

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION
City Council Conference Room
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2019

A: CALL TO ORDER: The Cultural Arts Commission was called to order at 5:40 p.m. by Chairperson Joshua Swodeck.

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

C: ROLL CALL: Roll was taken by Planning Manager Gustavo Gonzalez.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chair Joshua Swodeck; Vice-Chair Andy Quinones; Commissioners Jovani Esparza, Jessica Leon, Dianna Batts, and Venita Reynolds

COMMISSIONERS NOT PRESENT: Commissioners Denise Marquez

STAFF PRESENT: Development Services Director Anita Gutierrez (via phone), Assistant Planner Alina Barron, Senior Planner Ata Khan, Planning Manager Gustavo Gonzalez

ITEM D:
PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dan McIntire, 357 E. Pasadena Street; spoke about the Pomona Heritage home tour. He shared this year is the 35th anniversary on November 2, 2019 they are hosting a mid-century tour called Pomona Fantasy: mid-century modern in Pomona. He distributed flyers for the event. He spoke about all of Wilton Beckett's designs; Pomona's Civic Center complex, Capital Records Building, L.A. Music Center, the Ahmanson Theater and the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. He noted they would be touring the Home Savings Buildings designed by Millard Sheets, the Millard Sheets Mall, the Arts and Enterprise Building plus 3-4 residential buildings, with the DPOA Trolley providing transportation from the Civic Center. He asked the Cultural Arts Commission to help docent the buildings.

ITEM E:
APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Planning Manager Gonzalez noted and agenda error, Item F-1 was moved to Item E-1.

Motion by Commissioner Swodeck, seconded by Commissioner Quinones, carried by a unanimous vote of those present (6-0-0-1), to approve the movement of Item F-1 to Item E-1.

Planning Manager Gonzalez noted the unanimous vote was taken by hand.

1. Approval of Draft Minutes for the Cultural Arts Commission meeting of July 22, 2019, August 13, 2019 and August 26, 2019.

Motion by Commissioner Leon, seconded by Commissioner Batts, carried by a unanimous vote of those present (6-0-0-1), to approve the Draft Minutes for the Cultural Arts Commission meeting of July 22, 2019, August 13, 2019 and August 26, 2019.

Planning Manager Gonzalez noted the unanimous vote was taken by hand.

ITEM F:
PUBLIC HEARING:

None

ITEM G:
OLD BUSINESS:

Planning Manager Gonzalez reported Development Services Director Gutierrez was participating in the meeting via phone.

1. Request for Proposals, Millard Sheets Fountains Update – Discussion.

Alina Barron, Assistant Planner, provided an update on this item.

- The Planning Division received a single proposal from Brian Worley and Spectra Construction.
- The Ad Hoc Committee has requested additional time to conduct in-person interview and additional research on cost estimates.
- Staff are prepared to bring a recommendation to the Cultural Arts Commission Citizens Advisory Committee on October 28, 2019 and if approved that recommendation would go to Cultural Arts Commission on November 25, 2019.
- The Ad Hoc Committee plans to prepare a recommendation for Cultural Arts Commission Citizens Advisory Committee that includes an itemized list of items they would like to see.

Senior Planner Khan mentioned they may be a need to vote to reschedule the November meeting out of Thanksgiving Week.

Commissioner Batts shared during a Saturday night Art Walk she noticed the damage done to the fountains by skateboarders. She commented it made her question spending all this money and asked how they are going to keep skateboards off.

Commissioner Quinones suggested having a curriculum into the schools about respecting art. He stated he would love to do a presentation at the schools, as an Art Commissioner volunteer, to share with young people the importance of maintaining art.

Assistant Planner Barron responded some members of the Ad Hoc Committee expressed that same concern and so they are planning to recommend the installation of skateboard deterrent knobs that are appropriate for the style of the fountain.

2. Pomona Arts Colony Mural Update - The selected artists, David Botello and Wayne Healy, have prepared a summary of community input received at a special event held on Saturday, September 14, 2019, at the dA Center for the Arts. - Discussion.

