

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING – dA Center for the Arts
MONDAY, MAY 28, 2019

ITEM A:

CALL TO ORDER:

The Cultural Arts Commission was called to order at 5:39 p.m. by Chair Joshua Swodeck.

ITEM B: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chair Joshua Swodeck led the flag salute.

ITEM C: ROLL CALL:

Roll was taken by Development Services Director Anita Gutierrez.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Chair Joshua Swodeck; Vice-Chair Andrew Quinones; Commissioners Jovani Esparza, Jessica Leon, Venita Reynolds, and Diana Batts

COMMISSIONERS NOT PRESENT:

Commissioner Denise Marquez

STAFF PRESENT:

Development Services Director Anita Gutierrez, Assistant Planner Alina Barron, Senior Planner Ata Khan

ITEM D:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ITEM E:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

No items.

ITEM F:

PUBLIC HEARING:

No items.

ITEM G:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. 2019 High School Watercolor Competition Summary.

Assistant Planner Barron reported over 40 students' participated in the Watercolor Contest and this year was the first year the Cultural Arts Commission voted to adopt the California Arts Education Association

Scholarship Rubric. She shared the Commission was able to apply the rubric to the top eighteen (18) selected candidates, which resulted in seven (7) finalists, five (5) semi-finalists and six (6) honorable mentions. She stated staff are hoping to improve a few things for next year, so it goes smoother, but overall everyone was happy with the efficiency this year.

Chair Swodeck reported he spoke with Vicky Tessier about all the good things. He shared they had great attendance at the awards ceremony. He spoke about the Watercolor Contest and the Congressional Emerging Artist Contests being close together and shared there was a girl who did a painting piece that was folk looking who won awards for all three categories. He commented it was nice to see students pull out lots of art, not just one or two. He noted in the past people have submitted their seconds, so having students be very specific about their choices for each show and getting better quality was cool.

Commissioner Reynolds thought it was super cool this year too. She shared her Councilperson was not happy because she wasn't invited. She suggested it be standard to invite the Mayor and the Councilmembers.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied they all received an invitation via email.

Commissioner Reynolds replied her Councilmember didn't receive it, so maybe there was a miscommunication.

Development Services Director Gutierrez commented the Watercolor Contest is not City sponsored and the City didn't have any involvement in setting the date, so that was why city staff were not in attendance. She suggested there be more coordination. She stated the City has a heavy role but is not directly responsible. She reported the Councilmembers and Commissioners were invited but how that was presented could be clarified. She stated staff may need to directly ask people to attend and not just send an FYI.

Chair Swodeck stated the event is paid for out of the City budget and run through a City Commission. He asked how that is not City sponsored.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied Chair Swodeck is right, so it is City sponsored but the Commission and staff doesn't have direct control over all aspects of the Watercolor Contest.

Commissioner Reynolds commented she knows the winner goes to Washington and they gave the awards out, but she was wondering if there was some way for the winners to come before the Commission to be honored.

Vice-Chair Quinones clarified the Washington trip was the award for the Congressional Art Contest. He stated the City of Pomona gives a stipend.

Development Services Director Gutierrez confirmed the winner of the Watercolor contest receives a stipend.

Chair Swodeck replied the hope is that all the Commissioners, the Mayor and Councilmembers can be at the awards ceremony, so the winners are being honored in front of all of us and in public. He stated the awards ceremony is even bigger than a Commission meeting and it's something that the artists family can attend that is specifically for the contest.

Development Services Director Gutierrez commented there are some improvements for next year on the coordination.

Commissioner Batts suggested the email should have pointed out they needed to be there. She stated she didn't know it was something she needed to be apart of or she would have been there.

Chair Swodeck shared Vicky Tessier informed him that a month and a half before our Watercolor Contest the Historic Society did a Watercolor Contest. He reported that a lot of the high school students who participated in that contest did not get their artwork back in time to participate in the City's contest. He shared the Historic Society's contest was specific to historic landscape (i.e. iconic buildings) and so Vicky Tessier and he were talking about doing something with more of an open subject, without a theme to just let artists be artists. He stated it might pull out some of the higher caliber art students, because it would be interesting and different because most of the contests are themed. He shared the dA Center has a red show every year that is an open subject show, but they ask that there is a little bit of red in the painting or sculpture. He stated there have been artists that have not used red as a statement, which is fine because its open subject. He shared he and Vicky talked about doing something like that to allow the artists to do more with the watercolor. He stated they could also do the opposite and be very hard-core and get stricter with the rules using California Watercolor standards.

Senior Planner Khan asked if the Historic Society contest was a one-time event or if they do it annually.

Chair Swodeck replied he just found out about it and doesn't know anything.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied those were good comments and next year they will start earlier.

Chair Swodeck replied that Vicky Tessier told him they announced what they wanted to do in September, then the art teachers in the schools could plan for the contest in their curriculum and they could have projects early on or work up to a project. He noted at the end of the school year everybody has a ton of work and Seniors and Juniors are having to do a lot of graded tasks.

Commissioner Reynolds asked if abiding by the Standards of Watercolor would look better for the student's portfolios.

Chair Swodeck replied only if they get an award, so not necessarily. He shared Vicky Tessier heard back from a lot of the art teachers and they all really appreciated the rubric. He shared for another contest the judges each took one part of the rubric (i.e. composition) so the same person would look at all the art from that one criterion. He stated doing it that way created an even stronger equity.

2. Public Art RFQ update – Discussion.

Assistant Planner Barron reported they received fifty (50) completed applications for the Public Art RFQ. She shared the subcommittee is currently reviewing them via Dropbox and will be meeting on June 4, 2019 (next Tuesday) to review ratings. She stated staff plans to bring the finalists to approve to the Cultural Arts Citizens Advisory Committee and the Cultural Arts Commission on June 24, 2019 so staff can move forward with the Request for Proposals (RFPs).

Senior Planner Khan stated staff were happy with the turnout and they did as much outreach as possible with the limited time. He shared it was objectively a successful turn out.

Vice-Chair Quinones asked if could look at the applicants as a community member.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied currently the review process is on the subcommittee and it's not a public meeting. She stated there will be some applications that will be brought forward but not the entire package. She stated if he is interested in looking at art after they have made their selection, she could make it available.

Vice-Chair Quinones asked who is on the subcommittee.

Assistant Planner Barron replied the subcommittee is comprised of members of the Advisory Committee; Judah Oliver, Nancy Tessier and Joy McAllister.

