



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

In-person / Telephonic / Video Conference Meeting

**ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, October 10, 2023
10:00am

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Date/Time: Tuesday, October 10, 2023 / 10:03 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Avi Stieglitz led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Commission took a moment of silence.

CIVILITY STATEMENT

Chair Maralee Beck read the Civility Statement.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners present: Pamela Beck, participating from Zoom, Liliana Filipovic, Deborah Frank, Vice Chair Karla Gordy Bristol, Chair Maralee Beck

Commissioners absent: None

Staff Present: Patty Acuña, Paul Paolone, Corrina Lesser, Brandy Scott, and Linda Kyriazi

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.

Chair Maralee Beck approved the agenda as presented.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of minutes from the Arts and Culture Commission Regular Meeting of August 8, 2023.

Vice Chair Gordy Bristol requested additional notes be added to the August 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes. Recording Secretary will make those additions and the updated Minutes will return in the November 2023 packet for approval.

MOTION by Chair Maralee Beck, SECONDED by Commissioner Frank to accept the meeting minutes pending correction.

AYES: Commissioners Pamela Beck, Liliana Filipovic, Deborah Frank, Vice Chair Karla Gordy Bristol, Chair Maralee Beck (5/0)

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

CARRIED:

NEW BUSINESS

2. Interim Recreation Services Manager, Paul Paolone, will present on a sculpture relocation at 9229 Wilshire Boulevard.

Interim Recreation Services Manager, Paul Paolone, along with, Avi Stieglitz, representative of the property owner, updated the Commission on the river rocks piece titled *Cantamar* by Woods Davy which is located at 9229 Wilshire Boulevard. Owners of the property are seeking to re-develop the land into a mixed-use property with commercial at grade level and residential above. Upon completion of the project, the proposed new location for the piece would be at the northwest corner of the property, within a newly landscaped area adjacent to Maple Drive.

- Vice Chair Gordy Bristol asked about the landscaping around the art piece. A professional landscaping company will be designing and maintaining the area.
- Chair Maralee Beck inquired about the signage. Paul Paolone confirmed there is a plaque at the location and will be relocated along with the art piece.
- Once this project is approved by Planning, is when the valuation of this project will be accessed.
- Staff confirmed this sculpture is included in the Commission's Art Walk Map in addition to the virtual art tour.

MOTION by Commissioner Frank, SECONDED by Commissioner Filipovic to approve the relocation of the art piece.

AYES: Commissioners Pamela Beck, Liliana Filipovic, Deborah Frank, Vice Chair Karla Gordy Bristol, Chair Maralee Beck (5/0)

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

PASSED:

CONTINUED BUSINESS

3. Recreation Supervisor, Corrina Lesser, will present a preliminary discussion regarding the direction for Festival BH in 2024.

Recreation Supervisor, Corrina Lesser, lead a discussion with the Commission regarding the second annual Festival BH in 2024.

- The inaugural Festival BH was held on Sunday, March 12, 2023 and held at the Farmers' Market and featured more than a dozen cultural performances and activities.
- The Commission, along with staff, discussed possible dates, locations in addition to partnering with other events.
- The Commission requested all variations of performing & literary arts, music, dance, costumes/fashion and culinary be included in the Festival.
- Chair Maralee Beck emphasized that calendar is key; starting with a date that is clear of other events is most important.
- This event will be assigned to the ad hoc of Performing Arts and Annual Events (Gordy Bristol, Filipovic – Lesser) who will return with an outline.

4. Arts and Culture Program Associate, Brandy Scott, will report on a new potential location for the suggested installation of *Trinity* by Judy Chicago.

