

MINUTES
PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
Thursday, August 21, 2014
Palo Alto Civic Center
Council Conference Room
250 Hamilton Avenue
7:00 p.m.

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

Commissioners Absent: Vikki Tobak, 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 7:01 pm by Chair Kavanaugh

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – Vice Chair Miyaji announced a launch of the Utility Box Project. The project will provide an opportunity for the Bay Area artists to transform utility boxes by painting or wrapping them. The commission is currently accepting applications. The call will be closed on September 5, 2014.

ADDITIONS, CHANGES, REQUESTS, DELETIONS – none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – **Moved:** Vice Chair Miyaji moved to approve the July 17 Minutes.
Second: by Commissioner Migdal. **All in favor.**

FINANCIAL REPORT – DeMarzo provided a detailed update for the CIP, municipal percent for art, and Maintenance Budgets for the new fiscal year.

STAFF COMMENTS – DeMarzo updated the Commission on the repair of Jane Zalenski’s *From Sea to Shining Sea*, which was damaged due to a faulty water sprinkler. DeMarzo also reported on the de-installation of *Forgotten Language* by artist Sayed Alavi at the City Hall lobby. The artwork to be re-installed after the completion of the renovation project.

ACTION

1. Accession of artwork into the collection – Staff provided background on Charon Chinen’s artworks *Pod I* and *Pod V* donated by the artist to the City Collection in 2008. Due to the fragile nature of the sculptures and their large dimensions, it has been impossible to find a suitable space to exhibit the sculptures. Staff recommended the deaccession and return of the two sculptures in exchange for a new artwork to be donated to the City Collection. The artist provided a choice of two new artworks - **Motion:** Commissioner Migdal moved that the Commission approves the deaccession of Chinen’s *Pod I* and *Pod V* and accepts a new artwork titled *Kokopelli, 2010* into the collection. **Second** by Commissioner Silverstein. **All in favor.**

2. Allocation of Funds for Oliveira sculpture - Staff provided background on the installation of Nathan Oliveira's *Universal Woman* in the Palo Alto Art Center's sculpture garden and recommended an allocation of funds for a new ground lighting, drip irrigation system and landscape around the sculpture to prevent water damage to the artwork. **Motion:** Vice Chair Miyaji moved to approve staff's recommendation to allocate \$4,910 for the change of irrigation surrounding the sculpture and addition of lighting. **Second** by Chair Kavanaugh. **All in favor.**
3. CIP Budget Allocations – Staff provided background information on the Artists Reaching Communities and the funds earmarked in the CIP budget. Chair Kavanaugh led a discussion regarding the reallocation of funds for the public art master plan. **Motion:** Vice Chair Miyaji made a motion to approve reallocation of \$25,000 from the Artists Reaching Communities project to the Master Planning project. **Second:** Commissioner Silverstein. **All in favor.**

NON-ACTION

4. Public Art Master Plan – Staff provided update on the status of the public art master plan call. The RFP was released on August 20. The Master Plan will provide direction to the Public Art Program Staff, the Public Art Commission, and the City Council on the planning and processes necessary to further develop, administer and maintain a dynamic public art program in the City of Palo Alto.
5. Subcommittee Reports:

Innovation – Commissioner Migdal provided a status update on his research of mobile applications to facilitate public accessibility of the public art collection. Commissioner Migdal is testing various applications to determine the most appropriate one to accommodate the needs of the collection.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – DeMarzo asked the Commissioners to volunteer in the event coordination for the opening of Mitchell Park. Commissioners Migdal and Taylor volunteered to participate. DeMarzo also announced the opportunity for a special meeting with the City Attorney to further discuss percent for art in private development ordinance implementation. Chair Kavanaugh announce the upcoming opening of the Anderson Collection at Stanford University in September. DeMarzo announced the upcoming Festival of the Arts to take place in downtown Palo Alto on August 23-24.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Next Meeting: September 18, 2014 7:00PM at Council Conference Room

ADJOURNMENT- The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM by Chair Kavanaugh.