Chair Swodeck confirmed the list will go the subcommittee first and then the Advisory Committee will approve and send it to the Commission.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied yes; the Advisory Committee will recommend to the Cultural Arts Commission. She noted if there are Commissioners or Advisory Committee Members that have applied those applications will be brought directly to the Cultural Arts Commission for review.

Vice-Chair Quinones asked if there was a specific number of applications the subcommittee was going to accept.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied the application deadline closed May 16, 2019.

Vice-Chair Quinones asked if it would be ok if a Commissioner turned in his application late.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied no, the application date has closed, and they must keep the integrity of the process. She stated staff are certainly pleased with the results, but it won't be the only opportunity. She stated they will be reopening the list as early as the end of the year to keep it fresh and encourage new artists to come in.

Senior Planner Khan reported staff received several applications after the deadline and had to turn them away.

Vice-Chair Quinones replied he really thought there was a conversation that they were going to extend the date and discuss at this meeting.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied they discussed that, however in the update staff gave at the last Cultural Arts Commission meeting they stated they would evaluate closer to the date depending on the number of applications received. She stated staff were comfortable with the number of applications received so that application period was closed. She noted this meeting was scheduled for after the close date of the application period, May 16, 2019.

Vice-Chair Quinones asked if the decision to reopen would be up to the Cultural Arts Commission.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied staff can take recommendations.

Commissioner Esparza asked how many murals the Commission can approve by the end of the year.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied staff has a priority list of projects and are working on preparing three RFPs to go as soon as the artist list is ready. She stated as soon as staff gets those three out and approved, they can start working on the next priorities.

Vice-Chair Quinones replied potentially they could have six by the end of the year.

Development Services Director Gutierrez responded they have three RFPs that are potentially ready to go and then it just depends on the scale and scope of the projects. She stated they could focus on doing a lot of little projects, but bigger ones would take more time, effort, and dollars.

Commissioner Leon asked if would include the restoration of a mural.

Vice-Chair Quinones replied no that's next.

Development Services Director Gutierrez stated the Commission established three priority projects; The Library mural, the Mosaics and the mural in the Arts Colony. She stated are going to have further conversations about the restoration of murals and there is a list of restoration pieces throughout the City. She noted they also discussed the water fountains and restoring those, but that's a separate conversation.

Commissioner Reynolds commented the water fountains have been on the list for years and keep getting kicked down the list.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied this Commission agreed two meetings ago that the priority list was the three projects and then after those are done staff will be tackling other issues, including the water fountains which will be on the agenda next month.

Chair Swodeck asked if there was a backdoor for outside artists to come in. He stated he understands the RFQ and that those artists have is a fast track.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied yes. She stated through the RFQ process they now have fifty (50) applicants, which will be narrowed to a list small list of artists, for example forty-five (45). She stated the RFP process will be the fast track to get the scope out to those forty-five (45) qualified artists and to get proposals back. She stated the Commission also has the option to put out a new RFP to the entire world if there is a project that might not fit the artist short list.

Senior Planner Khan provided a list to Development Services Director Gutierrez.

Development Services Director Gutierrez summarized the information on the list provided by Senior Planner Khan. She stated the Commission spoke about the Public Library Mural children's mural. She reported staff are working on the Tony Cerda mural, which was already funded, but needed to come back with the design. She noted Chris Toovey is working on that. She reported she has an update on the mosaic mural she will share under New Business. She stated the repair of the Cesar Chavez mural was moved to the category of repair of murals. She reported the list also included the mural in the Pomona Arts Colony and other potential projects that the Commission will be talking about later and prioritizing. She stated staff are focusing on the initial three projects which is manageable. She stated she will have an update on those.

Chair Swodeck asked if the water fountains are designated historic.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied she doesn't think so. She shared she has been talking with the DPOA who may be interested in helping. She reported there are components of water fountains that are art and the Commission could potentially want to use the Public Art dollars to restore, but there are other portions that need work that are not art. She stated it would be a collaborative project where the Cultural Arts Commission restores the art pieces and the DPOA restores the rest of it. She stated that is a conversation coming next month.

Commissioner Reynolds commented the Historic Commission is in the process of getting that whole Civic Center Plaza historically designated.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied yes, but that is outstanding because there are issues with the application.

Senior Planner Khan clarified these were two different things; Development Services Director Gutierrez was talking about the fountains on Second Street. He stated neither are designated now.

Chair Swodeck reported the L.A. Conservancy website references The Mall as being historic, but he doesn't know that it is. He stated the reason he is asking is because if they could possibly use the historic designation to protect the whole art piece (back housing and the waterworks) because all of it was done by Millard Sheets who was an artist. He shared that was the part they went back and forth with the City Attorney on a couple years ago, because they just wanted to designate the Mosaic or the Merman as the art and not the entire piece, even though technically Millard Sheets did the whole thing.

ITEM H:
NEW BUSINESS:

1. Request for Proposals – Pomona Public Library, Pomona Arts Colony, Millard Sheets – Discussion.

Assistant Planner Barron stated she wanted to go over the Request for Proposals (RFPs) timeline. She stated after discussion tonight, staff are prepared to move forward with the RFP for the Pomona Public Library and the Pomona Arts Colony mural.

- Following the approval of the short list, staff are proposing a three-week period; Tuesday, Tuesday, June 25 through Tuesday, July 16, 2019
- The subcommittee would review and select within a one-week period; Tuesday, July 16 through July 22, 2019
- Potential interviews Thursday, July 18, 2019.
- The subcommittee would make the recommendation to the Cultural Arts Commission Citizens Advisory Committee by the July 22, 2019 meeting.

She shared the subcommittee expressed that they would like to potentially interview to make their selection. She stated staff wishes to have the proposed timeline on all the RFPs that go out so applicants can determine whether they could accommodate this into their schedule. She noted the dates are tentative because staff must discuss with the committee. She reported with this timeline the final design concept would go to the Cultural Arts Commission on August 26, 2019. She noted the one-month delay that is created because the Citizens Advisory Committee is scheduled right before the Cultural Arts Commission.

Development Services Director Gutierrez added if the Cultural Arts Commission wants to have a final review of the proposals prior to August 26, 2019 they could call a special meeting.

Vice-Chair Quinones voiced support for moving as quickly as possible.

Senior Planner Khan noted the applicant would presumably be doing something in the month of August.

Assistant Planner Barron reported the RFP currently requests preliminary design sketches, samples, or images of the idea without requiring artist to provide free art. She noted in the time between the Advisory Committee's review and the Cultural Arts Commission's review, the applicant would be finalizing their ideas. She stated if the Commission wanted to call a Special meeting it would impact the amount of time the artist has to prepare a final design.

