

OFFICIAL MINUTES  
CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION  
City Council Conference Room  
MONDAY, JULY 22, 2019

A: CALL TO ORDER: The Cultural Arts Commission was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Chairperson Joshua Swodeck.

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

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, Diana Batts and Denise Marquez.

COMMISSIONERS NOT PRESENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Development Services Director Anita Gutierrez, Assistant Planner Alina Barron, Senior Planner Ata Khan.

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ITEM D:  
PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

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ITEM E:  
APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Approval of Draft Minutes for the Cultural Arts Commission meeting of May 28, 2019 and June 24, 2019.

**Motion by Commissioner Swodeck, seconded by Commissioner Marquez, carried by a unanimous vote of those present (7-0-0-0), to approve the Draft Minutes for the Cultural Arts Commission Meeting of May 28, 2019 and June 24, 2019.**

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ITEM F:  
PUBLIC HEARING:

None

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ITEM G:  
OLD BUSINESS:

None

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ITEM H:  
NEW BUSINESS:

**1. City Clerk Presentation of social media communication and Brown Act - discussion.**

City Clerk Rosalia Butler presented on this item.

- Provided two staff reports that went to City Council in June 2019, the approved City Social Media Policy and Guidelines to Prevent Serial Meetings.
- She requested the Commissioners to read through the Council approved policies and guidelines and return an acknowledgement of receipt for each to the City Clerk's Office.

**2. Approve to permanent location for regular meetings – discussion (Continued from June 24, 2019)**

Development Services Director Gutierrez reported she has not been able to get in contact with AMOCA, the other suggested option. She stated this space is available and asked if there were any other thoughts on meeting location.

Commissioner Swodeck asked if there were any upcoming City Council meetings that bump them from this space.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied no, not until the first of the year. She stated they are booked into the space and spoke about putting the air condition on and a sign on the door for the public through the summer. She stated this could be the Commission's temporary space they reassess at the first of the year. She noted it is much easier for staff to be on site at City Hall.

Commissioner Marquez summarized that the dA was hot with a lot of disruptions, but they had to move because they kept getting bumped because of City Council meetings. She noted parking was also an issue at the dA.

Commissioner Swodeck requested to put this item back on the agenda in October because they will need to begin looking for a different space.

Development Services Director Gutierrez asked for a motion to approve this location until further discussion in October.

**Motion by Commissioner Swodeck, seconded by Commissioner Marquez, carried by a unanimous vote of those present (7-0-0-0), to approve this location until further discussion in October 2019.**

**3. Public Art – Final Design Plan (PUBART 12135-2019) to allow the installation of public art on the front façade of an existing structure in the M-1 (Light-Industrial) zone located at 1845 Mount Vernon Avenue (APN: 8348-004-008, 09, 10).**

Alina Barron, Assistant Planner, provided a presentation (see Staff Report, Item H-3)

Commissioner Reynolds confirmed the "Life is but a dream" text on the top of the building is going to reflect down and make a shadow.

Commissioner Leon asked if there will be a light at night to make it visible.

Julio Simms replied he has no intention of lighting the piece at night. He stated the artwork goes to sleep at night. He noted there are other elements on the façade such as the sheet music and the ceramic tile that will be visible.

Commissioner Batts asked if there was anything to keep birds off the artwork.

Mr. Simms replied no and intentionally because he wanted there to be a perch for birds and he thinks that the shadow of the birds would enhance the piece.

Commissioner Reynolds asked how wide the tile work is.

Mr. Simms replied it is two and half feet wide and seventeen feet long. He pointed out that the architect had intended for that to be a recessed area and he is just taking advantage of that.

Commissioner Swodeck stated he loves the idea of birds, however, for those that work in the building it could be concern because droppings may accumulate where people are walking into the building. He recommended a discussion with the property owner.

Commissioner Reynolds suggested having something to catch the droppings.

Commissioner Marquez asked what type of materials is the "Life is but a Dream" is made of.

Mr. Simms replied it is going to be metal, most likely steel or potentially aluminum and powder coated.

Commissioner Marquez asked about the life expectancy of that material.

Mr. Simms replied it's a very durable.

Commissioner Marquez asked if the sheet music was going to be made from the same.

Mr. Simms replied it will also be powder coated and the ceramic tile is intended for exterior use, so it will all be very durable.

