



**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
Arts and Culture Commission
Monday, November 18, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall – Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito**

Roll Call

Present: Chair Donovan, Commissioners Cazden, Rand and Zavala.

Absent: Commissioners Hawley and Danziger.

1. Council Liaison / Staff Liaison Report (including budget status) / Commissioners Reports

There were no Commissioner's reports. Staff Liaison Iarla provided information about some upcoming City events, the status of the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan, recent changes affecting city commissions, applications to serve on the Commission and also reported there were no changes to the budget since last month.

2. Comments from the Public

Pam Fingado spoke on behalf of the Artists Salon of the East Bay in support of their Gallery Space proposal; She indicated the group would like to show in the spring and may partner with the El Cerrito Historical Society on an event related to the exhibit. Chair Donovan thanked Ms. Fingado.

Risa Dye spoke in support of an artist in residency program at the Recycling Center.

3. Approval of Minutes

After discussion, it was moved (Donovan/Rand) to approve the edited minutes of the meeting of October 28, 2013. Motion passed unanimously.

AYES: Donovan, Commissioners Cazden, Rand and Zavala.

ABSENT: Hawley and Danziger.

4. Presentation on the County Arts Commission

Chair Donovan took this item out of order to accommodate the speaker.

Dyana Bhandari, Chair of AC5, gave an informational presentation about AC5 (the County Arts Commission) including their recent recognition of El Cerrito resident Corey Mason, planned website updates, desire to do more outreach, the Poetry Out Loud program, the California Arts Scholars program, Arts Cafes series.

After some discussion, Chair Donovan said she would like to have El Cerrito hold an Arts Salon with AC5 in the Spring of 2014.

5. Draft Arts and Culture Master Plan

Staff Liaison Iarla and the Commission discussed the final draft version of the Arts and Culture Master Plan including adding language about de-commissioning of artworks.

After discussion, it was moved (Cazden/Rand) to adopt the Arts and Culture Master Plan as amended and recommend the City Council regard this master plan as the basis of any Arts and Culture element when the General Plan is revised.

Motion passed unanimously.

AYES: Donovan, Commissioners Cazden, Rand and Zavala.

ABSENT: Hawley and Danziger.

6. City Hall Gallery Space Exhibit Selection:

The Commission reviewed of submissions for exhibition in the Gallery Space and after discussion directed staff to work with the following artists to schedule shows:

- Artist Salon of the East Bay (ASEB) (Group Show)
- Robbin Legere Henderson
- Esmeralda Ruiz
- Nga T. Trinh
- Yuksel Dinccag
- City of El Cerrito employees (group show)

Staff was directed to invite Victoria Veedell to consider a join show, and to see if the artist knew of another artist(s) to partner with.

The Commission declined the proposal from Bonnie Mager.

Staff was directed to invite the Digital Arts Collective, the Oakland Art Association, and Alice Lee to each re-submit a more detailed proposal for future consideration.

7. Items for Next Meeting/Future Meetings:

The Commission agreed to cancel the regular December 23, 2013 meeting due to the holidays. Commissioner Cazden spoke about the opportunity for her chamber music orchestra to perform and there was consensus to discuss co-sponsorship at the January meeting. Other items to discuss in January will be the Artist in Residency Program, Poet Laureate, and goal setting for the year.

Adjourned at 8:37 p.m.