Arts and Culture Program Associate, Brandy Scott, provided an update:

- Staff was informed that Artist Judy Chicago no longer approves Beverly Gardens Park as an installation site and has since proposed a new location for installation. The northwest corner of Little Santa Monica Boulevard and Crescent Drive has been proposed, the piece is being proposed to be showcased adjacent to the Wallis Annenberg, the former site of the temporary installation *Coups de Pinceau* by Roy Lichtenstein in 2013.
- Staff is currently working with City Engineers to have renderings presented at the November 14, 2023 Arts and Culture Commission Meeting for approval. With the support of the Arts and Culture Commission, the proposed site will be brought to the City Council Liaisons for approval and then brought before City Council for final approval.

5. Financial Update

a. Fine Art Fund Update Report

- Paul Paolone, Interim Recreation Services Manager, provided an update on ongoing expenditures and pending in-lieu revenue as of September 30, 2023.
- An in-lieu payment was collected during the past two months for 409 N. Beverly Drive.
- A payment was made to The Big New for the refabrication of Kusama in addition to regular maintenance on art pieces throughout the City especially prior to the Art Show.
- This maintenance does not include the art pieces on Burton Way at this time.

- b. Fine Art Obligation
 - No Update.

6. COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

PROJECT UPDATES

1. Arts and Culture Commission Updates

- Artwalk Guided Tour recap
Arts and Culture Program Associate, Brandy Scott, updated the Commission on the upcoming ArtWalks, which will revert back to the original art walk route through Beverly Gardens Park. The free docent led tours are November 5 and December 10th at 11am. Registration is requested at beverlyhills.org/artwalk
- Manager's Report
- RLA Restoration of artwork in Beverly Gardens Park
 - RLA reviewed the art pieces in Beverly Gardens Park and noticed some cracks in the Hunter and Hound sculpture. This will be a quick repair.
 - Due to the elements, a deep clean, along with a gel coating, will be done on the stainless-steel art pieces: Friedman, Paine, Plensa and Ringo, to enhance their life.
- Kusama Installation update
 - Patty Acuna, Assistant Director of Community Services, informed the Commission that the Kusama piece is at the painting stage, using Kusama's specifications.
- Art Show 50th Anniversary - October 21 & 22, 2023 update
 - Live musicians will be returning to the Wine & Beer Garden in addition to an enhanced Children's Area. Sunday morning is the Artist's Reception.
 - 230+ artists are participating, from 9 different states. 70 first-time artists will be showcasing at this Art Show.
- Inside the Mansion recap
 - The most recent Inside the Mansion was held on Sunday, October 1, 2023. 400+ made their way through the Mansion's first floor.
 - The next opportunity is scheduled for Saturday, November 4, 2023. Attendees register at beverlyhills.org/Greystone and there is a small fee.
 - Due to the Greystone Holiday event, there won't be a December Inside the Mansion scheduled.
- Greystone Great Outdoors recap
 - Saturday, September 23, 2023 was the Greystone Great Outdoors event. This event is an anniversary celebrating the purchase of the property in addition to its dedication as a registered landmark.
 - 500+ patrons visited and participated in the events held on the grounds.
- Greystone in the Movies *There Will Be Blood* screening recap
 - Sara Scrimshaw, Venue Coordinator, is coordinating a series of movies, that have a historical tie to the Greystone Mansion, for viewing in the newly remodeled Greystone Theatre.

