



**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE  
MEETING OF THE  
Arts and Culture Commission  
Monday, September 26, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.**

**El Cerrito City Hall Council Chambers  
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito**

*Approved October 24, 2106*

**Roll Call**

Present: Ruth Cazden, Paul Fadelli, George Gager, Mollie Hazen, Heidi Rand, Christopher Sterba, Nga Trinh.

**1. Commissioners Reports & Liaison Reports**

Katherine Ahlquist gave an update on 2016 El Cerrito Restaurant Week.

Hazen gave an update on the Kensington Symphony Orchestra and welcomed the ACC to the upcoming concert season. Sterba gave a report on the upcoming Poetry Reading event by Maw Shein Win as part of the Poet Laureate Program at Rialto Cinemas Cerrito. Cazden discussed the possibility of displaying art for the El Cerrito Centennial Celebration.

Barbara Hill, member of the public, left prior to the start of the meeting, but invited ACC members to watch "This Ain't No Mouse Music" at Rialto Cinemas Cerrito on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

**2. Comments from the Public**

Bill Kuhlman, as a member of the public, gave an update on Restaurant Week and asked that the ACC promote the event.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

It was moved (Cazden/Gager) to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on Monday, May 23, 2016 and the meeting on Monday, August 22, 2016 without corrections. Unanimous.

**4. Planning for October's Arts Month**

Sterba started the discussion regarding the 2016 Arts Celebration event on Saturday, October 1st, 2016 and went over all of the social media and promotion occurring around the event. Fadelli reminded the group that light refreshments would be provided at the event.

Suzanne Iarla conference called in and discussed the Art's Month Banner locations along San Pablo Avenue. She agreed to put in a work order for the Art's Month Banners one week earlier next year, so they are displayed before Art's Month Begins in October.

Sterba gave an overview of the ECAA Arts Show event on Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup> from 10-2pm. Hazen and Gager agreed to attend and coordinate giving out an award on behalf of the ACC.

**5. Centennial Celebration Planning Update**

Cazden led the discussion on the Centennial Celebration Planning efforts. After discussion the ACC agreed to table the item on commissioning versus purchase of artwork until Suzanne Iarla is able to attend. The group felt it was a low hanging item and would like to discuss in more detail about limiting the RFP to a specific type of art, RFP process, cost and timeframe before deciding whether to go about the purchase.

Motion (Cazden/Fadelli) to ask Maw Shein Win if one of her poetry events could be an El Cerrito themed event, in honor of 2017 being the Centennial year. Unanimous.

Motion (Cazden/Trinh) to decide that the 2017 Arts Celebration be El Cerrito and/or Centennial themed. Unanimous.

#### **6. Discussion on Gallery Space Call to Artists**

The Commission discussed the frequency of art shows in the gallery space and potentially giving special consideration to El Cerrito themed shows.

Motion (Cazden/Sterba) to revise the brochure to include “For 2017, special consideration will be given to El Cerrito themed shows in honor of the City’s Centennial Celebration.”

Unanimous.

Bill Kuhlman proposed the idea of gathering El Cerrito residents and organizing into different Choirs to sing a song for the Centennial Celebration. Commission was receptive to the idea and asked that Kuhlman do some due diligence and come back to the Commission. Kuhlman agreed to reach out Contra Costa Chorale, explore the idea and come back to the ACC to follow up on findings.

#### **7. Consider Holding a Joint Meeting with the Economic Development Committee**

The Commission discussed holding joint meeting with the Economic Development Committee (EDC) and agreed to wait to schedule a meeting until they had time to discuss potential items they could partner with the EDC on. Gager agreed to discuss with the EDC during their September meeting.

#### **8. Items for Next Meeting**

Consideration of possible joint- projects to partner with the EDC on.

The Commission agreed to reschedule the regular November ACC meeting for the first week in December and cancel the regular December ACC meeting.

*Adjourned – 9:01pm*