Commissioner Swodeck asked the property owner what kind of lighting is currently in the front of the building. He asked if they have direct lighting onto the building or just up lights.

Sylvia Tran, project applicant, replied they have wall lights on the building, lighting around the entrance where near the 1831 and side lighting around the perimeter.

Commissioner Swodeck asked if there was is a possibility that some of the other pieces could be seen at night.

Ms. Tran replied as people leave, they can see the secondary element that protrudes out where the sheet music ends and there is another light fixture that points that direction which may provide some sort of illumination to the sheet music.

**Motion by Commissioner Quinones, seconded by Commissioner Reynolds, carried by a unanimous vote of those present (7-0-0-0), to approve Final Design Plan (PUBART 12135-2019) to allow the installation of public art on the front façade of an existing structure in the M-1 (Light-Industrial) zone located at 1845 Mount Vernon Avenue (APN: 8348-004-008, 09, 10).**

Ms. Tran spoke about possibly doing an unveiling event and shared how they want to proceed with that.

Mr. Simms stated one of the goals of this program is for Pomona to have art in more unusual places and so it would make sense to announce this piece with a daytime event to let people know.

Commissioner Quinones replied if the business belongs to the Chamber of Commerce there will be ribbon cutting and unveiling and most likely a piece in the local newspaper.

Commissioner Swodeck replied he is sure they can do an unveiling.

Development Services Director Gutierrez agreed and stated staff would be happy to work with the artist to invite the Cultural Arts Commissioners and Cultural Arts Citizens Advisory Committee Members.

#### **4. Pomona Public Library Mural RFP and Pomona Arts Colony Mural RFP update – discussion.**

Assistant Planner Barron provided an update for the commission members who are not a part of the Ad-Hoc committee.

- Staff received nine proposals for the Pomona Public Library and eight proposals for the Pomona Arts Colony.
- The Cultural Arts Citizens Advisory Committee voted to approve two proposals this evening; one for the Arts Colony and one for the Pomona Public Library.
- The Pomona Public Library is expected to be heard by the Cultural Arts Commission at the August 26, 2019 meeting.
- The Pomona Arts Colony has a community engagement element and so the date is to be determined.
- The Ad Hoc Committee selected two for the Pomona Public Library and the one that was voted on and selected was the proposal by Athena Hahn.
- All the proposals are available online and included with the agenda packet for the Cultural Arts Commission Citizens Advisory Committee.

Development Services Director Gutierrez stated staff will email the proposals for the Commissioners to see.

Commissioner Swodeck replied this is just an update because the Advisory Committee just voted on these items at the last meeting.

Development Services Director Gutierrez summarized an artist has been selected for both RFPs and will come before the Cultural Arts Commission for final design.

Senior Planner Khan reported there was also a recommendation by the Advisory Committee for the Arts Colony mural to increase the budget up to the maximum \$50,000 range listed on the RFP.

Development Services Director Gutierrez stated when that item comes before the Cultural Arts Commission staff will bring that recommendation and the budget.

**5. Approve the redesigned Conceptual Design Plan for Tony Cerda Park Mural and request the applicant, dA Center for the Arts, prepare a Final Design Plan and include renderings for the North, East, and West walls – discussion.**

Assistant Planner Barron provided a brief update and timeline for the Toney Cerda Park mural.

- The original approved budget is \$12,000.
- The location is at 450 E. Grand Avenue.
- The selected artist is the dA Center for the Arts and Day One.
- This previous approval was given May 22, 2017.
- The original design done by Mr. Gary Lett and has been redesigned; both designs were displayed.

Commissioner Swodeck asked if any of the people in the mural were significant in the community.

Mr. Lett replied besides the officer they are generic and a representation of the Latino community when they worked on the farms and groves.

Development Services Director Gutierrez asked about the community meetings that were held on this item.

Mr. Lett replied the design was changed at the community meetings because a lot of the individuals felt that Mr. Cerda was not an official representative of the Indian Tribe that was being represented. He shared the dA Center wanted to come up with something still culturally representative of the community and so he started with the Latino community and then on the facing sides they want him to bring in some other ethnicities. He shared he grew up on the street right across from the park and played there as a child. He stated he initially got involved because Tony Cerda and his brother Louis were his mentors growing up with boxing. He shared he took the project on because it is very sentimental. He stated he does not have any other designs right now, because the dA wants to see if this is the direction the community wants to go one. He noted he hasn't received a penny for any of the redesign work and every artist wants to be paid for his services.