Development Services Director Gutierrez agreed. She confirmed the Advisory Committee would be recommending one candidate to the Cultural Arts Commission.

Senior Planner Khan replied yes to prepare a final design plan.

Chair Swodeck asked how many candidates the subcommittee will bring to the Advisory Committee.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied that depends on how many apply. She stated the subcommittee will be vetting them.

Assistant Planner Barron replied the subcommittee can pick any number of finalists, but staff would encourage them to only pick one or two for interviews.

Chair Swodeck asked if the artist would interview with the subcommittee or the Advisory Committee.

Assistant Planner Barron replied the subcommittee; she reported that was the request when staff met with the subcommittee about the RFP process. She shared they wanted to allow for artists with little experience and for artists with a ton of experience and needed a mechanism to determine if an individual could accomplish what was in their proposal. She shared the example of the subcommittee reviewing 10 applications over two days and there being a consensus for two artists and then using the interview to narrow one candidate. She noted if the subcommittee couldn't decide they could bring two finalists to the Advisory Committee.

Chair Swodeck confirmed that the subcommittee is the deciding body and has the power to not allow someone to go forward.

Senior Planner Khan responded it would be as recommendation to the Advisory Committee. He stated the purpose of the subcommittee meeting is for Brown Act purposes and so that everything is not reviewed publicly. He stated the subcommittee would come forward to the Citizens Advisory Committee and say they looked at X and are recommending Y.

Chair Swodeck commented he knew they had the subcommittee for the process of creating the list of artists.

Senior Planner Khan replied this is different, each RFP will have its own new subcommittee. He stated when a Library Mural RFP goes out, a new subcommittee will be formed at the June meeting. He noted the purpose behind that process is to get fresh eyes on the RFP's and not have just one standing committee that has the power to review everything.

Chair Swodeck replied that makes sense. He expressed concerns about this being a closed session because it's a negotiation.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied it's not closed session; it is a subcommittee. She stated if there is less than a quorum, they don't have to abide by the Brown Act and conversations can be had without having to have open public meeting. She reiterated the subcommittee is making a recommendation.

Chair Swodeck replied that since they are doing interviews, it's a subcommittee with public folks in it. He confirmed the subcommittee was doing the interviews and stated from a Brown Act perspective he doesn't think subcommittees can do interviews.

Development Services Director Gutierrez agreed the interviews should be in an open session.

Assistant Planner Barron replied those interviews could take place during the July 22, 2019 meeting.

Senior Planner Khan asked what the issue was with interviewing.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied you are having the members of the public come into a subcommittee meeting.

Chair Swodeck stated if you let the public come in, you must let all the public come in.

Senior Planner Khan replied they are not the public; they are applicants being asked clarifying questions are part of the application process. He stated they could do it over the phone and it's common to ask questions of applicants.

Chair Swodeck replied he doesn't know the right answer but is just bringing it up.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied the interview would be adding new information to the record that only the subcommittee would have. She stated if the Cultural Arts Commission questioned the subcommittee's recommendation, they wouldn't have the full knowledge because there wouldn't be a record of the interview.

Vice-Chair Quinones stated he thought the Advisory Committee approved the RFPs.

Senior Planner Khan replied they are, the subcommittee is not taking any action just making a recommendation. He stated it's impractical to have all seven Advisory Committee Members review all the RFP proposals, so a trusted body is needed to do that.

Development Services Director Gutierrez responded if the subcommittee wants to do interviews, they could make that recommendation to the Advisory Committee, then host the interviews as a whole. She stated then the subcommittee could go back and make a final recommendation based on those interviews.

Senior Planner Khan replied staff can address that. He shared Nancy Tessier suggested the RFQ for the mosaic mural include a detailed explanation of how the artist will install along with the artists experience and then the subcommittee may not need the interview.

Assistant Planner Barron replied the subcommittee felt they could determine whether somebody knows how to do something or knows the installation process by sitting down and talking with someone for five minutes.

Chair Swodeck agreed and he thinks that is the power behind the Advisory Committee. He shared in the past the Commission didn't have many artists so it was the Advisory Committee's responsibility to vet and ask those typical questions. He stated he doesn't see the need for the subcommittee because it is just adding one more layer and a two-week process. He shared in the past when an item was brought to the Advisory Committee, the same item could be brought to the Cultural Arts Commission Meeting. He stated if the Advisory Committee had any recommendations then the Commission could approve and move it onto the next level, or not approve with those recommendations and request to see the item again. He stated this gave them the option to run something through fast if they wanted to.

Senior Planner Khan replied that is not the ideal process because the Citizens Advisory Committee that is never looking at final design plans, they are only looking at a conceptual. He stated historically when we've done items merged together isn't a conceptual and a final, it's just one application. He stated the intent here is for the Committee to look at a concept, weigh in and give guidance and that that artist has a month to fine tune it and come forward with a final plan.

He gave an example about staff meeting with a Developer last week. He shared this developer wanted to do public art and typically staff would say yes, bring his concept forward at an Advisory Committee meeting and right after the Cultural Arts Commission would vote on it, however, this time staff told the developer to fill out the concept design, provide a narrative and take it to the Citizens Advisory Committee to get their input. He shared the developer was comfortable with that, because it gives time to fine tune the idea and all seven of the Advisory Committee Members the opportunity to weigh-in and provide guidance staff isn't equipped to provide because they are not artists.

Chair Swodeck replied he understands that, however if the Advisory Committee feels like they need to do that or that they need to see something again, then the Committee can wait to recommend it and it goes to the next month. He noted the Commission has had many projects, like the one on White Ave with the metal trees, where there was only one recommendation. He stated for White Avenue the wanted to see the project lit and so the developer agreed to add lights, it went to the Commission meeting, everyone agreed and the whole process was done. He stated his point is that the primary process should be as fast as possible but have the allowance for the Advisory Committee to see it again.

Development Services Director Gutierrez confirmed the Commissioners feel the RFP timeline is too cumbersome and taking too long.

Chair Swodeck replied yes, because anything over \$1,500 is going to have to go to City Council adding more time.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied one option would be to take out the subcommittee entirely and have it all done at the Advisory Committee level in an open meeting.

Chair Swodeck stated he likes the subcommittee on occasion. He stated if they received 30 applicants back for an RFP, they would have the option to create a subcommittee. He suggested writing the process fast and fluid with the allowance for slowing it down when needed.

