

MINUTES
PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
Thursday, July 17, 2014
Palo Alto Civic Center
Council Conference Room
250 Hamilton Avenue
7:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Ben Miyaji , Nia Taylor, Dara Silverstein, Jim Migdal

Commissioners Absent: Vikki Tobak, Kathleen Kavanaugh, Amanda Ross

Staff present: Elise DeMarzo, Public Art Program Manager
Nadya Chuprina, Public Art Program Assistant II

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by Vice Chair Miyaji

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – none.

ADDITIONS, CHANGES, REQUESTS, DELETIONS – none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – **Moved:** Commissioner Migdal moved to approve the June 19 Minutes.
Second: by Commissioner Silverstein. **All in favor.**

FINANCIAL REPORT – DeMarzo provided an update for the CIP and Maintenance Budgets for the new fiscal year.

STAFF COMMENTS – DeMarzo updated the Commission on the Joe O’Connell’s and Blessing Hancock’s *Brilliance* installation. Six sculptures were installed on July 9 and 10 in the plaza between the Palo Alto Art Center and Rinconada Library. DeMarzo also reported on the ongoing mural installation of *Currents* by artist Martin Webb at the recycled water tank of the Water Quality Control Plant and Household Hazardous Waste facility.

ACTION

1. Municipal Art Plan – Vice Chair Miyaji led discussion and recommended the approval of the Municipal Art Plan for FY2015. - **Motion:** Commissioner Silverstein moved that the Commission the Municipal Art Plan for FY2015. **Second** by Commissioner Migdal. **All in favor.**
2. City Hall New Media Artwork – Staff provided background of the City Hall New Media project and presented a conceptual proposal by artist Susan Narduli to create *Conversations*, an interactive new media installation in the City Hall lobby. Staff recommended the approval of Susan Narduli as the project artist and an allocation of \$25,000 to complete the funding for the project with contingency funds set aside. **Motion:** Commissioner Taylor moved to approve staff’s recommendation. **Second** by Commissioner Migdal. **All in favor.**

3. Confluence by Michael Szabo – Staff updated the Commission on the status of the project and recommended the approval of \$12,250 for additional work required for the fountain by Michael Szabo at the intersection of California Avenue and Park. **Motion:** Commissioner Taylor made a motion to approve additional funds for the project. **Second:** Commissioner Silverstein. **All in favor.**

NON-ACTION

4. Initial Review for the Private Development Project at 429 University Avenue – Architect Ken Hayes of Hayes Group and developer Elizabeth Wong provided a presentation of the development project at 429 University Avenue. Commissioners reviewed the details of the development project and provided feedback for possible types and themes of public art onsite. Commissioners raised concerns about the proposed placement for public art in the private lobby / elevator area, and whether the art would meet the requirements of the ordinance. There was a suggestion to consider alternative sites for art placement. The owner assured the Commission that the art would be accessible at least 40 hours per week.
5. Initial Review of the Private Development Project at 441 Page Mill Road – Developer Norm Schwab, Alena Campagna of Stoecker & Northway Architects and Paula Kirkeby of Smith Andersen Editions gave a presentation of the development project. Kirkeby, the art consultant for the development project, presented possible artworks by artist Fletcher Benton. Commissioners reviewed the details of the development and possible art placement of a grouping of three smaller sculptures and possibly one larger piece on the Page Mill side of the property.
6. Public Art Master Plan – Staff updated the Commission on the status of the Public Art Master Plan call draft and asked the Commission to provide their feedback by Friday July 25th.
7. Subcommittee Reports: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Staff asked the Commissioners to volunteer in the event coordination for the opening of Mitchell Park. Staff also announced the upcoming Midtown Residents Association Ice Cream Social on September 14 and invited the Commissioners to take part in the event.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Next Meeting: August 21, 2014 7:00PM at Council Conference Room

ADJOURNMENT- The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 PM by Vice Chair Miyaji.