



**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, December 13, 2022  
10:00am

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Date/Time: December 13, 2022 / 10:01 am

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Una Stevanovic led the Pledge of Allegiance

**CIVILITY STATEMENT**

Chair Filipovic read the Civility Statement

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Pamela Beck, Gordy Bristol, Vice Chair Maralee Beck, Chair Filipovic

Commissioners Absent: Frank

Staff Present: Jenny Rogers, Patty Acuña, Ben Johnson, Aida Thau, Paul Paolone, Adrine Ovasapyan, Corrina Lesser

**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.

There were no public comments.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

Chair Filipovic approved the agenda as presented.

## CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of minutes from the Arts and Culture Commission Regular Meeting of November 8, 2022.
2. Resolution of the Arts and Culture Commission of the City of Beverly Hills Continuing to Authorize Public Meetings to be Held Via Teleconferencing Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e) and Making Findings and Determinations Regarding the Same

Recent legislation was adopted allowing the Arts and Culture Commission to continue virtual meetings during the COVID-19 declared emergency subject to certain conditions and the proposed resolution implements the necessary requirements.

Motion: To approve the Consent Calendar as presented: MOVED by Commissioner Pamela Beck, SECONDED by Maralee Beck. (4/0)

AYES: Commissioners Pamela Beck, Gordy Bristol, Vice Chair Maralee Beck and Chair Filipovic  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Frank  
ABSTAIN: None  
CARRIED

## REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

None

## PRESENTATIONS

3. Art Installation at Chanel Store (400 N. Rodeo Drive) as part of the City's Fine Art Obligation

Ben Ipekjian, with Watershed Partners, along with Murray Fisher, Esq., presented an update on a minor change on the installation on the art piece by artist Jean-Michel Othoniel, to be installed at Chanel's new boutique at 400 North Rodeo Drive to satisfy the City's Fine Art Obligation associated with this property.

This proposed art installation was approved at the December 8, 2022 Commission meeting.

- The art piece will be installed from the ceiling, to avoid a possible issue of movement an additional attachment would be installed at the wall to make the piece more structurally sound. The art piece, along with the plaque being placed outside the building, will remain the same.
- The method of attachment was favorably received and considering that the visibility from the sidewalk will remain unchanged, the vendors will continue to proceed as planned.

- An elaborate lighting system was installed inside the atrium, tailored to this art piece, so the art piece will be illuminated throughout the day with daylight in addition to the installed lighting.
  - The vendors will work with the lighting designer to implement the comments from the Commissioners about the art piece additionally being lit at night.
4. City of Beverly Hills and Los Angeles Philharmonic proposed Rachmaninoff Festival
- Ben Johnson, Arts & Culture Manager, introduced Julia Ward, Director, Humanities at the Los Angeles Philharmonic, to join him in providing an update to the Commission.
- The City of Beverly Hills Community Services is partnering with the Los Angeles Philharmonic (LA Phil) for an upcoming series of events, celebrating the composer Sergei Rachmaninoff in Beverly Hills. City Council Liaisons is requested to approve a recommendation for a one-time facility use waiver of fees for Greystone Mansion, and a request for the City Shield to be utilized in the promotion of the upcoming LA Phil Rachmaninoff Festival, to take place in public and private spaces in Beverly Hills in February 2023.
  - Three events have been organized:
    - a) Thursday, February 2, 2023, at 7pm, The Beverly Hills Songbook at the Maybourne Beverly Hills.
    - b) Saturday, February 11, 2023, at 7pm, A Night on the Sunset Strip at Beverly Hills Women's Club.
    - c) Saturday, February 18, 2023, at 2pm, Rachmaninoff's Beverly Hills at Greystone Mansion.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None

## **CONTINUED BUSINESS**

### **5) Financial Update**

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

Paul Paolone, Senior Recreation Supervisor, updated the Commission on the status of the Fine Art Fund as of November 30, 2022.

- The Fund had a positive net growth within the month.
- A new in-lieu fee was taken in during the month of November for \$16,762 for 455 North Rodeo Drive, a new retail store.
- A new deposit was submitted for \$53,050 for 9328 Civic Center Drive; an industrial building.
- Some expenditures for the month of November include some minimal routine maintenance on art pieces. Several Kusama payments still need to post.

- A mid-year report will be provided next month.