Alina Barron, Assistant Planner, reported an attachment was provided that included the Community Input document from the artists. She provided a brief update.

- A lot of artists expressed great respect for David Botello and Wayne Healy and voiced full trust to execute the design.
- The artists had people fill out a questionnaire and had a printed version of the mural for people to color and leave suggestions. Feedback included.
 - They wanted to see the Magu car incorporated.
 - They wanted to make sure Pomona was represented in the mural
 - They wanted the dA represented as a place in the community.
 - They wanted to see a bronze plaque with Magu's history.
- The artists are exploring the possibility of doing a vinyl adhere of the mural. They would paint the mural small scale, inside the dA Center and then have it digitally photographed and printed on vinyl then adhered to the wall.
- The benefits of vinyl include the ability to recreate portions and it would only take 1-2 day for installation.
- The artists are doing research to determine what is most appropriate for the wall type.

Senior Planner Khan shared the Cultural Arts Commission Citizens Advisory Committee had discussions about the pros and cons of digital. He reported when staff come back with the final design plan next month, they will have some more information at the Committee level about the legal/contractual language and the rights to the original artwork, once it's been reproduced onto a wall.

Commissioner Swodeck shared the artists age and them being on scaffolding for a long period of time was discussed at the Advisory Committee meeting. He recommended the artists explore doing the work on parachute material or something similar, so they would still paint the mural, but on tables or the floor and then install it in pieces.

Assistant Planner Barron responded staff will communicate that to the artists as a recommendation.

ITEM H:
NEW BUSINESS:

1. Maps on Public Art – Discussion.

Alina Barron, Assistant Planner, reported on this item:

- At the last few meetings and earlier in 2019 the Commission discussed being able to visualize existing art on the public art registry and see where the Cultural Arts Commission spends funding.
- In 2017 the dA Center for the Arts provided the City with the public arts registry and a GIS map.
- Staff are working to collect and manually reorganize that data.
- Staff wants to be able to see where the money is going by sorting the data by Private art, AIPP funded, AIPP private developers and by location and type (i.e. mosaics, sculptures).
- In 2020, staff hopes to have this information available online for the public to use.

Commissioner Quinones suggested using the local universities to help reduce the workload. He shared Cal Poly Pomona or University of La Verne active with service-learning projects and are usually willing to lend students to causes like this for a semester.

Commissioner Swodeck shared in the past they have worked with Planning Commissioner Gwen Urey who teaches Urban Planning at Cal Poly Pomona. He shared he spoke with her two weeks ago about the possibility of using her class in the Spring semester.

Senior Planner Khan replied fortunately Assistant Planner Barron is experienced with GIS and so there is already some methodology about how she is going about this.

Assistant Planner Barron shared there was a good base provided by the student who worked on it from Claremont and they are just altering his work so staff can get the data they want. She noted there are also quite a few works of art that are not included because it hasn't been updated since March 2018. She noted the City does have a Planning Intern.

2. Replacement of P tiles at the Civic Center – Discussion.

Senior Planner Khan reported staff are continuing to research and will have an update and Memo about whether this is possible.

Assistant Planner Barron stated this project may require an interpretation from the Cultural Arts Commission. She stated some of the definitions of art differ when considering public art in a private development versus art in public.

Commissioner Swodeck asked if staff was researching the fact that it's not just creating one tile, but many of the same tile, a reproduction. He asked if that would go to Cultural Arts Commission or Historic Preservation Commission.

Assistant Planner Barron responded it's a reproduction and staff are looking into who designed the P tiles, the architects or an artist.

ITEM I:
STAFF COMMUNICATION:

Planning Manager Gonzalez reported the November 25, 2019 meeting falls during the week of Thanksgiving and asked if the Commissioners would like to reschedule.

Staff reviewed possible dates for conflicts with City Council and noted a special meeting it doesn't have to occur on a Monday.

