



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

**FINE ART COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**
Tuesday, December 18, 2018
10:00am

OPEN MEETING

Date/Time: December 18, 2018 / 10:02am

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CIVILITY STATEMENT

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Smooke, Kaye, 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.

None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

With the concurrence of the Commission, the Chair may choose to amend the order of the items on the agenda. The Chair moved item 8 to item 10.

The Chair asked for all in favor. (5/0)

AYES: Smooke, Kaye, Hiller, Vahn, Rubins
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
CARRIED:

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 15, 2018.
The Chair asked for all in favor to approve the minutes of the meeting with the corrections and changes. (5/0)

AYES: Smooke, Kaye, Hiller, Vahn, Rubins

NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:
CARRIED:

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

2. Water Rates Notices

Shana Epstein, Director of Public Works, spoke to the Commission about the water rate notices that were mailed out to all Beverly Hills residents. There will be a Town Hall meeting on January 10 prior to the January 15 meeting where City Council will hold a public hearing. More information is available on the City website.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

3. Cultural Arts Update

Andrew Campbell, Art Manager of the Arts and Culture Department with the City of West Hollywood, and Christine Byers, Cultural Affairs Coordinator with the City of Culver City gave an overview on their respective cultural programs including charge, staffing, resources, partnerships, city art collections and historical background to the current program for these cities.

Karen Constine, Public Affairs & Arts/ Cultural Management consultant updated the Commission on the status of the planning effort underway to broaden the charge of the Fine Art Commission to function as a cultural arts Commission, as directed by City Council to increase promotion and activities of arts and culture in Beverly Hills. Ms. Constine also provided an update on the environmental scan that she has created, the review of the Cultural plan created in 2009, the review of the current Fine Art Commission Ordinance and proposed future Ordinance, clarification of future responsibilities, and outlined priorities for the Cultural Arts Commission. Next steps are to update the cultural inventory, Commission Ordinance and research communication tools and methods for e-newsletter or calendar. The Commission asked to be sent the environmental scan.

4. Proposed donation of Nechita Artwork Update

Staff asked the Commission to review the 4 proposed bronze sculptures proposed for donation by artist Alexandra Nechita. They were asked to select the desired sculpture for acceptance and the location for installation based on the direction provided by the liaisons on this item when it was presented to them at the November 19, 2018 City Council/Fine Art Commission Liaison meeting.

MOTION by Vahn, SECONDED by Hiller to agree with the Liaison meeting that we chose sculpture #1 and that it should be placed on the Burton Way median off center between Sisyphus and the palm trees. (5/0)

AYES: Smooke, Kaye, Hiller, Vahn, Rubins
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:
CARRIED:

NEW BUSINESS /PUBLIC HEARINGS

5. Carl Milles art for Acquisition Proposal

Staff reported that John Mirisch brought forward at the Council/Fine Art Commission liaison meeting on November 19, 2018, three pieces of artwork by Carl Milles, and expressed his interest in the acquisition of one or more of these pieces by the Fine Art Commission. The Fine Art Commission reviewed the proposal and suggested that Mr. Mirisch bring forward as a resident these proposals for the next Priority Exercise when the Commission will choose a piece for acquisition. Information is needed to submit an art proposal, including the weight of each piece proposed and the purchase price for the Commission to effectively consider.

MOTION by Vahn, SECONDED by Kaye to table this item until the next priority setting at which time staff will have the complete information. (5/0)

AYES: Smooke, Kaye, Hiller, Vahn, Rubins
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:
CARRIED:

6. Art on Paper Exhibit

Sharon Persovski, Beverly Hills resident and Architectural Commissioner presented along with a Andres Webster, Cultural Attaché of the Consulate General of Mexico a proposal to host the art exhibit Art on Paper showcasing the work of well renowned Mexican artists in the City of Beverly Hills. Ms. Persovski asked the Fine Art Commission for their support on having this exhibit at the Municipal Gallery in City Hall throughout the month of March 2019. This exhibit proposal would entail co-sponsorship by the City. The Donation and Loan Ad Hoc Committee had previously reviewed the work of the exhibited artists and they deemed that these artists meet the qualifications of the fine art ordinance.

MOTION by Hiller, SECONDED by Rubins that the Commission supports the idea of this cultural event with the Consulate of Mexico and the artists being presented. (5/0)

AYES: Smooke, Kaye, Hiller, Vahn, Rubins
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:
CARRIED:

PROJECT UPDATES, STATUS REPORTS, STAFF REPORTS

7. Director's Report

- Information only items:
The Director updated the Commission on Chair Rubins being interested in inviting Gallery 19C to present to the Commission. Staff will reach out to the gallery to coordinate. Reminder that the Mayor's Cabinet date has been moved to December 19th. Update on the CS Strategic Planning Workshop scheduled for January 14th that

will be attended by the Chair and Vice Chair of all 3 Community Services Department's Commissions. The Director also gave an update on the Metro Sound Wall project, the City has contracted out the selection process for the art mural. They will schedule a Fine Art Commission Liaison in January to bring forward a short list of artists.

Staff also reported that the invitation for the Tom Friedman dedication had been sent out. Staff also reported that City Council Liaisons on November 19th approved to move forward with the purchase of Ai Weiwei and the contributing donation. Staff reported that the Liaisons also recommended installing the Ai Weiwei piece where the Richard Serra *Twins* is currently installed. Next steps are to secure estimates for this installation and present the proposed acquisition and corresponding costs to City Council. Staff also informed that the Highstein proposed donation and installation site were approved by the Liaisons at that same meeting. Staff stated that the Kusama item will be presented to City Council as soon as final feedback from Ota Studio is secured and final cost estimate prepared. .

The Commission inquired about the status of the 257 N. Canon Fine Art Obligation. Staff will check to see if this property is bringing forward another art proposal for consideration or if they will pay the in lieu fee.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

8. 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 at:

www.beverlyhills.org/citygovernment/mayorandcouncilmembers/mayorscabinetmeetings/

B. Ad Hoc Committees

- Education Liaison (Rubins, Vahn)
- Recreation and Parks Commission Liaisons (Hiller, Kaye)
- Fine Art Program Development (Hiller, Smooke)
- Donations and Loaned Art (Hiller, Vahn)
- Web Submission for Priority Exercise (Hiller, Rubins)
- Cultural Arts Commission options (Rubins, Kaye)

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

The Commission recognized Kate Stern and the 2 art walks that she coordinated. The Commission also recognized retiring Commissioner Kaye and his contribution to the Fine Art Commission. The Commission expressed the gratitude and pleasure to have been working together and what a great asset to the City and great leader that he had been while Chair of the Commission.

The Commission also informed of an extensive article published in the Wall Street Journal Magazine on William Kentridge regarding his activism and his work. The New York Times also run an article recently on Kentridge. The Commission also reported that a feature about Sterling Ruby had been published in Sculpture Magazine. This international recognition of the City's great art collection is something to be proud of.

9. Priority Setting

The Commission revised the priorities.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

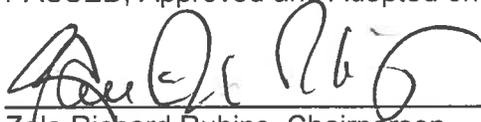
10. FAC Upcoming Meetings

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

ADJOURNMENT

Date / Time: December 18, 2018 / 12:41pm

PASSED, Approved and Adopted on this 17th day of January 2019.



Zale Richard Rubins, Chairperson