



**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, March 12, 2024  
10:00 a.m.

**MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

Date/Time: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 / 10:01 a.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

David Borunda, Recreation Coordinator, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CIVILITY STATEMENT**

Chair Maralee Beck read the Civility Statement.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Commissioners absent: None

Staff Present: Stephanie Harris, Patty Acuña, Matthew Brown, Paul  
Paolone, Brandy Scott, Corrina Lesser, David Borunda, 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 February 13, 2024.

Vice Chair Gordy Bristol noted some typos and word corrections for the February Meeting Minutes.

MOTION by Chair Maralee Beck, SECONDED by Vice Chair Gordy Bristol to approve the meeting minutes as with noted corrections.

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| AYES:    | Commissioner Pamela Beck, Liliana Filipovic, Deborah Frank, Vice Chair Gordy Bristol, Chair Maralee Beck (5/0) |
| NOES:    | None   |
| ABSENT:  | None   |
| ABSTAIN: | None   |
| CARRIED: |  |

## PRESENTATIONS

2. Arts and Culture Program Associate, Brandy Scott, will provide a report on the Public Art vs Fine Art acquisition process along with an update on the art consultants' work. Brandy Scott, Arts and Culture Program Associate, presented to the Commission the various ways the City acquires art, including the Fine Art acquisition process, as well as Public Art donations and installations:
  - Commissioners' artist recommendations that meet the Fine Art Ordinance criteria, are vetted through the Fine Art/Public Art Ad Hoc, then presented to the full Commission to consider as a Fine Art acquisition.
  - Public Art donations are presented to City Council, or policy allows for the Director of Community Services to accept donations.
  - The Mayor's Purchase Award: During the Spring Art Show, the Mayor chooses an art piece. Many pieces from previous selections can be found in public facilities throughout the City.
  - The City has working relationships with several Community Partners. For example, the City partnered with the Rodeo Drive Committee and acquired several pieces by Mr. Brainwash that were installed throughout the business district. These pieces were later donated to the City and became part of the Public Art Collection.
  - In early 2024, City Council approved the temporary installation of representational flags for display in Beverly Gardens Park. This installation began in January 2024 and was removed on February 25<sup>th</sup>. City Council just approved the re-installation of the flags at a special meeting on Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup> and it is scheduled to remain on display for up for 2 months.
  - The consultants that were utilized previously provided the City with a framework to assist with the transition of the Fine Art Commission to the Arts and Culture Commission. Staff plans to share the consultants' work with the Commission during the 2024-2025 Work Plan review in July.
3. Recreation Services Manager, Matthew Brown, will provide a report on the distinction between City Staff Projects, Commission Work Plan Items and Council Initiatives/Directives. Staff will outline Commissioner involvement for each.

Matthew Brown, Recreation Services Manager, presented a report outlining the differences between projects driven by City staff, items that are included on an annual Commission work plan, and City Council led initiatives or directives.

- The Community Services Arts and Culture division offers several programs and/or events that may occur on a recurring or annual basis. City staff driven programs or events are planned and facilitated by staff, with informational updates provided to the Arts and Culture Commission as they relate to the purview of the commission.
- Commission work plan items are presented and then voted on annually by Commissions, and should reflect the mission of the respective Commission, as well as align with City Council priorities. The Arts and Culture Work Plan achieves the mission of the Commission by increasing awareness of arts and culture in Beverly Hills, expanding awareness of cultural spaces in Beverly Hills, and encouraging more arts and cultural activities in Beverly Hills.
- City Council initiatives and directives that include Community Services, are items that will be executed by staff at the direction of City Council. Examples include the coordinated efforts of our Community Services teams in planning and executing the series of events and programming throughout the month of May, celebrating Jewish American Heritage Month.

A robust conversation ensued with the Commissioners offering their talents to contribute towards appropriate projects. Stephanie Harris, Director of Community Services, thanked the Commission for their involvement with the Community, in addition to providing support by suggesting talent for Community Services events.

- The Commissioner's suggestions are passed on to staff, to see where they can incorporate those suggestions.
- The Commissioners were advised to submit their personal interests or relevant skill sets to staff, who then can relay this information to future Chairs for consideration when making Ad Hoc Committee assignments.

## **CONTINUED BUSINESS**

### **4. Financial Update**

#### **a. Fine Art Fund Update Report**

Paul Paolone, Senior Recreation Supervisor, provided the Commission with updates on the status of the Fine Art Fund as of February 29, 2024:

- Four in-lieu payments were received by the end of the month. Payments were received from 9595 Wilshire Boulevard, 250 S. Beverly, 435 North Camden and 362 N. Camden.
- Commissioner Frank requested when addresses are provided, can you note the business name.

### **5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF**

- Work Plan Updates
  - Artwalk Guided Tours
    - The next Artwalk will be in May and will cover the Burton Way art.

