

City of Newport Beach

Newport Beach City Arts Commission Thursday, October 13, 2011 – 5:00pm Central Library Conference Room

Convened at 5:01pm

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Robyn Grant, Chair; Arlene Greer; Rita Goldberg, Secretary; Robert Smith, Vice Chair; Gil Lasky; Christopher Trela

Commissioners Absent: Carole Boller

Staff Present: Cynthia Cowell, Library Services Director; Jana Barbier, Cultural Arts Coordinator

Public Present: Jim Mosher; Daniele Dolino

Public Comments:

Mr. Mosher pointed out that he had spoken at a City Finance Committee meeting on the Arts Commission's behalf regarding the Arts Commission's being reimbursed for museum tours. He also noted that public comments are allowed on each agenda item.

Arts Commission Chair, Grant thanked Mr. Mosher for his comments and support on financing.

Daniele Dolino introduced himself to the Arts Commission and showed a display of digital murals called "Tattoo Walls". Mr. Dolino was interested in showing these to the Newport Beach Public Library.

Commissioner Grant thanked Mr. Dolino for his presentation and asked him to provide contact information as well as samples of this type of art/installation for the Arts Commission and City staff to look over.

Approval of Minutes:

It was MSP (Smith/Greer) to approve the September 8, 2011 minutes, with the following changes:

On Page 3, Motion under "Skydivers Discussion and Potential Vote" following the last sentence, include a new sentence stating that (by taking this public art): "The Arts Commission would be making an exception to City Council Policies I-9 (Art in Public Places) and I-10 (Donation of Art to City of Newport Beach.)"

Motion passed Unanimously

Continued Business:

Staff Report /Calendar/Correspondence – Reviewed and filed.

Correspondence/Press – Reviewed and filed.

Committee Updates –

Commissioner Lasky stated that he'd been reviewing the budget for the Arts Commission and that it was apparent that there was a deficit in the programming budget. He asked if the Commission should consider utilizing some of the grant funds before deciding on amounts for the Cultural Arts Grant applicants.

Commissioner Greer noted that she'd gone to a well-attended Arts Foundation event/meeting at Reflective Image Gallery with a special appearance by Allen Ross, who had worked for many years with Ansel Adams. She also stated that the Foundation's holiday party was scheduled for December 14. The Foundation's next meeting would be on November 10.

Commissioner Goldberg commented on the recent museum tour to the Norton Simon, and thought it was wonderful and everyone enjoyed themselves. She noted that staff was researching a trip next to the Autry National Center in Griffith Park.

Commissioner Grant noted that she had emailed the list of committee assignments to each of the commissioners, and these also include performing arts, publicity and public art.

Commissioner Smith briefly updated the commission on recent discussions involving the "Bridge Over Tree" public art installation, and that there were concerns over whether this work was ADA compliant. Mr. Smith noted that the same artist may likely design another work for the civic center site.

New Business

1. Cultural Arts Grants (2011-12), City Arts Commission Funding Recommendations

Commissioner Grant stated that she liked having more time to review each of the Cultural Arts Grant applications. She briefly reviewed the program, noting that there were 10 applications this year, that there was \$40,000 available to distribute, and that the Arts Commission uses a portion of the funds for free community cultural arts programming. Arts Commissioners considered using \$20,000 of this budget for community arts programming that is generated by the Arts Commission. Commissioners discussed each of the applicants and made recommendations for granting funds to the organizations. They discussed each program again. The recommendations included:

ExplorOcean/Newport Harbor Nautical Museum - \$2,000
Baroque Music Festival of Corona del Mar - \$3,000
South Coast Repertory Theater - \$2,000
Southland Opera - \$3,000
Festival Ballet Theatre – \$2,000
Newport Beach Film Festival - \$6,000
Newport/Mesa YMCA – 1,000
Newport Beach Sports Museum – no funding
Art and Creativity for Healing, Inc. – no funding

Keith Glassman Dance and Performance - \$1,000

It was MSP (Trela/Greer) to accept the funding recommendations for the Cultural Arts Grants (2011/12)

2. Discussion on Public Art at Civic Center

Commissioners discussed public art for the new civic center and decided to cancel an upcoming Study Session with City Council for the discussion of public art. It was recommended that a plan be formulated and that this would be a better time to go before the council.

Staff reminded the commission of upcoming dates for Council meetings, including the acceptance of the Cultural Arts Grant recommendations (November 8, 2011) and the Skydivers Sculpture Donation and Storage (also on November 8).

3. City Arts Commission Committee Assignments

Commissioner Grant reminded everyone that she had emailed committee assignments, and that everyone knew which committee they were on.

Future Agenda Items – None

Commissioner Announcements – Staff reminded commissioners that Central Library would be closed to the public from October 17 – 30, reopening on October 31.

Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm