

MINUTES
PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
Thursday, September 18, 2014
Palo Alto Civic Center
Council Conference Room
250 Hamilton Avenue
7:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Kathleen Kavanaugh, Vikki Tobak, Nia Taylor, Jim Migdal

Commissioners Absent: Amanda Ross, Ben Miyaji, Dara Silverstein

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 7:03 pm by Chair Kavanaugh

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – Community member Mark Weiss invited the public and Commissioners to attend a free concert and artist performance at Lytton Plaza on September 20.

ADDITIONS, CHANGES, REQUESTS, DELETIONS – Non-Action Item 2 was cancelled.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – **Moved:** Chair Kavanaugh moved to approve the August 21 Minutes.
Second: by Commissioner Migdal. **All in favor.**

FINANCIAL REPORT – DeMarzo provided a detailed update for the CIP and Maintenance budgets.

STAFF COMMENTS – DeMarzo announced a launch of the Bike Bridge Design Competition. The new bridge will cross highway 101 into the Baylands. The construction project will have a percent for art allocation. DeMarzo also reported on the Midtown Residents Annual Ice Cream Social event. Vice Chair Miyaji and commissioner Migdal were present at the event to engage with the public. DeMarzo also provided an update on the upcoming installation of the temporary public art project by Tony Discenza. The installation is tentatively scheduled for September 29.

ACTION

1. Acquisition of artwork into the collection – Staff provided background on artist and war veteran Ehren Tool. In June, 2014 Tool was the Artist-in-Residence at the Palo Alto Art Center where he produced several hundreds of wheel-thrown ceramic vessels using imagery and objects collected from local community members. Four cups produced during his residency were offered by the artist to the City’s collection. Staff recommended the Commission to accept the donation of the artworks into the City collection. - **Motion:** Chair Kavanaugh moved that the Commission accept the donation of four ceramic cups into the collection. **Second** by Commissioner Tobak. **All in favor.**

Community member Mark Weiss spoke about the work of artist and war veteran Ehren Tool and encouraged the Commission to extend their support to Tool and another war veteran and artist Jim Hardy.

NON-ACTION

3. Public Art Master Plan – Staff provided update on the status of the public art master plan call. The RFP was released on August 20 with the deadline for submissions scheduled for September 23.

Community Member Mark Weiss commented on the launch of the Public Art Master Plan call and welcomed the initiative.

4. Subcommittee Reports:

Governance – Chair Kavanaugh announced the upcoming PAC special meeting to discuss the input and approval process by the PAC for public art in private development. Chair Kavanaugh encouraged the Commissioners to review the Ordinance in preparation to the discussion with the City Attorney Molly Stump.

Innovation – Commissioners Tobak and Migdal will collaborate to create presentations of innovative public art projects created nationwide and abroad. The future presentations take form of in-depth case studies focusing on temporary projects and innovative funding and outreach models. Commissioner Migdal also provided an update on his research of mobile applications to facilitate public accessibility of the public art collection.

Ad-Hoc – Mitchell Park Library and Community Center Opening Event – Staff provided an update on the development process of the working group for the opening event. The reception will be held on December 6 from 11 – 4pm. Commissioner Taylor will take part in the event coordination and volunteer during the event.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – DeMarzo announced the upcoming Board and Commissions recognition BBQ on September 20 at Foothills Park. DeMarzo announced the upcoming interactive public art project *Truth Booth* by Cause Collective that takes place at Bowman School at 4000 Terman Drive in Palo Alto. DeMarzo invited the Commissioners to attend the special tour of the Anderson Collection at Stanford University on September 21. DeMarzo announced the upcoming Mill Valley Film Festival on October 5.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Next Meeting: October 16, 2014 7:00PM at Council Conference Room

PAC Special Meeting: September 22, 2014 12:30PM at Lucie Stern Community Center.

ADJOURNMENT- The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 PM by Chair Kavanaugh.