Committee Member Toovey shared this project started more than three years ago and all the hurdles were unforeseen. He reported Mr. Lett met with the community three times at the dA Center after the first disagreement.

Mr. Lett reported that last week he met with some of the first individuals and they shared they would like to move away from this design and go with something even more culturally diverse.

Development Services Director Gutierrez asked if there was a specific tribe.

Mr. Lett replied yes but he can't remember.

Development Services Director Gutierrez asked if it was the Kizh tribe.

Committee Member Toovey replied yes it a faction of the Kizh.

Development Services Director Gutierrez confirmed they were not in favor of this design.

Mr. Lett replied that is correct.

Commissioner Swodeck asked if this group had any recommendations.

Mr. Lett replied they want to show all the current ethnic groups in Pomona which is very broad. He shared they could have as many as six or seven on one side and then on the opposite side show a feast. He stated he thought about doing a version of "The Last Supper". He shared there was a female that was a head of the tribe, so he was thinking she might be one of the central images to get away from the patriarch and put in a matriarch.

Commissioner Swodeck commented since there are so many feelings and emotions attached to this mural, he likes that Mr. Lett went with stock concepts. He shared he was talking to Larry Ortega about the history of Twelfth Street and the first houses that were built there, and he loves that this proposal begins to tell that story. He stated this park is special to so many people that he wants to make sure it tells a story but doesn't want it to get so diverse that it becomes diluted.

Commissioner Quinones commented he finds it interesting that this is Tony Cerda Park, but we are not allowed to have a depiction of him. He stated an appropriate mural would share the story of who he was.

Development Services Director Gutierrez asked if the original RFP included a theme.

Committee Member Toovey responded the RFP was generic only stating the location was Tony Cerda park. He clarified that Tony Cerda was part of that Rumsen Tribe and then that became a question and that's where it all blew up.

Commissioner Reynolds commented she thought the last time this was presented to us that the tribes had gotten together and had a consensus over what they wanted.

Committee Member Toovey replied no it wasn't tribal, it was neighborhood. He stated everybody conceded to the wishes of the tribes because it was a very sensitive situation. He reported it all happened during a Cultural Arts Commission meeting where we were set to approve the design that Gary Lett had developed but the Rumsen Tribe and Kizh were there to protest. He noted there was a letter sent ahead of the meeting from a tribal affiliated non-profit and they were seriously objecting and felt that having Tony Cerda's image representing their tribe was not correct.

Commissioner Reynolds stated she agrees with Commissioner Quinones that the park is named after Tony Cerda and so she has always felt that they should have some representation of him at a park named after him.

Commissioner Swodeck stated his understanding was that the tribe didn't have a problem with his portrait but that they did not want him in a setting that associated him with their tribe. He shared a possibility suggested by the tribe was to have a narrative more about his boxing career and what he did in the community. He stated he really likes the idea of telling the story of the park. He asked if Officer Casillas had a connection to the park or if that was just a memorial.

Mr. Lett replied it was just a memorial and he does not know about a connection.



Commissioner Swodeck commented it's ironic to have a police officer. He noted he is not opposed to it because there have been a lot of strides but within that community that was a very difficult area and so he feels like that is also a sensitive issue.

Committee Member Toovey shared in the second meeting they were looking for other images and other ways to tell the story about the park before it was official named the Tony Cerda park. He stated the park has been the center for that neighborhood and there has been lot of rivalry among folks, so he expected a war but since the park was part of Pomona's growing up it was congenial and uplifting and he learned a lot of history.

Mr. Lett asked if Tony Cerda was designated to remain or if there was a possibility of the name changing.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied she doesn't know about any proposed name changes.

Commissioner Quinones replied there has been some talk around the community but nothing official.

Commissioner Swodeck replied he is not saying not to put Tony's name on it but that they need to be aware that if Tony's name is part of it there will be strong pushback. He stated there are people in the community who do not like him. He commented art is a wonderful thing because it's an appropriate place to push back and throw a fist up on occasion. He stated the Commission must decide if this is something they want to put a fist up for or if they would we rather proceed with an essence of what Tony Cerda did in the community and tell that part of the story, so they get less push back.

