7:02pm Roll Call
Present: Ruth Cazden, Mollie Hazen, Heidi Rand, Christopher Sterba, Nga Trinh.
Absent: George Gager (unexcused)

1. Commissioners Reports & Liaison Reports
   Staff liaison Suzanne Iarla reported on:
   - Proposal by Eva Meyers regarding mural at Fairmont Park: Iarla provided an update. (Attached)
   - Upcoming events:
     - March 4 will be El Cerrito Poet Laureate Maw Shein Win’s first Poetry & Place event, at the library.
     - April 20 – California Poet Laureate Dana Gioia’s event. Maw Shein Win will introduce Gioia at this event.
     - April 23 – re-scheduled showing of “This Ain’t No Mouse Music” at 10am at Cerrito Theater. If commissioners want to attend the event or can help distribute flyers, please let Iarla know. The 2 filmmakers and Mr. Chris Strachwitz; have been invited.
   - Handout regarding development within the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan Area was provided and discussed. (Attached)

   Hazen reported that the Kensington Symphony Orchestra will perform on March 4 at 8pm at Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley. It is the orchestra’s 40th year.

   Cazden attended the ECHS Jazz Festival in February. She is glad that ACC supported this event and said the students played very well. If the Commission considers supporting the festival again, it might be of interest to talk with Mr. Johnson about the programming of the evening concert to have wider audience appeal.

   Sterba reported the El Cerrito Poet Laureate’s upcoming poetry reading was featured in The Journal, and that Win will be on KECG radio to promote the event. The event format includes two featured poets (one from the Bay Area and one local) followed by an open mic. Sterba is also in touch with East Bay Regional Parks District and the El Cerrito Historical Society about possible performers. He also shared that he recently saw a performance by Ah Lan Dance Studio which included performers ages 4-70.

2. Comments from the Public
   None.

3. Approval of Minutes
   It was moved (Rand/Cazden) to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on Monday, January 23, 2017. Unanimous.
Sterba asked if the call had been issued for the Parks and Recreation themed show in the Gallery Space; Iarla reported that it’s in process.

4. **Consideration of Co-Sponsoring July 4 Festival**
Corey Mason made a presentation to request that the ACC consider underwriting the performance on July 3, 2017, as part of the City’s July 4 festival. He thanked the ACC for support of the 2016 event and mentioned that the Polynesian theme will be continued this year, with a group from Hawaii and one from San Jose. When asked, Mason said he believes this year’s event will draw a large crowd. He requested $3,000 in support. There was discussion about the level of support provided in 2016. Cazden suggested that this be discussed at next meeting, at which Iarla can provide budget information. Mason can wait until next month for a decision, and offered to provide additional information if needed. Mason distributed the 2017 Festival postcard (viewable at http://worldoneradio.org/).

Hazen noted that Mason is an incredible asset to the City and thanked Mason for his enormous contributions. Sterba also praised Mason and expressed support for Mason and all that he does for the City.

5. **Status of ECCRU RFQ**
Iarla reported that the subcommittee had provided a list of possible recipients/outlets for the RFQ. The RFQ has not gone out yet; estimated to go out in early March.

After some discussion, it was agreed to have the submission deadline in mid-May, the review of proposals done by late May, and the selection committee’s recommendation in June/July. This will allow for the ACC’s consideration to occur in the summer.

Iarla has been in touch with RERC about the artist’s storage bin. Rand reported that the Executive Director of the East Bay Depot for Creative Reuse has agreed to help review the proposals. Iarla said the RFQ did not need City Council approval and that the ACC’s decision of an artist will be presented to the City Council.

6. **Earth Day Event – April 22, 2017 (Taken out of order)**
Trinh is planning to lead a rose origami activity to honor Mother Earth on Earth Day. Sterba volunteered to assist with the laminated items at the booth.

Rand suggested the Commission consider purchasing a button-making machine. The ACC’s activity table will be part of the Earth Day luncheon at the Community Center.

Trinh requested Iarla provide some old magazines for the art activity.

7. **Discussion on Commissioning an Artwork**
Sterba reported the subcommittee is in favor of an artwork along the linescale of the wind sculptures.

Trinh asked if the wind sculptures could be grouped in one location, for a greater impact. Iarla reported that the specific locations of the sculptures were part of the original design.

Trinh presented several ideas for commissioning an artwork:

- Commission an artist to create mosaics on the cement barriers (bollards) in front of City Hall; She envisions the barriers would have a unifying theme. Sterba asked if there might be architectural considerations relative to decorating the barriers; Iarla will check with the appropriate City staff regarding functional considerations, but doesn’t believe that the barriers affect the building aesthetics. Rand supported the idea.

- Commission a dinosaur sculpture (large enough for children to climb on and enjoy) in the “Dinosaur Forest” segment of the Ohlone Greenway, similar to the whale at the Lawrence Hall of Science. She noted the play equipment on the Greenway at Manila attracts many children.
Iarla indicated an installation on the Greenway would involve working in coordination with BART. Cazden raised the issue of increased risk of vandalism, and Iarla noted that the City wants to encourage people to use the Greenway and that ACC has identified the Greenway as a location for more public art.

- Install vertical gardens (“living wall”) on the BART columns. Iarla believes that BART would not agree to this, for maintenance reasons. Cazden likes this idea and wonders if a different location could be found. Iarla noted that vertical gardens might need to include the Parks & Recreation Commission, as it would be landscaping.

Sterba applauded this kind of brainstorming, and felt that the City Hall barriers project might be the most realistic. The subcommittee will continue to meet to learn more. There was consensus for Iarla looking into the barriers project and the dinosaur sculpture project; Iarla will do some research.

8. **Items for Next Meeting**
   March: Eve Ma presentation; consideration of supporting the July 3 event; Annual Work Plan.

