

**MINUTES**  
**PUBLIC ART COMMISSION**  
**Thursday, January 21, 2016**  
City Hall Community Meeting Room  
250 Hamilton Ave  
**7:05 p.m.**

**Commissioners Present:** **Jim Migdal, Mila Zelkha, Nia Taylor, Loren Gordon, Amanda Ross, Dara Olmsted Silverstein, Ben Miyaji**

**Commissioners Absent:** **None**

**Staff Present:** **Elise DeMarzo, Public Art Program Director  
Nadya Chuprina, Public Art Program Assistant**

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Migdal called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

AGENDA CHANGES, REQUESTS, DELETIONS – Commissioner Migdal proposed to move Non-Action Item 3 to be the first order of business after the Staff presentation of the quarterly financial reports.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November 19 PAC Special Meeting Minutes **Moved:** Chair Migdal, **Second:** Commissioner Zelkha. **6 in favor.** Commissioner Miyaji abstained. December 14 PAC Holiday Open House Minutes **Moved:** Chair Migdal, **Second:** Commissioner Ross. **6 in favor.** Commissioner Miyaji abstained.

STAFF COMMENTS: Staff provided an update on the installation and soft launch of Susan Narduli's new-media artwork in the City Hall lobby. The opening event is scheduled for March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Staff informed the Commissioners about the completion of Phase 2 of the Condition Survey for the permanently sited artwork in the City collection by the San Francisco-based conservation firm ARG. The final condition report will be provided for the PAC review in February.

NON-ACTION

3. **1700 Embarcadero Road** – Architects Deeg Snyder and Kristen Cessna of Gensler presented an initial review for public art in private development project at 1700 Embarcadero Road. Snyder provided a background of the development project and informed the Commission that staff would be hired by the developer as Art Consultant. Commissioners reviewed the details of the development project and provided suggestions for possible types, media and themes of public art the three potential art placement sites. The Commissioners suggested that the developer considers solutions for enhancing pedestrian and commuter experience by incorporating art into the elevator tower and / or along the sidewalk of the property. Some of the recommendations included: Highlighting the natural environment of the Baylands with the art, evaluate having multiple elements on the site that could include functional elements, and looking into something playful.

ACTION:

1. **Acquisition of Artwork** – Staff recommended the accession of artworks into the collection by CASP artists Linda Gass, Barbara Gunther, Ken Edwards, and Nancy White. Staff presented a selection of artworks offered by the artists for donation for the PAC’s consideration. The selection included Linda Gass’s *Treatment?*, Ken Edwards’ *Lawn Edger #2* and *Pick*, Nancy White’s two *Untitled* works, Barbara Gunther’s *Fall*, and Sahba Shere’s *Love is Blue* and *Sea Light*. The Commissioners reviewed all presented options and proceeded with a vote. Based on the vote results, Commissioners proceeded with the following motions: Motion to approve the accession of Linda Gass’s *Treatment?* into the City collection of art **Moved:** Commissioner Ross moved to accession the artwork by Gass. **Second:** Vice Chair Miyaji. **All in Favor.** Motion to approve the accession of Ken Edwards’ *Pick* into the City collection of art. **Moved:** Commissioner Silverstein moved to accession the artwork by Edwards. **Second:** Vice-Chair Miyaji. **All in Favor.** Motion to approve the accession of Barbara Gunther’s *Fall* into the City collection of art. **Moved:** Vice-Chair Miyaji. **Second:** Commissioner Silverstein. **All in Favor.** Motion to approve the accession of Nancy White’s *Untitled* (1<sup>st</sup> option) into the City collection of art. **Moved:** Commissioner Gordon. **Second:** Chair Migdal. **All in Favor.** Motion to approve the accession of Sahba Shere’s *Sea Light* into the City collection of art. **Moved:** Chair Migdal. **Second:** Commissioner Silberstein. **All in Favor.**
2. **Election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Public Art Commission** – Chair Migdal talked about overall roles and responsibilities of PAC Chair and Vice-Chair and the election protocol. Commissioner Gordon and Vice-Chair Miyaji nominated Jim Migdal as the Chair of the Commission. No other nominations were announced. Chair Migdal accepted the nomination. Commissioner Silverstein moved to close the nomination. Commissioner Taylor second. **Vote:** Commissioners voted unanimously for Chair Migdal to continue as the Chair in 2016. Chair Migdal nominated Ben Miyaji as the PAC Vice-Chair. Vice-Chair Miyaji accepted the nomination. Chair Miyaji moved to close the nomination. Chair Migdal second. **Vote:** Commissioners voted unanimously for Vice-Chair Miyaji to resume as the Vice-Chair in 2016.

NON-ACTION:

4. **Update on the status of the Highway 101 bike / pedestrian bridge project** - Staff informed the Commission that the City relaunched an open call for designers and architects. Once the finalist is selected, the Public Art Program will submit a call for artists to integrate public art in the bridge overall design.
5. **Update on the status of Susan Narduli’s artwork in the lobby of City Hall** – Staff informed the Commission that the new-media artwork was “soft-launched” in January. Staff and the artist are in the process of final tuning prior to the official opening event scheduled for March 2, 2016. Staff provided explanation how the artwork functioned and invited the Commissioners to submit their photos and content. Content can be submitted on-site using the touch screen or remotely via [www.conversationpaloalto.gov](http://www.conversationpaloalto.gov).

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Staff announced the meeting on January 27, 6-7pm. with the Golf Course Advisory Committee and artist Joyce Hsu to discuss the public art commission for the Palo Alto Golf

Course. Staff also announced the January 28 final meeting with the PAMP Advisory Committee to review the Draft Master Plan. Staff announced the submission opportunity for Public Alchemy, a community exhibition organized by CASP artists in February – March, 2016.

**FOR YOUR CALENDAR**

Next Meeting: February 18, 2016 – Regular Public Art Commission Meeting

February 1, 2016 – Study Session with City Council at 6pm. Special guests: Randy Cohen, VP of Research and Policy, AFTA, and Craig Watson, ED of California Arts Council.

Meeting adjourned 8:57 PM by Chair Migdal.