Commissioner Quinones responded that the old gentleman's face could be Tony Cerda's, and nobody would say anything.

Mr. Lett replied he is hearing that there is a potential for defacing due to opposition in the community.

Commissioner Esparza confirmed Mr. Lett was showing them a depiction of what he got from the community meeting.

Mr. Lett replied yes, this is what he came up with from the community, however, now there is another set of people wanting to do something different. He stated it's the Cultural Arts Commission's responsibility to give directives.

Commissioner Esparza stated they want to keep the people in the community happy because it is a very emotionally connected park and defacing is highly likely. He suggested adding symbols of what Tony Cerda represented into the mural such as the boxing gloves and a ring.

Commissioner Swodeck commented he is normally not a fan of oranges in paintings because Pomona has more than they need, but he likes them in telling the story of this specific neighborhood. He shared that neighborhood was the only section the Mexican American and Chicano farmers could build homes in for many years and this park is right in the center of that. He stated there is amazing history there and some families have been there for generations. He suggested including something about the rivalries that came from that neighborhood because maybe if they gave a nod to that part of history, they would not deface it.

Commissioner Marquez commented all Tony would get then is his name on the plaque. She expressed concerns about investing money to have a beautiful mural just for it to be defaced. She asked about the demographics of that area.

Commissioner Esparza replied it is maybe 80% Hispanic or more.

Commissioner Swodeck noted there are a few blocks that are currently getting a new demographic, such as Cambodians.

Development Services Director Gutierrez asked if the Commission feels there is enough direction on this. She expressed concern that this is going on four years, the number of changes, the efforts the artist has put forth and the budget. She noted this is a set budget so it will be difficult to increase it without doing a revised RFP.

Commissioner Swodeck asked if they could make a recommendation to increase.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied she does not think they can because it would be unfair to artist that didn't bid because of the limit.

Commissioner Swodeck asked staff to check with City Attorney on that because he would like to honor the time and energy that Mr. Lett has provided.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied she will.

Mr. Lett replied that would greatly be appreciated.

Commissioner Marquez stated they haven't discussed the fact that this building needs repairs and what that timeline is going to look like.

Commissioner Swodeck replied they were told the repairs were two years away two years ago.

Development Services Director Gutierrez asked what the original discussion was.

Commissioner Swodeck replied the discussion was that the pillars and the roof had to be redone, but they were not redoing the walls. He reported the original artwork had painted pillars so there were discussions of moving forward anyways and doing a wrap around the pillars.

Development Services Director Gutierrez asked the artist if he was comfortable moving forward with a revised conceptual design, knowing there are outstanding questions. She stated she thinks they need to resolve some of these things first.

Mr. Lett replied he would like for staff to go before the powers to see if there can get a budget increase. In response to the repairs he stated there is a material that can be purchased at Home Depot to fill in some of the dry rot on the beams and then just use a flat paint because there is no major artwork there.

Commissioner Swodeck stated Parks and Rec originally gave them a two-year timeline, however, that two years hit a few months ago and after seeing the budget he can't imagine that something is going to happen in the next few months. He stated they are waiting for the City to figure that out and it could be another two or



three year, so they would be stopping a project in South Pomona, which could really use some beautification, just because of a roof and some politics.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied she can get answers from the park staff and will follow up on the additional budget issue with legal and report back. She suggested the artist pause until staff gets those answers.

The Cultural Arts Commissioners indicated agreement.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied they will continue this as a future discussion item.

#### **6. Downtown Fountains – discussion.**

Assistant Planner Barron provided a report for this item:

- This discussion pertains to a future RFP for the downtown fountains.
- Pictures of the four fountains were displayed from two week ago:
  1. The Sea Urchin
  2. The Blossoming Trees and Horses
  3. The Pomona Roman Goddess of Fruits and Trees
  4. The Diving porpoise
- Staff was unable to locate any of plaques for the fountains; however, the Pomona Arts registry record indicates they were previously there.

Discussion ensued about the plaques being taken recently because Commissioners have seen them, and the registry image was from 2017.

Commissioner Swodeck clarified there were two artists; Edward Stetson and Millard Sheets.

Committee Member Toovey responded he thinks Stetson did The Diving Porpoise, but that the overall Millard sheets was the designer who handpicked individual artists.

Commissioner Swodeck shared the discussion years ago when they were going to repair was if they could touch the fountains and whether they were art pieces because they were created by a reputable California artist.