Iarla noted that the appropriate time for meeting with Economic Development Committee is after the EDC finishes its brainstorming.

*Adjourned – 8:25pm*
CITY OF EL CERRITO
MEMORANDUM

TO: ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION
FROM: SUZANNE IARLA, STAFF LIAISON
SUBJECT: STATUS OF EVA MEYERS' FAIRMONT PARK MURAL PROPOSAL
DATE: FEBRUARY 27, 2017

In January, resident Eva Meyers presented a proposal for the process to create a mural on the retaining wall along the Ohlone Greenway at Fairmont Park.

In early February, I meet with Eva Meyers and Sarah Wininger. I explained that the City could not serve as the fiscal agent for the project (i.e. accepting and managing the donations), and that it was not realistic for the Arts & Culture Commission (ACC) to issue an RFQ/P in the near future given other existing priorities and limited staff resources.

It is also the staff recommendation that a grass-roots fundraising effort not take place until after the City completes the RFQ/P process and the ACC has selected an artist.

I also explained that the City was in the process of hiring a firm to design the Fairmont Park Phase One Improvements, which would community input and the City had already articulated that the firm should take into consideration park improvements other future Fairmont Park improvements identified in the City’s Urban Greening Plan (including the mural).

The City expects design of Phase One Improvements to be completed by August 2017, followed by construction. On-site mural-creation cannot take place until after construction of Phase One improvements have been made.

Eva Meyers remains interested in the project and will look into finding a fiscal agent, is interested in participating as a community member in upcoming community meetings for Fairmont Park Phase One, and requests that the ACC include the Fairmont Park mural in their FY2017-18 work plan.

She also plans to continue to network with interested neighbors and community members as well as outreach to local schools about the possibility of being involved in the mural project.
El Cerrito San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan Area:
Development Proposed & Under Construction Since 2015

Regulating Plan

- City Limit
- Park
- Creek
- Engineered Channel
- Underground Storm Drain
- 1/2 Mile BART Pedestrian Service Area

Districts and Transit Zones
- Uptown District
  - El Cerrito: Transit-Oriented Higher-Intensity Mixed Use (TOHMU)
  - Richmond: T5 Main Street
- Midtown District
  - El Cerrito: Transit-Oriented Mixed-Intensity Mixed Use (TOHMM)
  - Richmond: T4 Main Street
- Downtown District
  - Transit-Oriented Higher-Intensity Mixed Use (TOHMU)
  - Richmond: T5 Main Street

Street Types
- SPA Commercial Street
- Major Commercial Street
- SPA Community Street
- Gateway Street
- Neighborhood Street
- Offsite Access Road
- Midblock Connection
- Feasibility Connection

For more information on these development projects, visit www.el-cerrito.org/CommDev/MajorProjects or contact the Community Development Department at (510) 215-4362. For a copy of the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan / Complete Streets Plan, visit www.el-cerrito.org/SPASP.
The Poetry Project

Poetry at El Cerrito

Open City Poetry Series

Reading at Library Will

Albany

Albany

Kensington

El Cerrito

Friday, February 4, 2011 • 3-8 p.m.

See Poetry, Page 7

From 3-5 p.m. on March 1, High School and middle school
students will perform their
prose and poetry pieces for a
poetry reading at El Cerrito
library. This reading will
feature the very best of our
students' work. Come and
enjoy this special event.

At 5 p.m., the reading will
be followed by a poetry
workshop with Mike Chavez,
award-winning poet. Mike
will discuss the craft of
poetry and how to write it.

At 6 p.m., the reading will
continue with a poetry
workshop with Mike
Chavez, award-winning poet.
Mike will discuss the craft of
poetry and how to write it.

At 7 p.m., the reading will
be followed by a poetry
workshop with Mike
Chavez, award-winning poet.
Mike will discuss the craft of
poetry and how to write it.

At 8 p.m., the reading will
be followed by a poetry
workshop with Mike
Chavez, award-winning poet.
Mike will discuss the craft of
poetry and how to write it.

At 9 p.m., the reading will
be followed by a poetry
workshop with Mike
Chavez, award-winning poet.
Mike will discuss the craft of
poetry and how to write it.

At 10 p.m., the reading will
be followed by a poetry
workshop with Mike
Chavez, award-winning poet.
Mike will discuss the craft of
poetry and how to write it.

At 11 p.m., the reading will
be followed by a poetry
workshop with Mike
Chavez, award-winning poet.
Mike will discuss the craft of
poetry and how to write it.

At midnight, the reading will
be followed by a poetry
workshop with Mike
Chavez, award-winning poet.
Mike will discuss the craft of
poetry and how to write it.

At 1 a.m., the reading will
be followed by a poetry
workshop with Mike
Chavez, award-winning poet.
Mike will discuss the craft of
poetry and how to write it.

At 2 a.m., the reading will
be followed by a poetry
workshop with Mike
Chavez, award-winning poet.
Mike will discuss the craft of
poetry and how to write it.

At 3 a.m., the reading will
be followed by a poetry
workshop with Mike
Chavez, award-winning poet.
Mike will discuss the craft of
poetry and how to write it.

At 4 a.m., the reading will
be followed by a poetry
workshop with Mike
Chavez, award-winning poet.
Mike will discuss the craft of
poetry and how to write it.

At 5 a.m., the reading will
be followed by a poetry
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At 10 a.m., the reading will
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At 11 a.m., the reading will
be followed by a poetry
workshop with Mike
Chavez, award-winning poet.
Mike will discuss the craft of
poetry and how to write it.

At noon, the reading will
be followed by a poetry
workshop with Mike
Chavez, award-winning poet.
Mike will discuss the craft of
poetry and how to write it.