Assistant Planner Barron confirmed he would like it to be based on the number of applications received.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied not necessarily. She stated she is hearing Chair Swodeck say is he wants to leave the option of a subcommittee up to the Advisory committee.

Chair Swodeck commented if he was are handed 30 proposals for the mosaic project the chance of all 30 being phenomenal is slim, so he could probably flip through in about 15 minutes and pick out what would work and what wouldn't. He stated his point is give the Advisory Committee back some of that power to make the decision.

Vice-Chair Quinones stated he didn't know murals over a specific dollar amount had to go to City Council to for approval.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied she thought the City Manager approved it; she doesn't think it has to go to City Council.

Senior Planner Khan replied the have procurement policy and \$30,000 is the typically threshold.

Vice-Chair Quinones stated its already an earmarked fund that's legal allocated.

Chair Swodeck replied in the past it has gone to City Council.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied maybe that because it was a separate RFP and not the short list.

Chair Swodeck stated in the past the City Manager had the ability to fast track any project under \$1,499, however, anything above that because it was an expenditure from City Budget went to City Council.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied the delegated authority is \$30,000, but she will double check.

Chair Swodeck stated his understanding was that it was just consent, but it adds another two weeks or a month.

Vice-Chair Quinones commented there are only going to have one applicant that will have the qualification for the mosaic project and wouldn't want to have to wait another month.

Senior Planner Khan clarified which project.

Chair Swodeck replied not necessarily; they could get 10 engineers proposing something.

Commissioner Leon confirmed the Millard Sheets one is going to be engineers.

Vice-Chair Quinones commented he loves that they are donating the Millard Sheets, but it is more like an engineering project than an art project to him. He stated he wishes they had three murals.

Assistant Planner Barron pointed out if they remove the subcommittee review selection for this specific RFP then on July 22, 2019 the Citizen Advisory would have to decide to review or form a subcommittee. She stated for example if there were 10 applications, too many to go through, and the decision was made to form a subcommittee, that subcommittee would have to meet between July 22 and August 26, 2019 so that the Cultural Arts Commission could review on August 26, 2019. She noted this is assuming the artist has enough time to prepare.

Senior Planner Khan shared there was also a conversation about the Citizens Advisory Committee and the Cultural Arts Commission meetings should happen on the same day because the sequencing may not work out.

Development Services Director Gutierrez summarized staff are hearing that the Commission wishes to make this as fast a process and so staff can rework the timeline to take out the subcommittee option. She noted there is some risk involved in doing that because building the subcommittee meeting in ahead saves time if the decision is made to use a subcommittee and add times if that decision is made later.

Chair Swodeck commented he feels if something takes longer and there is a reason than that's something he can work with. He stated if it takes another two week or a month because they had 10 applicants, he feels the Commission can answer to the public that there were a lot of applicants and so they created a subcommittee. He noted the engineering project is not going to be a three-week turnaround, but it is worth the outcome and if they can tell George Cuttriss and Brian Worley, they are working on it.

Senior Planner Khan asked Assistant Planner Barron to explain the different between the final design plan submittals and the conceptual design submittals.

Assistant Planner Barron replied the code and the manual specify differences in the conceptual design plan versus a final design plan. She stated the final design plan includes a full rendering and a finalized budget, quotes for materials. She stated a conceptual design plan is more like a preliminary sketch/design with a general idea and images the artist wants to recreate, like what happened with the Día de los Puercos mural.

Senior Planner Khan replied if staff bring items back to back this is a challenge.

Assistant Planner Barron noted the Día de los Puercos mural was a private developer's application.

Chair Swodeck replied the City was not paying for the Día de los Puercos mural so the Commission didn't care about the costs. He stated other times they have looked at budgeting, but the Commission have never really handled that. He stated all the projects that have come forward were full packages and always had those elements. He reported the Tony Cerda project was a finalized rendition with a full budget and the Commission approved the \$12,000.

Senior Planner Khan replied the different was they were not competing.

Chair Swodeck responded they made the applicants compete.

Senior Planner Khan spoke about applicants being able to take a gamble with a preliminary proposal versus having 10 final design applications that were not be selected and the artist put in a ton of effort.

Chair Swodeck replied that makes sense.

Assistant Planner Barron stated when she was drafting the RFPs submittal requirements she wanted to draft it in a way that would allow people to prepare full rendering sketches but not require them to provide a complete full idea and free art. She stated staff decided to use the definition that is in the city's code for preliminary sketches.

Development Services Director Gutierrez stated if the Commission feels the RFP should require a more finalized application with full budget and a detailed plan image of the art, that is something that changes the process that staff can consider.

Vice-Chair Quinones shared he has done 10 public art murals and has never had to fill out an application, but he has submitted a budget and preliminary sketch. He stated he hopes that upcoming artists are involved in doing an alley mural or a park mural and that it's not as complicated as a \$50,000 mural that is going to take insurance.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied staff's intent was to separate the process into two pieces to accommodate the new emerging artist. She stated staff didn't want a new artist to be scared away by having to submit a completed budget. She spoke about having a built-in process between the conceptual stage and the final for staff to work applicants. She shared staff was planning to put together fillable budget worksheet so the artist can estimate costs and staff would advise on insurance.

Senior Planner Khan suggested having a conversation in advance about the subcommittee and writing each RFP differently. He stated the Commission could determine if an item would be fast or if wanted to form a subcommittee and say take their time to vet a project with a \$250,000 budget.

Development Services Director Gutierrez stated that a good approach. She asked the Commission two questions; 1) Do they want a subcommittee for the Library Mural? and 2) Do they want a final proposal as the initial proposal?

Commissioner Reynolds agreed they should vet according to the outlay of monies. She stated they probably wouldn't want a first timer to do a \$500,000 project, that type of project would require some track record and a subcommittee. She stated a \$10,000 project would not require as much vetting so they could fast track. Her asked if it will be possible to have a project by the end of the year.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied that the goal.

Assistant Planner Barron responded having a good tentative schedule on the RFP would help the artists determine if they can apply and determine if they would be able to execute the project.

Vice-Chair Quinones agreed the RFP should include a date range for completion.

Development Services Director Gutierrez requested the Commission start with the with the Library Mural RFP.

Assistant Planner Barron stated the budget for the Library Mural RFP was \$15,000 (quoted by dA Center), however, there have been a lot of talks about including adjacent walls. She asked if the Commission wanted that to part of the proposal. She showed a picture of the wall, pointed out the adjacent walls in and shared she too measurements. She pointed out the north wall is 81 feet long.