Committee Member Toovey replied the private development requirements for sculpture that is a water feature, is that all apparatuses can be included in the budget. He stated using that logic the whole fountain is seen as one art project.

Assistant Planner Barron continued with the presentation:

- She reported some of the fountains have knobs to deter skateboarders and that is something that can be included in the RFP.
- A close-up picture of the mosaics in their current condition was displayed.

Commissioner Swodeck asked what the original color of The Sea Urchin was.

Committee Member Toovey replied it was a ground marble and cast almost becoming gold.

Commissioner Reynolds noted there is a drinking fountain that is not in the pictures that needs to be included in the project because it is also Millard Sheets.

Committee Member Toovey reported that the original fountains had pieces that are now spread throughout the city. He reported the Betty Davenport Ford Doves are in the rotunda behind the dais and that The Merman was not the original piece in that fountain, the original Stuart piece was taken out and is now in the Betty Davenport Ford Pool with a plaque. He noted another Betty Davenport piece, the elk or deer, from another fountain is also in the rotunda.

Assistant Planner Barron continued with a list of eligible expenditures per the Art in Public Places Manual and Guidelines. She noted lighting specifically illuminating the artwork itself, identification plaques as required by the Commission and that up to a third of the total in lieu fee may be spent on maintenance. She stated the Commission will need to define what maintenance includes and that should be specifically listed for the artists.

Committee Member Toovey commented a complete restoration to original form could be problematic.

Commissioner Swodeck asked if his fellow commissioners just wanted to just get them looking nice.

Commissioner Esparza and Commissioner Reynolds replied just nice and presentable.

Commissioner Reynolds stated she doesn't think it needs to be a historic restoration; they just need to make it look as good as it possible. She expressed concerns about the mechanics that control the fountains and stated she would like to see those updated, so they have functional fountains.

Senior Planner Khan noted that all the Second Street mural improvements will most likely require a trip to the Historic Preservation Commission, who will decide if rehabilitating it furthers the original intent of the historical structure/sculpture or if it detracting from it.

Commissioner Swodeck commented there have been a lot of changes made over time with pieces being moved and one less fountain.

Commissioner Reynolds agreed and stated they would be out of a budget if they did a full restoration. She thinks they should do something because if not they risk letting this beautiful old art die.

Commissioner Swodeck commented it would be wonderful to get the mosaics to pop again.

Committee Member Toovey reported they are missing tiles.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied the next step is to identify what needs to be restored on each fountain for the purposes of putting together an RFP.

Committee Member Toovey replied there are still artisans living in the Pomona Valley that are very familiar with all the materials and worked on several of Millard Sheets projects over the years.

Development Services Director Gutierrez if any of the Commissioners would be willing to help staff establish a list for each of the fountain.

Commissioner Reynolds replied Committee Member Toovey's registry has of the most information.

Committee Member Toovey replied it's a start and he'd be happy to help.

Senior Planner Khan replied this goes beyond the registry.

Development Services Director Gutierrez agreed and stated they need to identify key pieces and what they want to pop by repainting or add detail to.

Commissioner Reynolds volunteered to help.

Commissioner Quinones asked who had the skills to do that.

Committee Member Toovey replied Alba Cisneros and Brian Worley were part of Millard Sheets studio.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied staff will make an initial list and circulate it the people who have expressed interest in helping. She stated they need specifics on what needs to be repaired.

Senior Planner Khan asked about the process and if the artist would do it all or bring in a maintenance specialist.

Commissioner Swodeck replied most of the time an artist has control and a vision for the site and then they contract with construction and installation people to do the backend.

Senior Planner Khan asked if they can put TBD on an RFP for the dollar amount.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied they need to put a maximum dollar amount and then if they don't get any bids, they can reissue the RFP with an increased amount.

Assistant Planner Barron asked the Commission if they are going to want a different RFPs for each type of work (i.e. mosaics) or one RFP for everything.

Committee Member Toovey responded it may need to be an artist restoration team.

Commissioner Reynolds agree it would need to be a specialized group and they couldn't just open it up to anybody.

Several commissioners indicated they preferred a team approach to this project.

Senior Planner Khan asked for an estimate of the cost.

Commissioner Swodeck replied he doesn't have any true idea but feels it would range from \$100,000 - \$250,000

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied staff can research cost once they have that itemized list.

