviewed the training that City Attorney's office had conducted on January 2019 for all Chairs and Vice Chairs of the City. Staff reviewed the content of this training that covered the role of the Commission, the role of the Chair and Vice Chair, legal issues and commission procedures.

There was a communication from the audience in regards to this item.

Mr. Gingold claimed that the City Attorney had given illegal advice to the Traffic and Parking Commission in violation on what was presented on this training. Mr. Gingold proceeded to read the content of some of the Chair/Vice Chair slides presented at the January training.

6. Weisman Foundation Presentation

The presenter was not able to attend as planned. This item was tabled for a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

None

PROJECT UPDATES, STATUS REPORTS, STAFF REPORTS

7. Director's Report

- First phase of site improvements for raising the Bove has been completed. The sculpture is currently at the fabricator's studio being restored. The second phase will include landscaping and target date for completion of this project is May 10th before the Art Show.
- Tom Friedman's lighting recommendation by selected vendors are being reviewed. Staff will bring cost estimates to the Commission soon.
- The Ai Weiwei proposed acquisition will be presented on April 16th Study Session to City Council. Staff is keeping updated the UTA gallery and Gagosian gallery and has extended invitation to the Commission and art gallery to attend the City Council study session.
- The Kusama item will be presented to City Council at this April 16th study session requesting direction to either invoke the warranty in fiber glass or to refabricate in metal.
- The annual mailing for the developers to ensure they file covenants and certificates of insurance for the art pieces installed complying with the Fine Art Obligation was completed.

- The Beverly Hills School District is going to have an art exhibit at the Municipal Gallery with an open reception on April 15th 4pm 5:30pm. All Commissioners are invited. The exhibit will be open to the public for 2 weeks Monday-Friday 10am-5pm.
- The Canon temporary art wall was presented to the Liaisons on March 12th and support was provided to move forward with the recommended artist, Tomokazu Matsuyama. This item will be presented at the City Council session of April 2nd. The Commission was invited to attend this meeting and for the Ad Hoc assigned to this item to attend the future stakeholder meetings to review concept designs.
- Staff confirmed that Carl Milles Foundation representatives will present to the Commission on the Special Meeting of April 2, 2019.

There was a communication from the audience in regards to this item.

Resident Peri-Ellen Burns inquired about the possibility to have a piece of the Carl Milles Foundation on loan instead of acquiring a piece permanently, since the commission is currently pursuing the Ai Weiwei acquisition.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

- 8. Chair's Report
 - A. Mayor's Cabinet Meeting
 - B. Ad Hoc Committees
 - Education Liaison (Rubins, Frank)
 Chair Rubins informed that he talked with the CVB and they would be glad to sponsor a promotional brochure for the City Fine Art Collection at no cost to the City. The Commissioners will work on putting together a draft/model of the proposed brochure.
 - Commissioner Hiller shared that she got a recommendation for a local organization called Cartifact that produces custom maps and graphics as a possible vendor for this promotional brochure.
 - Recreation and Parks Commission Liaisons (Vahn, Rubins)
 - Fine Art Program Development (Hiller, Smooke)
 - Donations and Loaned Art (Hiller, Vahn)
 - Web Submission for Priority Exercise (Hiller, Frank)
 - Cultural Arts Planning (Frank, Vahn)
 - C. Other items brief announcements, request for information, and brief reports on activities.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

- Commission Priority List The Commission reviewed the list of Fine Art Commission priorities.
- **10.** FAC Upcoming Meetings

 Commission dates available in the packet and on the City website.

ADJOURNMENT

Date / Time:

March 21, 2019 / 5:19pm

PASSED, Approved and Adopted on this 2nd day of April 2019.

Zale Richard Rubins, Chairperson