Vice-Chair Quinones replied what he understood was those walls wouldn't include full mural depictures but just a splash of color or trailing.

Chair Swodeck commented a house painter could paint a matching color.

Development Services Director Gutierrez clarified staff needs direction on how much additional money is needed to budget if the Commission wants to include these two additional walls in the RFP.

Discussion ensued and the Commissioners indicated \$15,000 would be inclusive of the two additional walls.

Chair Swodeck stated from an artistic perspective it is probably just a few more hours and some paint.

Commissioner Esparza commented he thinks even \$10,000 would be enough.

Chair Swodeck agreed it's could be a \$10,000 mural, but by putting it at \$15,000 gives more money for time and energy.

Senior Planner Khan asked the Commission if want to entertain \$10,000 instead.

Vice-Chair Quinones stated they applicants don't have to meet the full \$15,000.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied correct; they can come in with their own proposal.

Vice-Chair Quinones replied if the mural includes lifelike creatures it could cost \$15,000 because of the detail and time.

Commissioner Esparza commented someone could splat paint on it and only be there for 30-40 minutes.

Vice-Chair Quinones replied Commissioner Esparza has artists that can do awesome murals in 8 hours.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied Commission members could have applied.

Commissioner Esparza replied he thought organizations weren't allowed.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied organizations can apply.

Chair Swodeck confirmed the budget of \$15,000.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied they will put up to \$15,000 is in the RFP.

Chair Swodeck asked what would happen if they had a proposal that came in higher and they wanted to move the budget to \$20,000 because the work was intricate and amazing. He asked if that would be allowed.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied for public perception she would say no because people might say they would have applied if they knew it was going to be \$20,000.

Senior Planner Khan added they would just disqualify that applicant because they exceeded the budget.

Development Services Director Gutierrez added, or the applicant could bring their budget down to be considered.

Senior Planner Khan stated the RFP could say \$20,000 if the Commission felt it would capture some more intensity.

Chair Swodeck commented he feels like they are going to get junk for \$20,000 and then we are going to feel bad because its not worth \$20,000. He stated there is part of him that wants to keep it lower because of t the expectation of what's coming in, but then there is another part that says what if they get something phenomenal that's worth keeping 100 years.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied staff can talk about it internally and possible add a disclaimer stating, "additional dollars may be available if the artwork warrants". She stated if they let people know ahead of time, so everyone is on the same playing field.

Chair Swodeck confirmed there would still be a motion and an approval.

Senior Planner Khan commented the will all know the pool they are selecting from too because it's a short list, so you would theoretically after you have a short list of 20 artists you would know their work and know what kind of things you would be getting.

Development Services Director Gutierrez agreed but not this first one.

Senior Planner Khan replied yes because they are moving fast. He stated the Commission will have specific examples from the artists on this list and could dictate the budget accordingly.

Development Services Director Gutierrez summarized she is hearing the Commission likes the budget of up to \$15,000 with potentially adding some language stating more dollars could be made available if the artwork warrants it.

Vice-Chair Quinones agreed that's flexible.

Development Services Director Gutierrez asked if the Commission wants a subcommittee for the Library Mural.

Chair Swodeck replied they need to know if the subcommittee can do interviews, which staff must research.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied whether the subcommittee is allowed or not allowed to do interviews, she would recommend that we don't.

Chair Swodeck confirmed what the subcommittee would be doing if they were not interviewing.

Development Services Director Gutierrez and Senior Planner Khan replied reviewing applications and then making recommendations.

Assistant Planner Barron added they would be narrowing down the applicant pool and choosing who to invite to interview at the Advisory Committee meeting on July 22, 2019.

Chair Swodeck asked if the Advisory committee would have eyes on every applicant. He stated for examples if they had 10 applicants for this project, would all 10 applications go from subcommittee to Advisory Committee with one or two being the recommendation.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied yes to all.

Senior Planner Khan stated the subcommittee doesn't decide they make a recommendation and will be showing all their homework.

Chair Swodeck replied in that case he doesn't mind a subcommittee if they can move through the process fast. He commented he didn't want something to end up being stuck or a mess 10 years down the road because of the process they created now.

Development Services Director Gutierrez they are meeting before the next regularly scheduled meeting. She commented it may seem a bit cumbersome here, but she doesn't think it will hinder the regularly scheduled meeting process because all the subcommittee meeting work will happen in between the regularly scheduled meetings.

Chair Swodeck stated he was most concerned with the subcommittee and Brown Act, but since staff clarified that they won't be interviewing and that all the applicants will still make it to the Advisory Committee with a recommendation of one or two, he is more comfortable.

Senior Planner Khan added the Committee can reject the subcommittee's recommendation.

Chair Swodeck confirmed it won't be a standing subcommittee and there will be a new subcommittee for each RFP.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied that's correct.

Chair Swodeck stated right now they have two RFPs that are going to be going out. He asked if they will have two subcommittees or one subcommittee handling the two RFPs.

Senior Planner Khan replied two subcommittees; each RFP will have a subcommittee.

Vice-Chair Quinones requested they create a yearlong calendar for 2020 to set expectation of three murals every quarter. He spoke about being frustrated it took three years to get to this point and stated he would feel more confident if there was a plan in place.

Development Services Director Gutierrez stated that goes back to working on the priority list. She stated if staff get that list vetted, they can apply a timeline. She stated that would be a great goal to work towards and staff will. She confirmed there was consensus that a subcommittee was ok. She reported there was general agreement to this. She asked if the Commission wanted a conceptual application or final application.

Commissioner Reynolds replied she thinks it should be vetted according to how much money we are allotting.

Development Services Director Gutierrez stated this one is \$15,000.

Commissioner Reynolds replied a preliminary would be fine for this one because they may be getting a lot of emerging artists that don't have the background or budgeting experience.

Development Services Director Gutierrez confirmed for the Library Mural RFP the consensus is for an initial conceptual and then staff will work with whoever is selected to prepare a final proposal. She stated the Advisory Committee will look at conceptual plans to make their selections and then those finalists will be asked to prepare a final budget, as well as, a final design for the Commission's consideration.

Chair Swodeck shared in the past budgeting and planning was left to staff, because the Commission doesn't really oversee the budget. He stated looking conceptual and a finalize is good sometimes, because there are artists who are not going to do a conceptual piece. He shared artist that was very good at sculpture but horrible at doing digital concepts and so he is never provided a final product. He expressed concerns with writing that into the process.