Commissioner Marquez asked about the historic side because its art.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied the fountains are locally designated.

Commissioner Marquez asked if they can create an Ad Hoc from two separate Commissions.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied no, the City Clerk frowns upon that. She stated the Cultural Arts Commission would create the scope of work for the RFP and then that would go the Historic Preservation Commission for input. She noted it may also have to go through a Major Certification of Appropriateness once done.

Commissioner Marquez asked if there was a way for Commissions to collaborate.

Commissioner Swodeck replied there is, they are doing it with the Poet Laureate, and he can talk about it during that item.

Development Services Director Gutierrez summarized staff will come up with a list for the fountains and email it to Committee Member Toovey and Commissioner Reynolds and then come back the Commission with an itemized list and some ideas for a team approach RFP.

#### **7. Establish Ad Hoc Committee for future art location and themes.**

Development Services Director Gutierrez reported Commissioner Quinones wanted to establish and Ad Hoc Committee to create a future art wish list.

Commissioner Quinones requested volunteers to develop a strategic plan to explore the various areas within our City for the art fund priority list. He shared they have previously discussed entry ways, causeways to the City, off ramps into the City, parks and alleyways. He suggested the Ad Hoc Committee spend time in District and speak to the council members to receive recommendations. He suggested talking to Parks and Recreation Commission and attending one of their meetings. He stated it will be at least a three-month process to engage the community and identify potential locations. He stated the process will help City staff and get things rolling.

Commissioner Reynolds responded that she loves the idea and asked when the Ad-Hoc would be meeting.

Commissioner Quinones and Commissioner Reynold discussed their availability.

Commissioner Esparza suggested each Commissioner go around their district and bring back recommendations.

Commissioner Reynolds agreed that was a good idea, so it is not so burdensome.

Commissioner Quinones asked if staff could help to coordinate calendars to do this.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied everyone can't all be on the Ad Hoc Committee, but the Ad Hoc could ask each Commissioner to come back and report to the Committee during a meeting.

Commissioner Esparza volunteered for the third position on the Ad Hoc Committee.

Development Services Director Gutierrez asked for a motion.

**Motion by Commissioner Swodeck, seconded by Commissioner Reynolds, carried by a unanimous vote of those present (7-0-0), to appoint Commissioner Quinones, Commissioner Reynolds and Commissioner Esparza to the Ad Hoc Committee.**

#### **8. Priority list – discussion.**

Development Services Director Gutierrez gave a report on this item.

- She provided an update on the top five items discussed in the past as a priority.
  - 1) Children's Pomona Library Mural; the RFP is out, and a finalist has been selected.
  - 2) The Tony Cerda Mural was discussed tonight
  - 3) The Pomona Arts Colony mural artist has been selected and final art will be coming to the Commission shortly.
  - 4) The Millard Sheets Mosaic; staff is working on this RFP and are getting a price quote for the mechanical installation.
  - 5) Repair of the Cesar Chavez Park murals; nothing has been done on this because it relates to a later discussion about repair and maintenance versus new projects.
- She shared the Fairplex is still interested in partnering to do the underpasses.
- She stated staff will work with the Ad Hoc Committee to establish what that next six months looks like for RFPs.
- She stated it would be nice to plan out the year ahead because then she can allocate/appropriate that rough estimate of funds from the Public Art fund into each year's fiscal year budget. She reported she put the \$250,000 for this fiscal year.

Commissioner Swodeck shared he was discussing the restoration of the student created mosaic panels with Nancy Tessier and they were never intended to be outside and were not built that way.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied staff will work with the Ad Hoc Committee to create an updated iteration of this list so that the City has a list of restoration and maintenance projects and have been budgeted.

Development Services Director Gutierrez shared the Kizh Nation pavilion is a no go at this point, because there is internal conflict about what that should look like.

Commissioner Quinones asked about the Civic Center water fountains.

Development Services Director Gutierrez responded the water department put an RFP out to restore the Civic Center Plaza and didn't get any takers. She reported there were water funds set aside to restore it and they were also counting on some art fund money. She suggested the Water Department come to a Cultural Arts Commission meeting because the RFP was written was wide open and so maybe everyone didn't know what to do.

