

MINUTES
PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
Thursday, January 18, 2007
Palo Alto Civic Center
250 Hamilton Avenue
Council Conference Room
7:00 p.m.

Commissioners present: Ron Cooper, Paula Kirkeby, Tenley Bick, David Negrin,
Laura Deem
Commissioners absent: Terry Acebo-Davis, Karen Frankel
Staff Present: Linda Craighead, Staff Liaison, Co-Director Arts & Culture
Darlene Katsanes, Program Asst., Arts & Culture

ROLL CALL

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Cooper.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Minutes of December 13, 2006 approved as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Commission reviewed the financial report.

ACTION

MAINTENANCE OF PERMANENT COLLECTION

Commissioners voted to deaccession or retain 4 artworks selected for deaccession.

The following artworks were approved for deaccession: *Untitled #2* by M.B. Connally; *Flying Shoe* by artist Robert Raffaello Dvorak; *Opalescence* by artist Barbara Rees; and *Brown Renegade* by artist Elaine Urban. Commissioner Negrin asked that artists who donate their artwork to the City be given the option to have their artwork returned to them. Chair Cooper wants to sell the artwork at one auction/sale.

Motion: Move that when an artwork selected for deaccession was gifted to the City by the artist, that artist has the option of having the artwork returned to them.

MOVED: Negrin; Seconded: Kirkeby; Ayes: Unanimous.

Next steps: Staff will update the deaccession policy to reflect this change. Letters will be sent to the artists/donors informing them of the intention to deaccession these artworks. After these letters are sent the deaccession paperwork will be reviewed by the City Attorney's office.

BRIAN COLEMAN, *EXCEL*

Chair Cooper reported that Coleman was not available to attend the meeting. Coleman had told Cooper that he sent images of his current work but Cooper or staff did not receive these images. Cooper stated that he withdraws his request for \$5000 in funds for this project until the Commission receives a scope of service and more concrete evidence of Coleman's recent artwork. Vice-Chair Kirkeby asked that a time limit be placed on this project. Cooper stated that this is the last postponement. Next meeting a decision will be made to go forward with this project or this artwork will be put on the list for deaccession.

NON-ACTION

CHILDREN'S LIBRARY MURAL

Commissioner Bick reported on the review of RFP submissions and artist selection for Children's Library Mural. Meeting was attended by Commissioner Bick, Acebo-Davis and Negrin; Linda Craighead, Debra Jacobs, Engineering; Melinda Wing, Children's Library Supervisor; Cathleen Malmstrom, Project Architect, and Sandy Hirsch, Chair, Library Advisory Commission. Four artists were selected to prepare an expanded proposal: Jeff Petersen, Kristin Abbott and Blake Westrate, Steve O'Loughlin, and Julie Wolf. Meeting to select finalist is scheduled for January 29, 2007. Chair Cooper will participate on jury.

MITCHELL PARK SITE

Commission reviewed the revisions to the draft RFP.

DEDICATION EVENT(S)

Commission discussed plans for dedication ceremonies for artworks. Tentative dates are: April 14, April 22 or April 29. Dedication event will travel from one artwork site to the next beginning at the Opportunity Center and ending at the Bishop Building murals. Kirkeby suggested that the Commission should contact the media about the event. Chair Cooper agreed to contact artists to confirm a date for this event. Commission discussed inviting all three mural artists to exhibit as a group in the Civic Center Lobby in April.

BANNERS ON CALIFORNIA AVENUE

Craighead reported that the banners will be installed on California Avenue this weekend. CAADA has arranged for the banners to be hung. Cooper commented that the new banners can be acknowledged at the dedication event.

CALIFORNIA AVENUE FOUNTAIN

Vice-Chair Kirkeby wants the contract with Bruce Beasley over a period of four years to be an action item at the February meeting. Craighead recommended that the Commission determine the total funds including installation needed for this project. Commission willing for the City to enter into contract with Beasley and the Commission intends to continue to look for private funding. Ron plans to contact Councilmember Jack Morton and Mayor Kishimoto regarding CAADA involvement in this project. Craighead reported that she believes that the Commission will stay steady for the next two years. Kirkeby suggested that the Commission discuss attending another CAADA meeting at the February PAC meeting. **Next steps:** Craighead will follow-up with City to confirm what they are willing to be responsible for at the fountain site. She will also check the comprehensive plan to see what may be planned for this area.

CIVIC CENTER PLAZA ART INSTALLATION – PHASE II, SAMUEL YATES

Craighead reported that Yates is now looking at September for phase II. Yates needs to work to support himself. Community members are looking for ways to support Yates in completing this project.

CHARLES GINNEVER SCULPTURE

Commissioner Deem reported that the Midtown Steering Committee is interested in siting the Ginnever sculpture at Greer Park. The question remains whether the sculpture is available to the City.

Next steps: Craighead will research whether HP will agree to pay for the move and installation of the artwork at a new site. She is waiting to find out who is the new contact person at HP regarding this sculpture. Craighead will check in with Parks staff to determine what changes are ahead for Greer Park.

OUTREACH

Chair Cooper asked that an outreach subcommittee be formed. Commissioner Negrin volunteered for the subcommittee. Negrin intends to write a small blurb each month regarding Art Commission news for the Palo Alto Weekly. Vice-Chair Kirkeby commented she will reserve gallery space at Smith Anderson Editions during the month of December open for the holiday party. This might be the right timing for the sale of the deaccessioned artworks.

Next step: Form an Outreach sub-committee.

FIRST FRIDAY PALO ALTO ART WALK

No report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Bick announced that Greg Brown's mural on the Restoration Hardware has been tagged again.

Chair Cooper announced that Greg Brown is dissatisfied with the plaque placement on his mural in Midtown.

Chair Cooper announced that the artworks the Commission created for the Pacific Art League Auction will be auctioned in spring, 2007.

ADJOURNMENT - Chair Cooper adjourned meeting at 8:25 p.m.