Development Services Director Gutierrez shared she spoke with Assistant Planner Barron suggested the initial proposal include a best rendering and a basic preliminary budget, and then if an applicant is selected as a finalist then they are required to do final budget. She stated the artwork piece would stay the same.

Commissioner Reynolds replied she likes that idea and thinks it is fair. She commented it would be up to the artist to compete with less than their best.

Chair Swodeck commented he loves the idea of including emerging artists in the process; but at the end of the day he doesn't know that the Commission need to go that deep into staff's job.

Development Services Director Gutierrez clarified she is not saying the budget will come to the Commission, but it will be part of the package because they are using City dollars, so they need to make sure that the budget is tight. She stated the Commission would be focused on the art piece.

Chair Swodeck agreed. He stated he wants the Commission to focus more on the concept and if the concept is not strong enough, they can always ask for more. He continued with the example of the artist that did the sculpture piece sharing he had beautiful work in his portfolio but the rendering he submitted was a sloppy weird form, because he doesn't do visual art. He stated this artist's final is never going to look good and so we are basically asking him to do free art. He spoke about being able to determine if a concept is strong enough based on the artist showing the Commission that they know what they are doing so that the Commissioners can use their artistic imagination to see if a project could be interesting and strong.

Senior Planner Khan asked Development Services Director Gutierrez asked her if she is saying the practice would apply to all RFQs.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied she is saying for this one and then maybe we adjust for others. She confirmed the Commission wants a final rendering up front and then a final budget once a finalist is selected.

Assistant Planner Barron confirmed the Commission wishes to include a small portion of the south wall in the Library Mural.

Vice-Chair Quinones replied it would depend on the artists design. He stated its just flowing walls.

Chair Swodeck replied he just thought the long wall because it was the visualization of walking into the children's area, however, you don't really see the wall behind you so for him it was using color to draw a person into the mural, instead of being hidden. He stated normally when you walk in your eyes are taken to the right and a person would miss the mural.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied that's a great clarification. She asked if any of the Commissioners have any different opinion.

Vice-Chair Quinones suggested the RFP language does not limited. He stated if the artist saw the space and was inspired to do a little bit on the sides walls they could do that. He used the example of picnic ants that are crawling from the main wall onto the other sides of the walls.

Development Services Director Gutierrez stated they will only list the main mural wall and the north wall.

Chair Swodeck clarified Vice-Chair Quinones was stating to add language in saying it's not limited to.

Development Services Director Gutierrez confirmed adding language such as "may allow for accents on surrounding walls".

Chair Swodeck replied yes and it is still in the same budget.

Assistant Planner Barron informed the Commission that the theme approved by the Board of Library Trustees was the World of Children's Literature and the requested the artist incorporate calming colors. She reported the RFP describes the way the environment is used, stating it is calm in nature, but we staff are not putting limitations in terms of color.

Chair Swodeck suggested including a color psychology wheel, not as a standard, but to help the artists. He commented some artists understand that specific colors provoke certain emotions, but a lot of artists may struggle.

Development Services Director Gutierrez asked if there was a website they could refer applicants to.

Vice-Chair Quinones replied he would refer them to Pinterest and a color theory wheel.

Chair Swodeck replied if you just google color psychology, they will not all the same because there are different opinions but any of them will be helpful. He reiterated it would not be a standard just a guide to help them.

Vice-Chair Quinones commented the \$15,000 budget should get an artist that understands color theory.

Development Services Director Gutierrez asked what level of involvement the Commission is expecting from the Library Board in the approval of the art. She stated she see that under the purview of the Cultural Arts Commission, ultimately this body would be the one approving the art to go in the Library. She noted it wouldn't be a secret and we'd invite them to comment when the item is on the agenda. She asked if there are any differing thoughts on that.

Vice-Chair Quinones stated he would think the chosen artist would maybe have some contact with the Library Board, prior to the mural being painted.

Chair Swodeck commented he thinks they will be ok on this project, because he feels like there are enough people on the Advisory Committee and the Commission who understand what happens in the Library on a regular basis.

Assistant Planner Barron shared she did interview the library manager. She reported they spoke about how the space is utilized so that the RFP could provide some background to the artists. She stated she also included a small history of the Library and how it got there, as well as, how the kids use the space seasonally.

Chair Swodeck suggested the RFP mentioned what types of books are on that side because it's mostly non-fiction.

Assistant Planner Barron replied that the entire space is science books ranging from the solar system to Biology to dinosaurs. She stated since the Library of Trustees voted to go with the theme World of Children's Literature, she wasn't sure how to work in the context of those books into that theme. She asked the Commission to help staff determine the Library's role in the art process.

Chair Swodeck replied the are inviting to the Library Board and generous with public, because we are focusing on the artistic. He stated the Library Board has been able to give to a theme and so if there is something, they really don't like they can use public comment as an opportunity to publicly to let the Commission know.

Development Services Director Gutierrez agreed.

Assistant Planner Barron reported staff was hoping to release the Pomona Arts Colony mural RFP at the same time as the Library Mural on June 25, 2019. She asked if there was any theme.

Vice-Chair Quinones replied he has had conversations with various people and groups, and they felt a tribute mural to Magu would be good. He shared Gilbert "Magu" Luján was a famous Chicano artist that lived within the Arts Colony for a period and has since passed away. He suggested the Pizza, Beer and Wings off Main Street and Second Street as the location.

Chair Swodeck responded he loves that wall and would love to see something there, however, he thinks the project staff are referring to the mural Ed Tessier brought up and that was on Fourth Street on the front of the Arteco Building on the primary façade. He reported Ed Tessier spoke the Commission approved the mural. He shared there wasn't a theme and there was discussion about matching funds. He noted it was not signage, just art.

Vice-Chair Quinones confirmed staff cleared the hurdle about approving façades within the Arts Colony Downtown Specific Plan. He stated it might not work on Holt Avenue as a mural on a front façade, but it would work in a designated Arts Colony.

Senior Planner Khan replied it's not because of that reason. He asked Assistant Planner Barron to clarify.

Assistant Planner Barron reported she reviewed the code and the only section that states a person cannot put a mural on a primary façade is the mural permit section. She stated using the in-lieu fee funds isn't a mural permit, so it wouldn't be subject to that code. She noted it would only apply to people who were requesting a mural permit and using their own private funds.

Chair Swodeck confirmed if somebody came in to do a mural permit on their own funding, they would not be able to do anything on a primary façade per the code.

Senior Planner Khan yes without amending the code or a variance.

