



505 S. Garey Ave
Pomona, CA 91766

City of Pomona

Cultural Arts Commission Citizens Advisory Committee

Action Minutes

Chairperson Joshua Swodeck
Vice-Chairperson Alycia Anthony
Committee Member Dianna Batts
Committee Member Venita Reynolds
Committee Member David M. Oliver
Vacant Seat
Committee Member Julian Lucas

Monday, August 23, 2021

4:30 PM

Via Video Conference

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Swodeck called the Cultural Arts Commission Citizens Advisory Committee meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. via video conference.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Committee Member Batts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Joshua Swodeck
Vice-Chairperson Alycia Anthony
Committee Member Dianna Batts
Committee Member Venita Reynolds
Committee Member David M. Oliver
Committee Member Julian Lucas

Absent: None

Staff Present: Ata Khan, Planning Manager

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gloria Almanza expressed her dislike of the conceptual design plan for the property located at 215 E. Philadelphia Street.

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

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMUNICATION

Commissioner Oliver said that he is part of the African American Advisory Alliance and they have been at the monthly art walk in downtown Pomona.

CONSENT CALENDAR

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Update on Citywide Call for Artists Process

Ata Khan, Planning Manager, opened the discussion on this item. He said that there is an Ad-Hoc Committee by definition three or fewer members of this body that can meet and discuss specific matters such as a call for artist process to essentially help staff conduct business meeting to meeting. He said we met with this committee once about one month ago, and staff is working on a survey document that we would like to release to the public. He stated that the goal is to get from the public a sense of input on the types of art they would like to see and locations, funding and programs. He mentioned that staff is recommending to hold an artist forum in the month of September and advertise through the Commission, Committee and the City as a whole to the public.

Commissioner Reynolds loved the idea and would like this to be ongoing quarterly.

Commissioner Swodeck asked if we could recruit various types of artist such as African American, LGBTQ, Vietnamese, Street and Fine artist.

Ata mentioned that staff would like to be as inclusive as possible, and we have an ongoing list that I can send to the Committee and Commission so that they can help spread the word.

Commissioner Anthony asked for clarification on the definition of an artist.

Ata said that he would rely on the manual for the definition of an artist, which is any individual, collective non-profit, educational group any other entity that is qualified to create a visual work of art and that is any type of art created primarily for visual perception. He mentioned at the same time of it being an open forum he would not want to regulate or define.

Ata mentioned that we have an investment priority list and it established three priority areas, which are public parks, public corridors and gateways and then neighborhood improvement. He said this could only really fund public art in which location, visibility and access matters a

He stated that a few things have changed since this was adopted and we have three priority areas that we have not really grappled with such as programming, open calls or open request to fund things & maintenance of existing public art. He discussed the details of these topics to the committee.

Vice-Chairperson Anthony asked if we had a figure for the annual budget. Ata said we have a remaining balance of 2.3 million from last year, but he does not have the current figure.

Commissioner Lucas asked why we are investing in the parks when Parks and Recreation has its own budget. Ata's response was that their budget is not to fund public art.

Commissioner Swodeck stated that when we do an open call we should couple that with a community forum in the hopes that we collaborate with different groups throughout the city.

Discussion only, no action taken.

OPPOSITION: None

IN SUPPORT: None

DISCUSSION TIME: 51 minutes (4:39 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.)

STAFF COMMUNICATION

Ata Khan, Planning Manager, mentioned that the Gilbert Magu Lu Han Mural's grand opening took place on August 14, 2021, which staff attended. He said that overall it went great and we received a lot of positive feedback. He mentioned that it was a \$50,000 mural funded by the public art fund. He said that staff felt that it resonated well with the community. He mentioned that there is a vacant seat for this committee and we did receive applications that are going to be considered at the Commission level.

Commissioner Lucas asked if the artist Blackie was supposed to present today.

Ata said that Alina did mentioned that the artist wants to conduct a site visit and make inroads to really understand from a community standpoint what you are looking for and I did want to facilitate individual committee members with meeting him either virtually or through social distancing. Ata mentioned he can send an email, but we could not meet as whole committee because of the Brown Act.

DISCUSSION TIME: 2 minutes (5:31 p.m. to 5:33 p.m.)

ADJOURNMENT

The Cultural Arts Commission Citizens Advisory Committee meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Swodeck at 5:34 p.m. to the next scheduled meeting of September 27, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Prepared by,

Ata Khan
Planning Manager

Miroslava PourSanae
Administrative Assistant