



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

**ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, June 9, 2020
10:00am

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: June 9, 2020 / 10:07 am

CIVILITY STATEMENT

Chair Vahn read the Civility Statement.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Frank, Rubins, and Smooke, Vice Chair Hiller, Chair Vahn

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Pam Shinault, Kristin Buhagiar, Jenny Rogers, Patty Acuña, Paul Paolone, Aida Thau

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By order of Chair Vahn, the agenda was approved as presented.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 12, 2020.

Motion: MOVED by Vice Chair Hiller, SECONDED by Chair Vahn to approve the minutes (5-0).

AYES: Commissioners Frank, Rubins, and Smooke, Vice Chair Hiller, Chair Vahn

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

CARRIED

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

None

PRESENTATIONS

2. United Talent Agency Presentation

Creative Director of Fine Arts and Artist Space at UTA Arthur Lewis, Gallerist Susanne Vielmetter, Executive Director of Art Production Fund Casey Fremont and Artist Genevieve Gagnard presented a public sculpture project on behalf of Art Production Fund and UTA. The project consists of a series of three large-scale outdoor public sculptures created by Genevieve Gagnard. The concept consists of re-imagined black figurines as the belles of the ball life-size sculptures standing at nine feet in weatherproof fiberglass. The proposed project would touch on Gagnard's practice of identity deconstruction and challenge the collective insecurities around race by celebrating differences. With support of the Commission, the next step would be to present the proposal to the Council Liaisons at a future meeting. Questions and concerns related to the fiberglass material used in the fabrication of the sculptures were raised as well as the appropriate outdoor location for these works (ultimately to be determined in conjunction with the City's Recreation & Parks Commission).

Motion: MOVED by Chair Vahn, SECONDED by Commissioner Frank to propose that the Genevieve Gagnard sculptures, 1st edition of three-part series, be considered for acquisition by the City of Beverly Hills. The Arts and Culture Commission supports this project as the first piece in the City's new Public Art Program and voted to move the proposal forward for consideration by the Council Liaisons and for possible City Council consideration (4-1).

AYES: Commissioners Frank and Smooke, Vice Chair Hiller, Chair Vahn
NOES: Commissioner Rubins
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
CARRIED

UTA Fine Arts presented a proposal to collaborate with the City in the creation of a new high concept Art Fair in the City of Beverly Hills. BOLD Beverly Hills Frieze 2021 would activate vacant storefronts through the curation of art installations by Beverly Hills & LA-based galleries and museums as part of LA Frieze in Spring 2021. Additional opportunities would include showcasing MFA student exhibitions in project spaces and cross promotion utilizing UTA's talented client roster (actors, performers and musicians) as part of live performance events and limited-edition merchandising. This item will be presented for consideration by the Council Liaisons at a future meeting.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Frank, SECONDED by Chair Vahn to propose utilizing vacant storefronts in the City for art installations through curation by local galleries, museums and talent agencies such as UTA (5-0).

AYES: Commissioners Frank, Rubins, and Smooke, Vice Chair Hiller, Chair Vahn
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
CARRIED

3. Torie Zalben's Drive-by Art Show Proposal

Artist and Founder of TZ Projects Torie Zalben and Producer of TZ Projects Liana Weston presented on a recent TZ Projects destination drive-by art show they curated in West Hollywood. TZ Projects proposes to create a video installation project in a storefront or on the side of building in Beverly Hills in collaboration with the City to create a unique community engagement experience while social distancing. This item will be presented to Council Liaisons at a future meeting.

Motion: MOVED by Chair Vahn, SECONDED by Commissioner Rubins to propose to present a video art presentation in a Beverly Hills property that is visible to the public and is accessible from the streets and the sidewalks in the near future (5-0).

AYES: Commissioners Frank, Rubins, and Smooke, Vice Chair Hiller, Chair Vahn
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
CARRIED

4. Virtual Art Show

Recreation Services Manager Kristin Buhagiar presented an overview of the City's first Virtual Art Show that took place on Saturday, May 16 and Sunday, May 17. The show featured live Zoom sessions including interviews with artists, painting instruction, music and more. A Beverly Hills Art Show website was developed where all the digital content can be accessed by the public.

NEW BUSINESS

5. Protests Related to the Death of George Floyd and Vandalism of Public Artworks

Director Jenny Rogers presented before and after images of the six city public artworks vandalized on Saturday, May 30. The pieces had successful graffiti removal by Rosa Lowinger and Conservation of Art and Architecture on Sunday, May 31.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

6. Arts and Culture Expansion Initiative

Tabled

7. Financial Update

Tabled

8. Artwalk Map Brochure

Tabled

PROJECT UPDATES

- Nechita Artwork Update

- Tabled
- Ai Weiwei Artwork Update
Tabled
- Greystone Theater Programming
Tabled

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

- Chair's report
 - a) Ad Hoc Committees
 - b) Other items brief announcements, request for information, and brief reports on activities
- Chair Vahn read a letter from Rachel Fine, Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer of The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, in which she presents the possibility of an annual film festival to the Arts and Culture Commission. The project would be a satellite Cannes Film Festival in Beverly Hills. The Wallis would partner with Beverly Hills and Cannes to host this new cultural arts festival.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

- Director's Report
- Information only items
 - a) Farewell to Vice Chair Hiller
 - b) Arts and Culture Commission Upcoming Meetings

ADJOURNMENT

Date / Time: June 9, 2020 / 12:25 pm

PASSED, Approved and Adopted on this 14th day of July 2020.



Michael Smooke, Chairperson