**b. Fine Art Obligation**

Aida Thau, Arts and Culture Program Associate, provided an update on the status of the following projects taking place within the commercial property of the City:

- 136 El Camino Drive
  - a) Alex Israel's Artwork has been installed and an inspection is being scheduled.
- 9242 Beverly Boulevard
  - a) Pae White's *Whistleblower*, 2019; has been installed and an inspection is being scheduled.

Vice Chair Maralee Beck requested current photos for the next meeting.

**6) COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF**

**PROJECT UPDATES**

- Arts and Culture Commission Updates
  - Maintenance of Civic Arts and Fine Arts Collections
    - Adrine Ovasapyan, Recreation Supervisor provided an update. The covered/protected artwork on Burton Way will be inspected.
  - Mr. Brainwash Repair
    - Aida Thau, Arts and Culture Program Associate, provided an update on Mr. Brainwash's *Beverly Hills Is Life* sculpture and its needed repairs.
    - Staff will check on cameras and other security measures for that area.
    - If you see the City's artwork being compromised, please call 310-285-2468
  - Judy Chicago Visit Update
    - On November 18, 2022, Judy Chicago joined City staff for a site visit. The artist agrees with the Council Liaisons recommended installation site in City Hall. She also identified an alternative location for installation at Beverly Gardens Park – Canon Block.
    - The recommended location is being brought to the Recreation & Parks Commission since the location is within a park. The item will go to City Council in January.
  - ArtWalk Spring – Preview
    - The revised Spring ArtWalk will be titled Public Art Connoisseur 2.0. The City's art collection will be the focal point. Each docent will select their preferred artwork so each tour will be different.
- Community Services' Updates
  - Arts and Culture Division Programs and Events

- A series of arts and culture workshops is being produced and created by staff.
- A new version of Music in the Mansion is being created in a four-day festival format in April 2023.
- MADE in Beverly Hills is being organized for May 2023 in collaboration with Modernism Week in Palm Springs.
- The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Beverly Hills Art Show will be celebrated at both the Spring & Falls shows.
- Make Music Day will be held again in June 2023.
- o Holidays at Greystone Review
  - A review was presented of Holidays at Greystone Mansion that was held the weekend of December 3 – 4, 2022. Beverly Hills cable created a video which was shown.
- o Teen Advisory Committee
  - Lisa Crespo, Recreation Supervisor at La Cienega Community Center, along with Corrina Lesser, Arts and Culture Supervisor, provided an update on the Teen Advisory Committee's (TAC) Mental Health and Wellness event.
- Director's Report
  - o Use of City emails
    - Staff reminded the Commission that City communication will be sent via their City email.
- Information only items
- Event Calendar

## **2) COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION**

- Chair's Report
  - a) Mayor's Cabinet Meeting Highlights
  - b) Ad Hoc Committees
    - Fine Arts (Frank, P. Beck – Rogers, Acuna, Johnson, Thau)
    - Capital Projects (M. Beck, P. Beck – Rogers, Johnson, Davis, Thau)
    - Major and Annual Events (M. Beck, Filipovic – Johnson, Davis, Doyle, Ovasapyan)
    - Performing Arts, Heritage Initiatives, Community Engagement (Gordy Bristol, Filipovic – Johnson, Paolone, Doyle, Scrimshaw)
    - Embrace and Celebrate Culture Initiative (Frank, Gordy Bristol – Rogers, Johnson, Davis, Ovasapyan, Thau)
      - 1) The Commission was updated that Mayor and City Council are working on an event for the 2023 Martin Luther King Holiday.
      - 2) Commissioner Gordy Bristol requested that the Commission plan on acknowledging the holiday during their January 10, 2023 Commission meeting.
      - 3) The ad hoc has been planning for Festival Beverly Hills with tentatively scheduled for Sunday, March 26.

- c) Other items brief announcements, request for information, and brief reports on activities.
  - Vice Chair Maralee Beck informed the Commission that the Beverly Hills sign in Beverly Gardens Park was one of the ten most googled sites in the country.
- d) Arts and Culture Commission Upcoming Meetings: Tuesday, January 10, 2023.

## ADJOURNMENT

Date / Time: December 13, 2022 / 11:53 am

PASSED, Approved and Adopted on this 10 day of January 2023

  
Liana Filipovic, Chairperson