

MINUTES
PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
Thursday, May 17, 2007
Palo Alto Civic Center
250 Hamilton Avenue
Council Conference Room
7:00 p.m.

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

ROLL CALL

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Minutes of April 19, 2007 approved as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Commission reviewed the financial report.

PUBLIC ART FOR SAN FRANCISQUITO CREEK STORM WATER PUMP STATION – No report available from sub-committee on RFF. Commissioner Acebo-Davis recommended artist Debra Kennedy for project. She also recommended an artist who serves on the Santa Cruz Public Art Commission. Katsanes reported that Craighead recommends the Commission approve \$7,500 for this project. Commission agreed with staff's recommendation as a good starting point for the budget.

Motion: Move to allocate an additional \$7,500.00 to the project budget, for a total of \$10,000.00.

MOVED: Cooper: Seconded: Acebo-Davis: Ayes: Unanimous.

Commissioners asked to send Katsanes their artist recommendations for this project.

CUBBERLEY ARTIST DONATION – Commission reviewed the donation of an artwork by Cubberley Artist Ken Edwards for the permanent collection. Commissioners asked that, in future, they would like to have a choice of objects from the Cubberley artists.

Motion: Move to accept artwork by Ken Edwards into collection.

MOVED: Cooper; Seconded: Frankel. Ayes: Unanimous.

Next step: Chair Cooper volunteered to send a thank you letter to Edwards.

Commissioner Negrin arrived at 7:20 p.m.

NON-ACTION

CALIFORNIA AVENUE FOUNTAIN – Katsanes reported that Pacific Water Art is asking for a meeting with the artist to discuss the project. Council liaison Barton stated that projects over \$25,000 need three competitive bids. Projects over \$65,000 require a formal bid or RFP process. Chair Cooper stated that if the installation and plumbing costs become cost prohibitive it might make sense to proceed with a Beasley sculpture that does not include a fountain at this site. Barton said that the RFP could ask proposers to use an additive or deductive alternate element to their budget which would show the Commission what the project budget would be with and without the water feature element.

MAINTENANCE OF PERMANENT COLLECTION – Katsanes reported that the CAP assessment is scheduled for July 10. The Commission reviewed images of missing artwork from the permanent collection. Commission asked that these images be sent to City staff asking for their help in locating these artworks.

Next step: The Commission will review for approval Andrea Antonaccio's proposal for collection maintenance at the next meeting. Staff will send an email to staff with the images of missing artworks. Acebo-Davis volunteered for the deaccession committee.

BRIAN COLEMAN – Katsanes reported by Coleman said the sculpture is almost finished. Wall has been cleaned and is ready for sculpture.

BISHOP BUILDING MURAL – Commissioner Frankel reported that Piziali has coated his mural. Katsanes reported that Andrea Antonaccio will be graffiti coating Huffman's mural soon.

GREG BROWN MURAL – Katsanes reported that Andrea Antonaccio will be working on repairing the wall at the Midtown mural site soon.

YOUTH ART PURCHASE AWARD 2007 – Subcommittee reported on Youth Art Purchase Award 2007 winners. This year's Public Art Commission's Youth Art Purchase Awardees are: Brenda Avina, Addison Elementary, 3rd Grade and Jamie Har, Fairmeadow Elementary, 3rd Grade each who received an \$100.00 U.S. Savings Bond; and Noah Rogers, Palo Alto High School, Senior, who received a \$300.00 cash award. The Public Art Commission awarded honorable mentions to: Rachel Gates, Barron Park Elementary, 3rd grade; Crazy Quilt Project, El Carmelo Elementary, 2nd grade class; Kristina Cho, Gunn High School, 11th Grade; Elvira Karlbaum, Palo Alto High School, Senior; Julia LeVoy, Gunn High School, Senior; and Lina Park, Gunn High School, Senior.

Chair Cooper recommended siting *La girafe* by Cooper Elliott in the Civic Center Lobby. Frankel stated her belief that siting the artwork at the Opportunity Center will not give the artwork enough public exposure. Katsanes asked the Commission for clarification on the proposed location in the Civic Center Lobby.

Next step: Staff to explore whether artwork can be permanently installed in the Civic Center Lobby.

MITCHELL PARK SITE – Commission reviewed revised deadlines for Mitchell Park Sculpture Project. The second round of RFP's will be mailed out on Monday.

NEW ARTWORK FOR CALIFORNIA AVENUE_–Commissioner Frankel tabled this item.

DEDICATION EVENT(S) ON APRIL 22 (EARTH DAY) – Commission discussed the success of the dedication event. Artist Fletcher Benton had presented the maquette of Tilted Donut #5 to the Mayor. The Palo Alto Weekly ran a cover story. Chair Cooper thought the event was fantastic. He had hoped more people would attend. The Commission thanked Frankel for soliciting food donations. Chair Cooper recommended giving Benton posters to sister city exchange. Posters can also be distributed at the Fletcher Benton talk (to be scheduled).

RECRUITMENT FOR NEW COMMISSIONERS

Katsanes asked the Commission to send their recommendations for new commissioners to staff. These names will be added to the City's talent bank in preparation of the upcoming Commission vacancies. Barton strongly encouraged the Commission to recruit for new commissioners.

JOINT MEETING WITH COUNCIL

Katsanes reported that the Commission's joint meeting with Council is scheduled for November 13.

ONGOING

RESITING STEVEN J. RAND SCULPTURE

Staff is seeking height requirements for the sculpture from the Engineering Division.

CHARLES GINNEVER SCULPTURE

No report.

OUTREACH

Chair Cooper has plans for the Commission to schedule an art panel for artists Brown and Piziali to discuss their artwork. Cooper reported that the June issue of Sculpture Magazine is featuring artwork by Benton and Thoma.

CHILDREN'S LIBRARY MURAL

Mural painting will begin when building construction is complete.

CIVIC CENTER PLAZA ART INSTALLATION – PHASE II, SAMUEL YATES

No Report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Commission's artwork is on display at the University Art Annex before the Pacific Art League Gala on June 3.

Commissioner Deem is a participating artist at the Sunset Magazine event.

Commissioner Acebo-Davis' artwork is in an exhibition entitled "Cheers to Muses" at the Chinese Cultural Center of San Francisco – June 1 through August 25th.

ADJOURNMENT - Chair Cooper adjourned meeting at 8:15 p.m.