



MINUTES
PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
MEETING
Thursday, March 16, 2023
Community Meeting Room & Virtual
7:00 p.m.

Commissioners Participating: Lisa Waltuch, Loren Gordon, Nia Taylor, Hsinya Shen, Ben Miyaji (virtually)

Commissioners Absent: none

Staff Present: Elise DeMarzo, Public Art Program Director
Nadya Chuprina, Public Art Program Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

AGENDA CHANGES, REQUESTS, DELETIONS – Commissioner Miyaji requested that Item 1 to be moved to the end of the meeting after Item 4.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - PAC Regular Meeting February 16, 2023 **Moved:** Vice Chair Waltuch; **Second:** Chair Taylor. **All in Favor.**

STAFF COMMENTS – Staff provided an update on the Meet the Artists event for public art at Boulware Park that took place virtually March 8. The recorded video is available on the Public Art website and community members are invited to submit their input to staff. Staff also provided a report and shared images for the *Universal Woman* conservation treatment.

ACTION:

2. **Fire Station 4** – Staff provided an overview of the artist selection process for public art associated with the Fire Station 4 construction project, including the layout and architectural features of the new facility, and areas for potential opportunities for the integration of public art. A roster of 20 artists from the 2021/23 Prequalified Artist Pool were reviewed by a seven-member selection panel who recommended Stephen Galloway as the project artist. Staff recommended that the PAC approve Stephen Galloway as the project artist. **Moved:** Commissioner Gordon moved to approve the artist. **Second:** Commissioner Shen. **All in Favor.**
3. **California Ave District Mural** – Staff provided an overview of the artist selection process for artists to create new long-term temporary murals in the California Ave District in Summer 2023. Artist Nicole Ponsler was recommended by the selection panel and then selected by the property owner for the California Ave Central HOA site and artist Olivia Losee-Unger was identified for the wall of Izzy’s Brooklyn Bagels site. Additionally, the City identified an area for a ground

scape mural to be painted by an artist with the participating of Palo Alto community. Artist Paz de la Calzada was recommended for this commission opportunity. All recommended artists were selected from the Palo Alto Muralist Roster. Staff recommended the approval of the three artists and additional allocation of funds in the amount of up to \$20,000 for the ground-plain mural. The two murals painted on the walls will be maintained by the City for the duration of five years , after which the property owner would have a right to keep it and assume maintenance responsibilities, remove it, or work with the City to commission a new mural on their site. The street mural project would be a pilot project with a shorter life span and no maintenance obligations. **Motion:** Commissioner Gordon made a motion to approve artists Paz de la Calzada, Nicole Ponsler, and Olivia Losee-Unger, and allocate funding in the amount of up to \$20,000. **Second:** Commissioner Shen. **All in Favor.**

Chair Taylor suggested that the Action Item # 1, Election of Chair and Vice-Chair, takes place prior to the NON-ACTION item # 4, Public Art Commission Priorities Document. No objections from the Commissioners.

ACTION:

1. **Election of Chair and Vice – Chair** – Chair Taylor described general duties and responsibilities of the Chair to the Commissioners. Chair Taylor opened the floor to nominations for the position of the PAC Chair. Commissioner Miyaji nominated Commissioner Gordon for the Chair. Commissioner Gordon did not accept the nomination and in turn nominated Commissioner Shen for Chair. Commissioner Shen accepted the nomination. No other nominations followed. **Motion:** Chair Taylor moved to close the nominations. **Second:** Vice Chair Waltuch. **All in Favor. Vote: Commissioner Shen was elected as the new PAC Chair.** Chair Taylor opened the floor to nominations of Vice Chair. Commissioner Shen nominated Commissioner Gordon for the position of Vice Chair. Commissioner Gordon accepted the nomination. Chair Taylor nominated current Vice Chair Waltuch for the Vice Chair position. Vice Chair Waltuch accepted the nomination but noted she was unable to commit time to working on the PAC Workplan. **Motion:** Chair Taylor moved to close the nominations. **Second:** Commissioner Miyaji. **All in Favor. Vote: Commissioner Gordon was elected as the PAC Vice Chair.**

NON-ACTION:

4. **PAC Priorities Document** – Commissioners discussed a work strategy and the new Chair and Vice Chair confirmed that they will form an ad-hoc committee to work with staff on the 2023/24 PAC Workplan draft. The draft document will be reviewed and discussed by the entire Commission at the April meeting before submitted to City Council in May for their review and approval.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Vice Chair Gordon shared with the PAC about an ongoing exhibition of sculpture at Stanford University.

CALENDAR: Next PAC Regular Meeting – April 20, 7 pm at City Hall Community Meeting Room.

MEETING ADJOURNED: at 8:07 pm by Commissioner Taylor.