- This screening included a tour of the bowling alley was that used in the film.
- 400th Anniversary of Shakespeare Folio in Greystone Theatre recap
 - Director Louis Fantasia worked with the City on this event.
 - October 7, 2023 the play Hamlet was read and on October 8, 2023 As You Like It was performed.
- 2023 Concerts on Canon season recap
 - Staff is currently working on the 2024 Season. Any artists interested in participating can submit their information at beverlyhills.org/concertsoncanon
 - Vice Chair Gordy Bristol congratulated Paul and his team for the amazing Concerts on Canon series this year as it was taken to another level.
- MADE in Beverly Hills update
 - After meeting with the MADE Organization, at this time, it was decided they didn't have the bandwidth to work with the City in 2024 as they will be focusing on their Palm Spring event.
- Community Services updates
 - Patty Acuna, Assistant Director of Community Services, updated the Commission on staff hiring, promotions and open positions.
- Information only items
 - Farmers' Market Fall Funtastic on October 29th / Dia de los Muertos update
 - Corrina Lesser, Recreation Supervisor, provided more information on the annual Fall Funtastic held at the Farmers' Market from 8am to 1pm.
 - There will be a pumpkin carving contest from your pre-carved pumpkins, face painting, carnival games and a petting zoo.
 - The Arts & Culture division will be presenting their first Dia de los Muertos, Day of the Dead celebration.
 - A visual artist will be setting up an alter in the Beverly Hills Public Library along with an interactive exhibition called Mailbox to Heaven which is an opportunity to write a letter to a departed loved one. This installation will be installed on October 19, 2023 and will be up through Day of the Dead, November 2, 2023.
 - Following the Farmers' Market at 1pm, the movie Coco will be screened at the Beverly Hills Public Library.
- Event Calendar
 - Reviewed.

7. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

- Chair's Report
 - a) Mayor's Cabinet Meeting Highlights
 - Chair Maralee Beck informed the Commission that last night's meeting was postponed due to a rally that was scheduled.
 - Vice Chair Gordy Bristol provided highlights from her attendance at the September 2023 Mayor's Cabinet meeting.

b) Ad Hoc Committees

- Fine Arts/Public Art (Frank, P. Beck - Scott)
- Heritage Initiative (M. Beck, D. Frank – Paolone)
- Performing Arts and Annual Events (Gordy Bristol, Filipovic – Lesser)
- Embrace and Celebrate Culture Initiative (M. Beck, Gordy Bristol – Paolone)
 - Chair Maralee Beck requested re-working and re-aligning the Commission's ad hocs. Each ad hoc would take one of the major priorities from the Work Plan.
 - Fine Art/Public Art will remain working on Judy Chicago and providing outreach to the art galleries and dealers for future acquisitions. Additionally shepherding the monthly ArtWalks with docents.
 - Performing Arts and Annual Events will remain to work on Festival Beverly Hills and will incorporate other performing arts events such as Make Music Day and Music in the Mansion.
 - Heritage Initiative was created for the Commission's two newer concepts: Visitor's Kiosk and Art Portal to position and interface with both the visiting public and the residents as Beverly Hills gets ready to welcome both the World Cup and the 2028 Olympics.
 - Embrace & Celebrate Culture, which is a collaboration with other Commissions, it was suggested that should be the Chair and Vice Chair with those positions changing annually. This would include working with the Wallis on Little Amal.
 - Paul Palone will schedule an ad hoc meeting for the Heritage Initiative to define the needed stakeholders and goals.

c) Other items brief announcements, request for information, and brief reports on activities.

- Chair Maralee Beck reminded the Commission that Friday, November 3, 2023 will be when the Wallis will be hosting Little Amal. Paul Palone will check with the Wallis to work along with them.
- Chair Maralee Beck informed the Commission that on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, 7pm, at the Los Angeles Central Library, Rosa Lowinger presents *Dwell Time: A Memoir of Art, Exile, and Repair* with Carolina A. Miranda. Rosa Lowinger is the head of RLA associates who oversees our Fine Art Collection.
- Vice Chair Gordy Bristol requested adding the Arts & Culture website to the Agenda.

d) Arts and Culture Commission Upcoming Meetings: Tuesday, November 14, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

- Date / Time: October 10, 2023 / 12:11 p.m.

PASSED, Approved and Adopted on this 14th day of November 2023

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Maralee Beck", written in dark ink.

Maralee Beck, Chairperson

Decisions of the Arts and Culture Commission may be appealed to the City Council within 14 days of the Arts and Culture Commission's Action by filing a written appeal with the City Clerk. Appeal forms are available in the City Clerk's office. Note: Appeal Fee Required.

If there are any questions about this agenda, please contact Paul Paolone, Interim Recreation Services Manager, 310-285-6826, ppaolone@beverlyhills.org

