



505 S. Garey Ave
Pomona, CA 91766

City of Pomona

Cultural Arts Commission

Action Minutes

Chairperson Joshua Swodeck
Vice-Chairperson Denise Marquez
Commissioner Miranda Sheffield
Commissioner Jovani Esparza
Commissioner Jessica Leon
Commissioner Venita Reynolds
Commissioner Dianna Batts

Monday, August 23, 2021

5:30 PM

Via Video Conference

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Swodeck called the Cultural Arts Commission meeting to order at 5:38 p.m. via video conference.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Batts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Joshua Swodeck
Vice-Chairperson Denise Marquez
Commissioner Miranda Sheffield
Commissioner Jovani Esparza
Commissioner Jessica Leon*
Commissioner Venita Reynolds
Commissioner Dianna Batts

*Commissioner Leon notified staff at 5:35 p.m. that she was having technical issues and was unable to log in to the meeting.

Absent: None

Staff Present: Anita D. Gutierrez, Development Services Director
Ata Khan, Planning Manager

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ata Khan, Planning Manager, read an email submitted by Juan Almanza in Spanish asking that the Commission choose a different artist for the mural.

Ata Khan, Planning Manager, read an email in Spanish submitted by a resident stating that his daughter set up a table at the Pomona Art Walk and was approached by DPOA who asked for a seller's permit and proof of insurance.

Gloria Almanza asked the Commission to remove Commissioner Jovani Esparza as a Commissioner because he does not attend the meetings and he is in violation of the Brown Act. She asked that DPOA does not participate in the Pomona Art Walk. She asked that government not be involved in the arts.

COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION

Commissioner Reynolds mentioned that there is going to be a free event at the dA Center for the Arts on October 23, 2021 from 10am-6pm hosted by the East End Artists Creators.

Commissioner Esparza stated that we are having local vendors at the Alley Gallery every second and fourth Saturday of the month. He said that some of the artist that participated in the 31 Flavor Mural will be there.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of Draft Cultural Arts Commission Action Minutes meeting of June 28, 2021.

A motion by Vice-Chairperson Marquez, seconded by Commissioner Reynolds, carried by a unanimous vote of the members present (6-0-0-1) to approve the Action Minutes meeting of June 28, 2021.

Chairperson Joshua Swodeck - yes; Vice-Chairperson Denise Marquez- yes; Commissioner Sheffield– yes; Commissioner Esparza - yes, Commissioner Leon – absent; Commissioner Reynolds – yes; Commissioner Batts – yes.

IN OPPOSITION: None

IN SUPPORT: None

DISCUSSION TIME: 1 minute (6:00 p.m. to 6:01 p.m.)

PUBLIC HEARING

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Appointment of Vacant Seat on Citizen's Advisory Committee.

Ata Khan, Planning Manager, opened the discussion on this item. He said that he reached out to those applicants that applied in February and Mabel, Carly, Renee and two new applicants (Lucy and Jocelyn) are interested in this seat. He also mentioned that Joy McAllister and Fernanda Montana are no longer explicitly interested in this vacant seat. He said there are four remaining applicants that he was unable to confirm if they are interested (Nancy, Oscar, David and Robert) and staff recommends to keep them in consideration. He mentioned that it leaves us with nine applications and mentioned the experience of each applicant to the Commission.

Commissioner Reynolds asked the commission not to consider Robert for this vacant seat.

A motion by Chairperson Swodeck, seconded by Commissioner Batts, carried by a unanimous vote of the members present (6-0-0-1) to appoint Lucia Nagler to the Cultural Arts Commission Citizen's Advisory Committee.

Chairperson Joshua Swodeck - yes; Vice-Chairperson Denise Marquez- yes; Commissioner Sheffield– yes; Commissioner Esparza - yes, Commissioner Leon – absent; Commissioner Reynolds – yes; Commissioner Batts – yes.

IN OPPOSITION: Gloria Almanza spoke in opposition of some of the applicants.

IN SUPPORT: None

DISCUSSION TIME: 22 minutes (6:02 p.m. to 6:24 p.m.)

2. Update on Citywide Call for Artists Process.

Ata Khan, Planning Manager, opened the discussion on this item. He provided an update on the Ad-Hoc Committee and said that we are working on the survey and expect to launch it in three weeks and bring it back to Commission in September. He mentioned that we have received a lot of interest in public art and thought it will be appropriate to do an invite and hold an artist forum in September. He said in the interim we would like to discuss as to where we are right now and what kinds of things we should think about as options. He mentioned that we do have an investment priority list, which list three priorities public parks, public corridors and gateways and neighborhood improvements. He said he would like the Commission to consider three things to the investment priority list the fourth is programming, the fifth is an open call, and lastly maintenance. He explained these topics to the Commission.

Commissioner Reynolds asked if we should make a motion to include these topics to the investment priority list.

A motion by Commissioner Reynolds, seconded by Chairperson Swodeck, carried by a unanimous vote of the members present (6-0-0-1) to include programming, open call and maintenance to the investment priority list.

Chairperson Joshua Swodeck - yes; Vice-Chairperson Denise Marquez- yes; Commissioner Sheffield– yes; Commissioner Esparza - yes, Commissioner Leon – absent; Commissioner Reynolds – yes; Commissioner Batts – yes.

OPPOSITION: Gloria Almanza spoke in opposition of this item.

IN SUPPORT: None

DISCUSSION TIME: 26 minutes (6:25 p.m. to 6:51 p.m.)

3. Maintenance Requests for Existing Public Art.

Ata Khan, Planning Manager, opened the discussion on this item. He said that we received a few maintenance request for the works at the Caesar Chavez Park & Ganesha Park, the equipment room & the Millard Sheets Fountain. He mentioned that our manual allows us to fund this if there is a pathway to do it as long as we do not spend more than 1/3 of the fund on maintenance. He said that we can put together a maintenance request forum and if the artist was involved in the original project, then it could be as simple as the Commission considering that funding and putting some parameters on it and putting out a request. He stated that if there is consensus on this than I can proceed.

A motion by Commissioner Reynolds, seconded by Chairperson Swodeck , carried by a unanimous vote of the members present (6-0-0-1) to approve the maintenance request form for existing art located at Caesar Chavez Park & Ganesha Park including the Millard Sheet Fountain.

Chairperson Joshua Swodeck - yes; Vice-Chairperson Denise Marquez- yes; Commissioner Sheffield– yes; Commissioner Esparza - yes, Commissioner Leon – absent; Commissioner Reynolds – yes; Commissioner Batts – yes.

OPPOSITION: None

IN SUPPORT: None

Gloria Almanza asked a question regarding funding of public walls.

DISCUSSION TIME: 14 minutes (6:52 p.m. to 7:06 p.m.)

STAFF COMMUNICATION

Ata mentioned that the Magu Mural's grand opening took place on August 14, 2021, which staff attended and was well received by the community. He said that it was a \$50,000 mural funded by the public art fund. He expressed that we are excited to move forward with some surveying and having an artist forum to get some investments out the door before the year ends.

DISCUSSION TIME: 1 minute (7:07 p.m. to 7:08 p.m.)

ADJOURNMENT

The Cultural Arts Commission meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Joshua Swodeck at 7:39 p.m. to the next scheduled meeting of September 27, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Prepared by,

Ata Khan
Planning Manager

Miroslava PourSanae
Administrative Assistant