

**MINUTES**  
**PUBLIC ART COMMISSION**  
**Thursday, March 21, 2013**  
Palo Alto Civic Center  
Council Chambers  
250 Hamilton Avenue  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Commissioners present:** Larisa Usich, Trish Collins (arrived at 7:15), Vikki Tobak (arrived at 7:08), Ally Richter, Amanda Ross (arrived at 7:11), Kathleen Kavanaugh

**Commissioners absent:**

**Staff present:** Elise Griffin DeMarzo, Staff Liaison to the Commission  
Darlene Katsanes, Program Assistant II

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 7:07pm.by Chair Usich  
Commissioner Tobak arrived at 7:08 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioner Walsh’s last meeting was last month. She accepted a new position and has relocated.

ADDITIONS, CHANGES, REQUESTS, DELETIONS – Items 2 and 3 were deleted from the agenda.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - None

MINUTES – Commissioners reviewed the minutes of February 21, 2013 and opted to table the minutes for the next meeting.

Commissioner Ross arrived at 7:11

FINANCIAL REPORT – Commissioners reviewed the budgets.

Commissioner Collins arrived at 7:15

ACTION

PALO ALTO HIGH SCHOOL MURAL – Michael Wang, Senior, Palo Alto High School proposed the idea of the senior class creating a mural project located at the northern tunnel Embarcadero Tunnel that would involve each senior class for the next decade. He said that they have the principal’s approval and have spoken with Public Works staff on maintenance issues. Wang commented that they have a discretionary fund so won’t need Commission funds. Seniors Lisie Sabbag and Claire Marchon were present to present the design for the mural. The senior class of 2013 will be the first senior class to design and paint a mural with a Viking theme.

**Motion: Move to approve the mural project as presented with the caveat that the seniors return each year for approval.**

**Moved: Richter; Seconded: Richter: Ayes: Unanimous.**

**GUNN HIGH SCHOOL MURAL PRESENTATION** – pulled from agenda

**MUNICIPAL ART PLAN** – pulled from agenda

**MAINTENANCE OF COLLECTION** – DeMarzo reported that a conservation report regarding Digital DNA will be completed by Jonathan Fisher. We will move ahead with the signage at Byxbee Park. The results ready at next meeting. A base for Skyhook Boca Raton will be needed. Peter Shire has agreed to create a

49 new base out of stainless for \$3,500. We may want to increase the funds in case there are additional  
50 costs. DeMarzo asked for an additional \$2,500 for crew time for working on maintenance projects.  
51 **Move to allocate \$4,000 for a base for Skyhook Boca Raton and additional \$2,500 for crew time.**  
52 **Moved: Collins: Seconded: Usich: Ayes: Unanimous**  
53

54 **Council member Holman joined the meeting at 7:55.**  
55

56 **ACCESSION OF ARTWORK BY JANE GALLAGHER** – Commission reviewed the donation from an  
57 anonymous donation of an artwork entitled “Pescadero Estuary”. Richter asked that this item be tabled  
58 so the subcommittee has time to review the donation request.  
59

60 **TEMPORARY ART IN UNIVERSITY AVENUE TUNNEL** – **Commissioner Tobak announced regarding recent**  
61 **meeting with Stanford about the tunnel. A RFQ will be released next week. Commissioner Tobak asked**  
62 **for funds for up to five proposals to be paid \$700 each for a total of \$3,500.**

63 **Motion to approve up to \$3,500 for artist stipends for temporary art in University Avenue Tunnel**  
64 **project.**

65 **Moved: Usich: Seconded: Kavanaugh. Ayes: Unanimous.**  
66

#### 67 **NON-ACTION**

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69 **COLOR OF PALO ALTO** – DeMarzo reported that Yates is meeting with the attorneys to discuss the  
70 licensing agreement. She commented that Yates wasn’t hired as a photographer but as an artist to do a  
71 temporary artwork. He owns the copyright.  
72

73 **UPDATE ON PROCEDURE DOCUMENTS** – Chair Usich reported that she and Vice-Chair Ross have been  
74 working on these documents. They would like to have a drop box for use in retrieving these documents.  
75 These documents will eventually replace the Commissioner Handbook. Updating these documents will  
76 ultimately make the Commission’s efforts more efficient. Chair Usich asked for the Commission for any  
77 input.  
78

79 **MITCHELL PARK LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY CENTER** – DeMarzo reported that a small group went out  
80 to the Beasley studio. The foundation for the Beasley sculpture at Mitchell Park has been poured.  
81 DeMarzo commented that she led a large group of Park’s professionals on a public art tour at Mitchell  
82 Park. Commissioners discussed giving tours in future at Mitchell Park. Commissioner Kavanaugh  
83 suggested setting up an audio tour since there is a window of time before Mitchell Park reopens to  
84 prepare for this. A new Mitchell Park Launch sub-committee was formed: Usich, Kavanaugh, and Collins.  
85

86 **101 BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE** - DeMarzo reported that she met with staff and the Project Manager  
87 and no design has been selected yet. They are in the gathering information stage and will proceed with a  
88 RFQ for selecting an engineering/design team. Once this team is selected the next step would be to have  
89 the design teams input on artist RFQ. The goal is to have an artist selected and embedded in the project  
90 as early in the process as possible. There is \$60,000 - \$80,000 available for an art element.  
91

92 **DATABASE** – Katsanes reported that she has been making progress with loading images and copyright  
93 permission information into the database. She has updated approximately 90 copyright permissions.  
94 Many of the remaining permission sheets have been returned with no forwarding address information.  
95 Staff is conducting further internet research to locate these artists.  
96

97 **CALIFORNIA AVENUE TUNNEL** – Collins reported that she has learned that the California Avenue Tunnel  
98 will not be opened up as part of a construction plan. The Commission can move ahead with exploring  
99 ideas for maintaining the artwork there. Commissioners Richter and Collins and asked for another  
100 member. Commissioner Ross is considering joining the subcommittee. Subcommittee will meet and talk  
101 about fund raising and other issues and report back.

102  
103 **FOR YOUR CALENDAR**

104  
105 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

106 Chair Usich announced the recently acquired sculpture by Bill Barrett, Eastern Memories now in  
107 Chambers.

108 Holman announced that Parks and Rec are working on an app for parks.

109  
110 **ADJOURNMENT** - Meeting adjourned by Chair Usich at 8:53 p.m.