Senior Planner Khan noted the date change is also to allow for the slight delay in the Millard Sheet fountains recommendation. He stated staff would like to get that project to City Council by December, so if the Cultural Arts Commission reschedules to Tuesday, November 5 then the Fountains could potentially go to City Council at the first meeting of December.

Commissioner Quinones confirmed the item must go to City Council

Planning Manager Gonzalez replied anything over \$30,000 must go to City Council.

Planning Manager Gonzalez suggested rescheduling to November 12, 2019 and the Commissioners agreed.

Senior Planner Khan stated staff will email the Cultural Arts Commission Citizens Advisory Committee to notify them of the change.

ITEM J:
COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION:

Commissioner Quinones reported on a variety of items:

- He asked for clarification on the projects that the Cultural Arts Commission approved in the past, like the \$600,000 for the Garey Underpass. He stated he doesn't know are moving forward with these projects or if they will need to be brought back.
- He reported the Strategic Planning Committee, comprised of Commissioner Reynolds and himself, explored the Holt and Mission corridor to identify locations for possible new murals and will be meeting again this month to explore other avenues. He shared the Committee should have a report in December that includes a list of possible locations for the Commission to prioritize.
- He reported that he has been working with Cal Poly students from Dr. Michael Miller's class, on a possible internship project and they seem most interested to researching the possibility of mural on the Glass House with images representing music artists (Top 100) that have been through the City of Pomona.
- He shared he visited the Fairplex on Sunday, September 22, 2019 and witnessed great work from the School of Arts and Enterprise students. He shared they are working in combination with the Fox Theatre and taking a leadership role in organizing a music arts event. He stated this inspired him and suggested they put out an RFP and dedicate funding for student lead mural art.
- He asked about adding long-lasting identification of who was in office when a mural was approved, like they do with new parks in the City. He asked if his fellow Commissioners felt it was enough to just identify the signature of an artist. He stated he thinks that this Commission is going to be doing a lot of work and if he dedicates another four years, for a total of eight, he wouldn't mind going into the Pomona history.

- He spoke about making a strategic plan and requested to review the budget and discuss how much money has been spent in the last four years on new art and how much will allocated to new art. He stated he hopes in 2020 there is a good balance of how funds are allocated.

Senior Planner Khan thanked Commissioner Quinones for the update on the Strategic Planning Committee. He shared they may not have a meeting in December, given the City Calendar by they could schedule a special meeting. He responded staff can bring back some more info about the underpass.

Development Services Director Gutierrez commented the underpass is still the list and the Fairplex is still interested. She stated the Commission felt there were other priorities this year which they have accomplished. She reported the Magu and the Fountains are the last projects staff committed to getting out this year. She noted the timing is right for discussing what's next.

Commissioner Quinones shared he participated in a cleanup/beautification on Saturday, September 21, 2019 at Martin Luther King park. He reported there were Commissioners from Community Life, Parks and Rec, a Council member and it was a nice to see everyone coming together. He shared he was also able to talk to a lot of community members at the Saturday Art Walk about the Cultural Arts Commission.

Commissioner Swodeck encouraged all the Commissioner to attend the Art Walk. He stated it's a good opportunity to let people know that the City Commissioners care about what's happening.

Commissioner Batts shared she has been a gourd artist since 2002 and for the first time she submitted four pieces of art to the Fair. She reported every piece received a first-place ribbon.

Commissioner Quinones thanked Commissioner Batts for donating a piece of her art to a fundraising action for children at Children Development Center at the Fairplex.

Commissioner Swodeck invited everyone to the dedication of the Wall Flower mural on Wednesday, September 25, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. behind City Hall. He invited everyone to attend a Pomona Poetry Slam hosted by Committee Member David Oliver, a.k.a. Judah's company LionLike Mindstate on Friday, September 27, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. at Millard Sheets Art Center. He requested a discussion item be added to October agenda about temporary art. He reported has been asked about temporary art by Councilmember Preciado and Commissioner Fabian Pavon and he told them it would be on the October agenda.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Swodeck adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m. to the next regular meeting of October 28, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Conference Room.

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.