



**MINUTES**  
**PUBLIC ART COMMISSION**  
**MEETING**  
**Thursday, May 19, 2022**  
**Council chamber & Virtual**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Commissioners Participating:** Nia Taylor, Loren Gordon, Lisa Waltuch, Ben Miyaji

**Commissioners Absent:** Hsinya Shen

**City Council Participating:** Lydia Kou, Vice Mayor

**Staff Present:** Elise DeMarzo, Public Art Program Director  
Kristen O’Kane, Community Services Director  
Nadya Chuprina, Public Art Program Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

AGENDA CHANGES, REQUESTS, DELETIONS – None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - PAC Regular Meeting April 21, 2022 **Moved:** Commissioner Miyaji,  
**Second:** Vice Chair Gordon. **All in Favor.**

STAFF COMMENTS – Staff announced the upcoming CASP Open Studios event on June 4, and the ongoing call for artists for subsidized by the City artist studios with CASP for the 2023-26 term. Staff also provided dates for upcoming community engagement workshops by Rayos Magos as part of his King Artist Residency.

**ACTION:**

1. **Adoption of Resolution** – Commissioners reviewed the resolution authorizing the use of teleconferencing for the Public Art Commission meetings during Covid-19 state of emergency. On September 16, 2021, the Governor signed AB 361, a bill that amends the Brown Act, effective October 1, 2021, to allow local policy bodies to continue to meet by teleconferencing during a state of emergency without complying with restrictions in State law that would otherwise apply, provided that the policy bodies make certain findings at least once every 30 days. **Moved:** Commissioner Miyaji moved to approve the resolution authorizing the use of teleconferencing for the Public Art Commission meetings. **Second:** Vice Chair Gordon. **All in Favor.**
2. **Election of Officers** – Chair Taylor described the general duties and responsibilities of the Chair to the Commissioners. Chair Taylor opened the floor to nominations for the position of the PAC

Chair. Vice Chair Gordon nominated Nia Taylor. Chair Taylor accepted the nomination. No other nominations followed. **Moved:** Vice Chair Gordon moved to close nominations. **Second:** Commissioner Miyaji. **All in Favor.** Commissioners submitted their votes to staff. Staff announced **Chair Taylor as the new PAC Chair with 4-0 votes.** Chair Taylor opened the floor to nominations of Vice Chair. Commissioner Miyaji nominated current Vice Chair Loren Gordon for the position of Vice Chair. Loren Gordon accepted the nomination. Vice Chair Gordon nominated Commissioner Waltuch for the position of Vice Chair. Commissioner Waltuch accepted. No other nominations followed. **Moved:** Commissioner Miyaji moved to close nominations. **Second:** Vice Chair Gordon. **All in Favor.** Commissioners submitted their votes to staff. Staff announced a tie in votes for the two nominees. Director O’Kane advised the Commission that the PAC members may vote again until the tie is broken. Vice Chair Gordon then withdrew from the running for Vice Chair. Commissioners submitted their ballots staff. Staff announced **Commissioner Waltuch as the new Vice Chair with 4-0 votes.**

3. **California Avenue Improvements** – Staff provided an overview of the California Ave continued closure to vehicular traffic in order to support local businesses and encourage pedestrian experience along the commercial corridor. Staff shared images of portable street barricades and explained a desire expressed by city staff and community for coherent artist designed treatments for the street barriers along California Ave. Staff requested that PAC approve an allocation of funds in the amount of up to \$4,000 to commission an artist to create original digital artwork for the series of street barriers. **Moved:** Commissioner Gordon moved to approve funding for the project. **Second:** Commissioner Miyaji. **All in Favor.**
  
4. **New Acquisition of Artwork** – - Staff provided an overview of Cubberley Artist Studio Program artist Elizabeth Bennett’s statement and three artworks from the series titled *Picking Up the Pieces*, offered for donation to the City’s public art collection. Staff made a recommendation to accept the artwork donation. **Moved:** Commissioner Miyaji moved to approve the gift of the three artworks to the City’s collection. **Second:** Vice Chair Waltuch. **All in Favor.**

**NON-ACTION ITEM:**

5. **ArtLift Microgrants** – Staff updated the Commissioners on the goals and vision of the ArtLift Microrgrants program and provided an overview of the artist selection process. Staff announced 10 finalist projects and artists recommended by the selection panel for funding. Staff provided a timeline for the realization of the projects in late summer – fall 2022. Vice Chair Waltuch, who served on the selection panel, shared about her first panel experience with the Commissioners.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – None.

CALENDAR: Next PAC Regular Meeting – June 16 at 7 pm (hybrid) at City Hall Council Chambers.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:52 pm by Chair Taylor.