Commissioner Reynolds asked for clarification.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied a private person on their private building proposing a mural on the primary façade of their building couldn't do that private project under the mural permit, because that is how the code is specifically written. She stated The Public Art Fund doesn't trigger that code, so we don't have to apply it here. She stated it's something they may need to change.

Chair Swodeck agreed. He asked if that code is nullified if there is a match using outside money.

Senior Planner Khan replied the code doesn't really get into that, it's an interpretation call. He stated spending in-lieu fee dollars triggers the Art in Public Places process, not a mural permit.

Chair Swodeck provided an example of \$10 being paid from the in-lieu fund and \$10,000 by somebody else for a public mural. He asked if once the in-lieu fee is activated that now supersedes.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied yes, essentially that's what we are using the workaround for.

Chair Swodeck spoke about there being a lot of mechanic shops and if they wanted to do a mural and were paying for it, they would not be able to do it on the front.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied yes, at this point and time.

Commissioner Reynolds stated she is confused. She shared she has a resident/business owner who owns the whole 400 block of E. Holt Avenue and they want to do murals all along that stretch. She confirmed they couldn't do it because they all face north.

Senior Planner Khan confirmed if they were trying to pay for it privately.

Commissioner Reynold replied yes.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied currently then no, if it was their primary façade, they could not apply for a mural permit to do it.

Vice-Chair Quinones replied it is something they could change within the group.

Development Services Director Gutierrez stated it's an ordinance change that must go to City Council, but the conversation would start here.

Vice-Chair Quinones recommended staff include language within Pomona Corridor Specific Plan to help maneuver this issue because art brings foot traffic and more.

Development Services Director Gutierrez agreed. She confirmed the mural in the Arts Colony was intended for the wall on the Arteco Building on Fourth Street.

Chair Swodeck stated an RFP never went forward on this so his recommendation would be reach out to Ed Tessier to inform him they are working on this project and its on the Commission's priority list. He recommended staff tell Mr. Tessier that there was a suggestion to possibly to put it on Main Street on the Pizza, Beer and Wings, but leave the final decision up to him because he was the one who brought up the project.

Vice-Chair Quinones commented if Ed Tessier is still willing to put in half the money, that might be a longer drawn out conversation. He stated if he gave half the money, he would want to choose the artist. He recommended staff ask Ed Tessier what he prefers first.

Development Services Director Gutierrez asked what the Commission's thoughts on a ballpark budget.

Vice-Chair Quinones replied \$10,000 as a ballpark budget for that wall.

Chair Swodeck replied he doesn't know if it was a full match or partial, it wasn't talked about it at that point in time.

Development Services Director Gutierrez confirmed \$10,000 for the whole project.

Vice-Chair Quinones replied that's a fair budget, but it depends on if that façade goes all the way onto the alley and if the mural will go all the way very top.

Development Services Director Gutierrez relied when they get details.

Chair Swodeck replied if they were going to do the whole wall it's probably a \$20,000 mural, especially if they were to do something that is honoring Magu or anything along that theme.

Development Services Director Gutierrez asked about the theme.

Vice-Chair Quinones replied they have a theme and location for the Magu wall on Second and Main at Pizza, Beer and Wings.

Assistant Planner Barron confirmed if it's on the Arteco wall, the Commission doesn't want there to be a theme.

Vice-Chair Quinones replied he would like there to be a theme. He shared he lived in the Promenade and looked at that building every day, so if he had the choice it would be a train, because the building has cool windows and you can hear the train pass by, so it would be a train right there.

Chair Swodeck stated his recommendation is to make a phone call to tomorrow or Thursday. He stated all of what they Commissioners are saying are just recommendations, but this is a project that Ed Tessier brought to us and is something that was motioned and approved. He confirmed it was very open and very loose and so if Ed has any specifics within that, staff needs to take his lead.

Development Services Director Gutierrez asked if the Commission is comfortable with taking Ed Tessiers lead on the wall and theme and if they approve staff releasing the RFP as planned.

Senior Planner Khan replied the Commission will have an opportunity to get it one more time before they release it.

Assistant Planner Barron agreed and stated the Commission will see it again on June 24, 2019.

Development Services Director Gutierrez reported the Commission should be prepared to see two RFPs and the artist short list on June 24, 2019.

ITEM I:
STAFF COMMUNICATION:

Development Services Director Gutierrez reported the adopted scheduled did not include a May meeting and so that is why they are having a special meeting. She stated there is not an August meeting and asked if the Commission wished to stay dark in August or have a meeting.

Chair Swodeck replied he thinks it's important to have a meeting. He asked who this calendar was adopted by.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied the Commission adopted it.

Chair Swodeck asked when they adopted it.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied she thinks at the end of last year, but they can revisit it. She stated Commissions are supposed to adopt a schedule, she is assuming that happened but maybe not.

Chair Swodeck replied he doesn't think they did that.

Vice-Chair Quinones stated there was so much unknown around this time last year that we didn't have anything to move forward with.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied they will have an August meeting. She reported they have been meeting at the dA Center the last few meetings and asked if they want to continue to have regularly scheduled meeting in this location.

Vice-Chair Quinones replied he likes being here, but he doesn't like not having dinner.

Commissioner Reynolds agreed.

Chair Swodeck agreed, he stated it was nice eating at meetings.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied they can provide simpler food.

Chair Swodeck replied that's great it's always been something simple and close, like El Merendero enchiladas.

Development Services Director Gutierrez summarized she is hearing food is important and that the location good.

Vice-Chair Quinones suggested having a few meetings at different locations such as the Art Institution or Kennedy Park.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied a rotating meeting schedule would be a lot to ask right now. She stated she would prefer a steady meeting location. She commented she likes this meeting because it's out in the public and gets everyone out of City Hall. She stated she knows there are some sound issues here, but overall it has worked well for staff.

There was general agreement from the Commission to keep the location.

Development Services Director Gutierrez reported she will add "meeting location" to the next agenda with the addition of food.

Commissioner Leon asked about two hours length of the meeting and parking.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied she was going to talk with the parking people and will do that.

ITEM J:
COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION:

Vice-Chair Quinones requested a pie chart because there are transparency issues that he'd like to address. He stated he doesn't know how much money is in the Public Art Fund account now and that should be public knowledge. He stated there is also a sunset clause and any money that hasn't been expended in five years.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied there is a \$100,000 that we need to spend by the end of the year.

Vice-Chair Quinones replied that helps to know that there is a timeline to meet.

Chair Swodeck commented the Millard Sheets is going to eat up most of that money.