Commissioner Swodeck asked if this was part of the designation they are working on for the Civic Center.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied it has not been specifically included, right now it is only City Hall, Library, this building and potentially the Fire and Police Building.

Commissioner Reynolds shared the atrium garden was originally a gazing pool and it would be nice to get that back.

Development Services Director Gutierrez shared a rough draft of a pie chart of the Public Art fund with rough numbers on it for murals, sculpture and maintenance. She stated once decisions are made on what kind of projects the Cultural Arts Commission wants to see and how much to allocate to each the pie chart will adjust.

Commissioner Swodeck stated the Downtown Pomona Specific Plan includes streetscaping elements like cross walk art and suggest this as a pilot project the Commission could use to create inspiration throughout the City.

Development Services Director Gutierrez agreed with that idea. She stated they don't have a mechanism right now to do these types of smaller projects, like painting a utility boxes, so there is a need to establish a permit process. She suggested the Cultural Arts Commission put that at the forefront so staff can release smaller RFPs.

Commissioner Quinones shared he has been working with an artist in Long Beach doing the crosswalk painting and was pleased to hear that most projects are coming in under \$5,000.

Development Services Director Gutierrez asked if that was for painting.

Commissioner Quinones replied yes, a few colors and a special type of paint.



Commissioner Swodeck replied he has seen people do full stencils and then leave them with Public Works to repaint as needed.

Commissioner Reynolds asked to agendaize the P tiles that are all over the Civic Center for the next meeting because it is artwork by Wilton Beckett, and she'd discuss getting those repaired and replaced.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied that would be a more appropriate discussion for the Ad Hoc Committee as a potential maintenance project.

#### **9. Poet Laureate – discussion.**

Duane Smith, Library Board, reported the Library Board intended to put together a committee structure to name a Poet Laureate for Pomona, which included three people from the Library Board and three people from the Cultural Arts Commission, however, during the course of Brown Act training there was a legal ruling that they can't do to that. He stated they cannot have six people, even if it is three from each commission making public decisions. He stated the Library Board could try to find a structure to make this work or proceed on their own. He reported there is an argument for the Library Board to take lead due to money. He stated The Library Foundation is an independent organization, but it has a charter that says it can only give money to things that are Library centric. He reported the Library Board approved a process for the selection of a committee last Wednesday and plan to invite the Cultural Arts Commission to attend a meeting and participate. He noted Commissioner Swodeck was in attendance representing himself. He stated his view is he would rather have a Poet Laureate than spend the next six months trying to figure out how to get everyone involved. He reported that on August 5, 2019 the City Council, as part of their consent agenda, will approve the concept and general brush strokes outline of how to go about having a Poet Laureate.

Commissioner Swodeck added that Cultural Arts Commissioners would be invited guests and discussion related to the Poet Laureate would not be limited to the typically three minutes so there could be more of an open dialogue. He stated this was a creative way to get this moving.

Commissioner Reynolds asked Mr. Smith if he anticipates having a Poet Laureate for this year or 2020.

Mr. Smith replied certainly by 2020 and possibly earlier. He shared the Ad Hoc Committee is going to meet at the end of next week to start talking about what materials they need to publicize. He shared they will be repurposing the Cultural Arts Commission RFQ process for artist selection to select a Poet Laureate.

Development Services Director Gutierrez offered help with the selection process if needed.

Commissioner Swodeck answered the previous question about working collaboratively with another commission and suggested inviting the Historic Preservation Commission to a meeting to discuss and then not limiting discussion to three minutes. He noted it is something they can do within Roger's Rules for one agenda item that is not a violation.

Development Services Director Gutierrez responded that the difference with the Historic Preservation Commission is that the Cultural Arts Commission would need a Major Certificate of Appropriateness to do

work to the fountains. She stated she likes the idea, but it will be a different scenario because there will be an agenda item with an action item, they will both have to vote on.

Assistant Planner Barron stated because of the way the dates fall for the meetings the conceptual design plan for the RFP would come before the Committee and then go to the Historic Preservation Commission as a discussion item with the conceptual design plan for feedback to be incorporated into the final design plan.

Commissioner Swodeck responded they could possibly invite one person from the Historic Preservation Commission to join their meeting to have an open discussion but because they are only one part of that legislative body and then there wouldn't be an issue.

Commissioner Marquez agreed the needed to work collaboratively.

