



505 S. Garey Ave
Pomona, CA 91766

City of Pomona

Cultural Arts Commission

Draft Action Minutes

Chairperson Jovani Esparza
Vice-Chairperson Sophia Siqueiros
Commissioner Aida N. Lugo-Cantu
Commissioner Christian Ornelas
Commissioner Venita Rodman
Commissioner Dianna Batts
Commissioner Joshua Swodeck

August 26, 2024

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Jovani Esparza called the Cultural Arts Commission meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Jovani Esparza led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Jovani Esparza
Commissioner Aida N. Lugo-Cantu (arrived at 5:33 p.m.)
Commissioner Christian Ornelas
Commissioner Venita Rodman
Commissioner Dianna Batts
Commissioner Joshua Swodeck

Absent: Vice-Chairperson Sophia Siqueiros

Staff Present: Ata Khan, Deputy Director of Development Services
Jocelyn Ayala, Arts Coordinator

A motion by Commissioner Swodeck, seconded by Chair Esparza, carried by a unanimous vote of the members present (4-0-0-2) to move Staff Communication to the top of the agenda.

Chairperson Jovani Esparza – yes; Vice-Chairperson Sophia Siqueiros – absent; Commissioner Aida N. Lugo-Cantu – absent*; Commissioner Christian Ornelas - yes; Commissioner Venita Rodman – yes; Commissioner Dianna Batts – yes; Commissioner Joshua Swodeck – yes.

* Commissioner Lugo-Cantu arrived after the motion of this item.

STAFF COMMUNICATION

Arts Coordinator Ayala stated that in 2022 we had the opportunity for Robert Roach to create a program of a graphic novel for the youth in Pomona. She said they recently published the book, which she provided to the Commission.

Robert Roach thanked the Commission for the opportunity to create the program.

Samantha Torres, a student, said she enjoyed the program.

Maria Torres, mother, thanked Mr. Roach and the Commission.

Arts Coordinator Ayala mentioned that the library will have five copies of the graphic novel.

Deputy Director Khan stated that this is one of the first times we demonstrated through the public art fund that we don't have to solely fund Murals but can fund other visual mediums. He said that the Commission took a chance on this and it resulted in a book. He mentioned that this was a good accomplishment.

Arts Coordinator Ayala stated that she sent a letter to Mr. Brian Worley, and she received a call from his wife. She stated that he is not in a condition to have a conversation or complete work. She said that we have decided internally to approach a different route to finish the remaining portion of the fountains. She said we are in the final eight of our 2022 Call to be completed. She mentioned that there is graffiti on a mural and we have reached out to the Artist to fix it, which has been done. She stated that we have our two big calls coming up this fall. She said that this Saturday we will attend the Anniversary of Hamilton Park. She mentioned that the Chalk Art Festival T-shirt contest ends on September 9, 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

None

PUBLIC HEARING

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Approval of Preservation Budget for 2024-2025

Arts Coordinator Ayala stated that we are recommending from the Commission a budget allocation of \$100,000 towards preservation for the fiscal year of 2024/2025.

A motion by Commissioner Swodeck, seconded by Chair Rodman, carried by a unanimous vote of the members present (5-0-0-1) to approve the budget allocation of \$100,000 towards preservation for the fiscal year of 2024/2025.

Chairperson Jovani Esparza – yes; Vice-Chairperson Sophia Siqueiros – absent; Commissioner Aida N. Lugo-Cantu – yes; Commissioner Christian Ornelas - yes; Commissioner Venita Rodman – yes; Commissioner Dianna Batts – yes; Commissioner Joshua Swodeck – yes.

IN OPPOSITION: None

IN SUPPORT: None

DISCUSSION TIME: 9 minutes (5:41 p.m. to 5:50 p.m.)

2. Approval of Hamilton Park Call for Art

Arts Coordinator Ayala stated we have chosen locations that have been pre-approved which are the basketball court, restroom building, four trash bins and four concrete block walls. She said we have collected ideas from the youth to see what they would like to see at Hamilton Park.

A motion by Chairperson Esparza, seconded by Commissioner Swodeck, carried by a vote of the members present (6-0-0-1) to approve the RFP for staff to release it by September 5, 2024.

Chairperson Jovani Esparza – yes; Vice-Chairperson Sophia Siqueiros – absent; Commissioner Aida N. Lugo-Cantu – yes; Commissioner Christian Ornelas - yes; Commissioner Venita Rodman – yes; Commissioner Dianna Batts – yes; Commissioner Joshua Swodeck – yes.

IN OPPOSITION: None

IN SUPPORT: None.

DISCUSSION TIME: 4 minutes (5:51 p.m. to 5:55 p.m.)

3. Approval of Garey Underpass Call for Art

Arts Coordinator Ayala mentioned that Public Works is seeking a grant from the State for the beautification of Holt Avenue and have received \$100,000 for the Art portion of the project. She said we have decided to split this call into three parts due to the timeline of the project and to get better engagement from the community. She stated we are looking to execute area one for now. She mentioned that this project must be completed by May 30, 2025.

A motion by Commissioner Swodeck, seconded by Chairperson Esparza carried by a unanimous vote of the members present (6-0-0-1) to approve the Garey Underpass Call for Art (Area 1) to be released September 5, 2024.

Chairperson Jovani Esparza – yes; Vice-Chairperson Sophia Siqueiros – absent; Commissioner Aida N. Lugo-Cantu – yes; Commissioner Christian Ornelas - yes; Commissioner Venita Rodman – yes; Commissioner Dianna Batts – yes; Commissioner Joshua Swodeck – yes.

IN OPPOSITION:

IN SUPPORT: None

DISCUSSION TIME: 20 minutes (5:56 p.m. to 6:16 p.m.)

ADJOURNMENT

The Cultural Arts Commission meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Esparza at 6:17 p.m. to the next regular meeting of September 23, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Prepared by,

Ata Khan
Deputy Director

Miroslava PourSanae
Administrative Assistant