Development Services Director Gutierrez asked Vice-Chair Quinones what he specifically wants in the pie chart. She stated there is about \$1.6 million in the Public Art Fund currently.

Vice-Chair Quinones asked what the budget was for restorative.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied she doesn't know yet, that why staff are working on the Commission's priority list. She stated the only pieces they know of for the pie chart are the three projects discussed tonight. She stated staff will fill out the pie chart and the Commission works on the priority list.

Vice-Chair Quinones replied those projects fall into a category. He suggested there be three or four categories; new projects, restorative projects, community-based murals under \$10,000, etc. He stated he wants to know how they are planning to spend this money in an organized way and need to know about allocations.

Chair Swodeck agreed. He stated different Commissions will have different priorities, stating a Commission comprised of folks who are all about the old art may spend 95% of the money on restoration not putting any new art out or a Commission filled with young folks may only spend on new art letting everything else fall apart. He stated he is looking for some sort of budgetary equity plan.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied staff can add that to the next agenda as part of the priority list the Commission can develop an equity plan. She asked the Commission to recommend categories to develop the pie chart.

Vice-Chair Quinones confirmed the Commission already voted and approved two spend \$600,000 on the Garey Avenue underpass.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied that was a previous action, but there is not RFP that has gone out.

Vice-Chair Quinones spoke about setting aside those funds for that project in the pie chart. He stated unless the Commission is going to go back and change it.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied the pie chart will change over time as more money is deposited into that fund.

Vice-Chair Quinones requested the pie chart show how they plan to allocate the \$100,000 for the sunset clause.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied that is why they are trying to get those RFPs out.

Chair Swodeck reiterated that the Millard Sheets project along with a few other smaller projects should use the \$100,000.

Development Services Director Gutierrez shared the Millard Sheets will cost about \$60,000 without engineering.

Development Services Director Gutierrez confirmed Vice-Chair Quinones was asking for an agenda item for the next meeting to talk about an equity plan. She stated staff will need assistance in naming the categories.

Vice-Chair Quinones shared at the beginning of each year he emailed his thoughts for strategic planning with that information. He commented he knows staff are limited and work very hard and he appreciates all their good work.

Development Services Director Gutierrez stated she will bring budget details at the next meeting. She noted its perfect timing because the budget is going to be adopted at the next City Council meeting.

Chair Swodeck recommended having a plan for next year of specific locations for art. He commented right now the projects are very Civic Center and Downtown heavy, but he wants to make sure it doesn't come across that they are not focusing on other parts including south and north Pomona. He stated rolling out a strategic plan makes a statement and will show residents are looking within each District for places to put art.

Vice-Chair Quinones shared there was a meeting for the Downtown Specific Plan that included a roadmap. He stated an artist, an art commissioner and someone that loves art he feels its important that there is language that will help the arts to continue to thrive through equitable housing, internship programs or incubators. He commented he hopes the Arts Commission is enthusiastic about art and artists continuing to be an active part in the documentation that's going to be in place for years to come.

Development Services Director Gutierrez clarified Vice-Chair Quinones was referring to the Downtown Pomona Specific Plan update and shared the Planning Division has released a draft that she will send to all the Commissioners. She reported update includes an emphasis on Arts, not only in the Arts Colony but in the whole downtown area, encouraging arts in a multitude of ways such as creative in signage, allowing the concept of pops-up in vacant space, and a placemaking chapter.

Senior Planner Khan added there is also an incentive for artist lofts. He stated if developers convert a specific number of affordable artist lofts then they can get a 15% reduction in parking.

Vice-Chair Quinones commented they are planting seeds for the future.

Chair Swodeck shared there has been a lot of conversation in making sure the artists within the Arts Colony are not displaced as economic growth happens, however, there has also been a lot of conversations about using art to also tell the story of the community from a cultural perspective. He stated when he was reading through the plan there are nuances in there and the language isn't quite there, but it looks very different than it did. He noted to do this work in such a short time in phenomenal.

Senior Planner Khan commented he knows there has been so much waiting, but the timing is working out with the Downtown Plan and the artist short list coinciding at the same time.

Development Services Director Gutierrez shared the comment period on the Downtown Pomona Specific Plan is open through the end of this week. She reported staff plan to take a final draft to the Planning Commission June 26, 2019 and then hopefully to City Council on July 15, 2019.

Chair Swodeck recommended his fellow Commissioners read the Downtown Pomona Specific Plan. He shared Senior Planner Khan posted it on Eye of Pomona which was a huge move of transparency. He noted they can download the whole document and it may take about an hour and half to skim through it. He reiterated they still have a week to contact staff, point out items or ask questions before it goes to City Council.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied staff are listening and taken a lot comment in the last couple weeks and are making changes to make it a better plan.

Chair Swodeck thanks Senior Planner Khan and Assistant Planner Barron for volunteering at the Pomona's Children's Festival. He shared they led a Reimagine Pomona activity with a giant map where the kids made anything Lego buildings or drawings of buildings and then they walked the kids through the process of how

to plan a City and what they think a City should look like. He commented it was a cool revolutionary moment for kids to see the City differently.

Commissioner Reynolds stated she missed the meeting when they redid the priority list for projects, but she is very adamant that the fountains are repaired and restored. She stated that project used to be at the top of the list but keeps getting moved. She commented she supports new projects, but it would be horrible if we let the beauty they already have go away. She requested they talk about it at the next meeting along with the budgeting.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied next month will be busy with two RFPs, the RFQ artist short list, budget and water fountains.

Chair Swodeck asked if putting historic language in the Downtown Pomona Specific Plan protects something as historic even if it is not designated.

Senior Planner Khan replied no, it calls that its old and there are implementation measures on potentially studying, protecting or landmarking those things. He shared there are historic landmarks included (i.e. the Edison District), but if something is not a landmark now the Downtown Specific Plan will not do anything other than encourage staff to investigate that.

Chair Swodeck spoke about having designation with Civic Center but nothing on the Mall and that being something they are going to need to create guidelines for as they move through the process. He stated historic language may help on whether they are able to work on the pumps and the back part of the housing of the fountains or if its just going to be a cleanup and retiling. He stated he thinks that is going to be a very big difference, so he is throwing it out there to discuss.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Swodeck adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m. to the regularly scheduled meeting of June 24, 2019 in the dA Center for the Arts.

Anita D. Gutierrez, AICP
Development Services Director

Jessica Thorndike, Transcriber

The minutes of this meeting are filed in the Planning Division of City Hall, located 505 South Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA, 91766.