- **Manager's Report / City Staff Projects**
  - Burton Way Median – ribbon cutting and artwork updates
    - The official ribbon cutting ceremony was held on February 28, 2024.
    - All of the art pieces were cleaned by RLA.
    - Public Works is scheduled to make a presentation at an upcoming Commission meeting to provide more detailed information.
  - Nowruz Table Displays: visit [beverlyhills.org/Nowruz](https://beverlyhills.org/Nowruz) for dates and locations
    - The City of Beverly Hills celebrates the Persian New Year and the beginning of Spring.
  - Nowruz Finale: A Musical Performance in The Garden - Sunday March 31, 2024, at Greystone Mansion and Gardens.
    - No registration is required for this event that is scheduled from 2pm – 3pm.
  - Inside the Mansion – next self-guided tour is on April 7, 2024
    - Tickets for this tour are available online at [beverlyhills.org/insidethemansion](https://beverlyhills.org/insidethemansion)
  - Beverly Hills National Audition – April 13, 2024
    - Music in the Mansion's last performance was last Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. The National Auditions are for the 2025 Season. Applications can be located at: [beverlyhills.org/nationalauditions](https://beverlyhills.org/nationalauditions)
  - Beverly Hills Art Show – next show on May 18 & 19, 2024
    - Selections for the Spring Art Show have been completed.
  - Jewish American Heritage Month in May 2024.
    - This event is being finalized and details of the program can be located at: [beverlyhills.org/jahm](https://beverlyhills.org/jahm). The kick-off is scheduled for May 5, 2024, at the Beverly Hills Farmers' Market with a Rugelach Baking Contest.
- **Information only items**
  - Mr. Brainwash *Follow Your Heart* installation along Rodeo Drive February 13- June 12, 2024
    - Brandy Scott, Arts and Culture Program Associate, provided information on the temporary *Follow Your Heart* installation along Rodeo Drive
    - Vice Chair Gordy Bristol commented that the message of *Follow Your Heart* shared a few elements of her Work Plan proposal, and she looks forward to our Commission activating our Love themed item involving art that's been in the que.
  - Farmers' Market closed on March 17, 2024 (LA Marathon), and Sunday, March 31, 2024 (Easter)

## **6. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION**

- **Chair's Report**
  - a) Mayor's Cabinet Meeting Highlights

- Chair Maralee Beck noted corrections to the Cabinet Meeting Highlights for the Arts & Culture Commission.
- b) Ad Hoc Committees
  - Fine Arts/Public Art (Frank, P. Beck – Scott)
    - Commissioner Pamela Beck informed the Commission that Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, the Judy Chicago proposed acquisition will be brought before City Council.
  - Heritage Initiative (M. Beck, D. Frank – Paolone)
  - Chair Maralee Beck informed the Commission that there wasn't a formal Ad Hoc meeting this month, but meetings have taken place with a Rodeo Drive Committee member, along with other stakeholders sharing similar concepts.
  - Performing Arts and Annual Events (Gordy Bristol, Filipovic – Lesser)
    - Vice Chair Gordy Bristol provide an update on the Ad Hoc meeting that was held on March 5, 2024. The proposed date of July 21, 2024, was confirmed for Festival Beverly Hills, in addition to confirming the location at Roxbury Park. The event now has a larger space to expand to include more programs.
    - Staff requested a replacement for Commissioner Filipovic on this Ad Hoc to accommodate current scheduling conflicts, and Chair Maralee Beck selected Commissioner Pamela Beck.
  - Embrace and Celebrate Culture Initiative (M. Beck, Gordy Bristol – Paolone)
- c) Other items brief announcements, request for information, and brief reports on activities.
  - Chair Maralee Beck expressed her enjoyment attending Sunday's Community Service Showcase at the Farmers' Market, watching the young dancers.
  - Chair Maralee Beck informed the Commission about a tour she took titled Food, Film & Fashion Beverly Hills, where she learned interesting facts about the City of Beverly Hills, and it made for a great experience due to the enthusiastic tour guide.
  - Chair Maralee Beck reminded all that the Los Angeles Marathon will be held on Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> so the Beverly Hills Farmers' Market will be closed in addition to street closures until 1pm.
  - Chair Maralee Beck gave a shout-out to Frieze LA for their successful run that was held in Santa Monica, and ended on March 3, 2024.
- d) Arts and Culture Commission Upcoming Meetings: Tuesday, April 9, 2024.
- e) For more information about Community Services visit [beverlyhills.org/artsandculture](https://beverlyhills.org/artsandculture)

## ADJOURNMENT

- Date / Time: March 12, 2024 / 12:08 p.m.

PASSED, Approved and Adopted on this 9th day of April 2024

  
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 Matthew Brown, Recreation Services Manager, 310-288-2254, [mbrown@beverlyhills.org](mailto:mbrown@beverlyhills.org)*