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ITEM I:  
STAFF COMMUNICATION:

Development Services Director Gutierrez provided two updates:

- 1) The Girls Scout mural on the City Hall is nearly complete. Committee Member Toovey shared they will have the painting completed by Wednesday, then give it a day to dry and varnish on Friday.
- 2) Staff are in contact about the Dia de los Puercos mural because the artist is busy, and they are waiting on him to move forward. She is hopeful it will be by the end of summer.

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ITEM J:  
COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION:

Commissioner Reynolds requested that the Citizens Advisory Committee members and staff control the Citizens Advisory schedule better, so the Cultural Arts Commissioners are not waiting thirty to forty minutes outside every single meeting. She commented it is inconsiderate and disrespectful.

Commissioner Swodeck replied Citizens Advisory Committee wants to be considerate of the artists and did start on time but it took longer. He stated sometimes the meetings are done in an hour, but not always. He stated that something they need to discuss.

Commissioner Reynolds suggested the Cultural Arts Commission go first.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied she has previously suggested alternating the schedule for the Cultural Arts Advisory Committee Meeting so its not back to back with the Cultural Arts Commission. She stated there are benefits in terms of timing for item to go to the Advisory Committee first and then to the Cultural Arts Commission. She shared it puts staff in a difficult position to have to bring forward items that were just voted on 10 minutes prior, so staff are open to exploring that idea. She stated she'd prefer not to move it back in time because she already has a lot of late staff Commission meetings.

Commissioner Swodeck replied they could move forward with the conversation of alternating meetings. He shared that originally they were fighting to keep them on the same night because the Commission was so backed up and it benefited us to approve items in the same day, but now that the ball is rolling and there is a system in play, separating those two meetings makes sense. He commented the Advisory Committee often does take time because they don't want to rush the process. He apologized to his fellow Commissioners.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied she will put this as a discussion item at a future meeting.

Commissioner Marquez shared Congresswomen Torres is hosting an important Town Hall based around the 2020 census. She spoke about the importance of the census and making sure that everybody is counted so that communities can get the monies that they need. She shared their District missed out on hundreds of millions of dollars because people were not counted. She noted a big missing factor is counting children which is money that goes to K-12 and meal programs. She shared the Town Hall meeting will be in September in Ontario and passed out a flyer inviting her fellow Commissioners. She asked for RSVPs. She spoke about controlling the attendees to make sure people in the District are benefiting from the information and resources.

Commissioner Quinones reported he created a short video of what he saw in Cali, Columbia. He spoke about striving to be a City of the arts, but noted Pomona has a distance to go in order to compete with other cities. He stated he feels good about being in this room with everyone to make that happen. He reported the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Art Colony is next month and asked if there was a way the Cultural Arts Commission could have a booth to talk to the community.

Committee Member Toovey shared there is a panel discussion at the Black Box Theater for Arts and Enterprise, but he doesn't have many details.

Commissioner Swodeck responded it is a panel discussion inviting artists who have been in the Arts Colony over the years to share stories and participate in a Q&A. He shared the idea was to do it August 10, 2019 during the day in the Black Box Theatre at the School of Arts and Enterprise.

Commissioner Batts stated the Art Walk is from 6:00-10:00 p.m. but she usually starts setting up about 12:30 p.m. and it starts getting busy around 4:00 p.m.

Commissioner Quinones asked if they can do something official in Shaun Diamond Plaza.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied the DPOA runs the Art Walk and suggested contacting Ismael. She stated if the Commission wants help coordinating commissioners to staff the booth, she can send that out for people to sign up directly with Commission Quinones.

Commissioner Swodeck replied he thinks it's a great idea and they should include Advisory Committee Members.

Commissioner Reynolds stated she has a six-foot table with covers if anybody needs to use it.

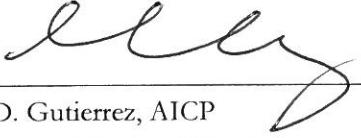
Commissioner Esparza asked if there was a way to pay short list artists \$100-\$150 to paint live at every Art Walk.

Development Services Director Gutierrez replied no because the Art Fund requires permanent artwork. She stated they could talk about that as part of the strategic plan on using the Art funds.

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ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Swodeck adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m. to the regularly scheduled meeting of August 26, 2019 in the City Council Conference Room.

  
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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 Garcey Avenue, Pomona, CA, 91766.