



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION**  
Wednesday, February 16, 2011, 7:00 p.m.  
El Cerrito City Hall  
Hillside Room  
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

The meeting was called to order at 7:05p.m.

Commissioners Present: Bhandari, Donovan, Franco, Halasz, Hawley and Lupinsky (Preto absent)

**1. Council / Staff Liaison / Commissioners Reports**

Mayor Cheng was unable to attend the meeting so Staff Liaison Iarla reported on the topic of Redevelopment, the upcoming Council goal setting work-session. Iarla also reported on the scheduled Gallery Space shows, progress on San Pablo Avenue Icons and San Pablo Avenue Historical & Cultural Pavers Project and the Safeway development, which is required to participate in the 1% for Public Art Program. A staff report with background information about the program was distributed. Also, Iarla reminded members to submit their Form 700.

Iarla announced that Commissioner Preto will be moving out of town and will not be able to serve on the ACC as of March 2011.

Commissioner Bhandari provided an updated on AC5 related events and programs including the recent Poetry Out Loud event, an upcoming reception, their new online newsletter and plans for "Artists Coffee" events in the future. Since AC5 has a robust database of artists, the ACC should consider promoting the database to local artists.

**2. Comments from the Public**

Arlin Robins said:

- She has been in discussions with Safeway regarding a possible proposal from her for artwork on the site;
- Asked the status of the Master Plan and suggested that special meetings can be a productive way to work on such projects;
- Shared her thoughts on the San Pablo Avenue Street Icons;
- Asked the status of the City's artist database.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Motion (Donovan/Bhandari) to approve the January 26, 2011 minutes was approved. Unanimous.

**4. Overview by Chair Hawley**

Chair Hawley stated she hopes regular meetings will end by 9pm each month; She would like to see the ACC more involved in local schools and hopes that the ACC will have fun while trying to fulfill their responsibilities and help to make El Cerrito an attractive, lively and vibrant place to live.

**5. Participation In Upcoming City Events**

After discussion, Commissioners Donovan, Halasz and Franco volunteered to host the hands-on art activity table at the Earth Day lunch on Saturday, April 16, 2011 at the Community Center.

After discussion, a motion (Bhandari/Donovan) for staff to register a booth space for the ACC at the July 4<sup>th</sup> Festival on Monday, July 4, 2011 and rental of a table and two chairs was approved. Unanimous. Someone should contact ECAA to see if the ACC can borrow a canopy again this year.

#### **6. City Window Display**

After a presentation by Iarla on the background and intent of this project, there was consensus that the window display was a good idea. Commissioner Donovan and Chair Hawley volunteered to work with staff on outreach.

#### **7. Liaison Assignments**

After discussion, the following commissioners volunteered to act as liaison in 2011 as noted:

Commissioner Donovan:	Contra Costa Civic Theater, El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce
Commissioner Bhandari:	AC5, City Economic Development Board, City of Richmond, Berkeley West Edge Opera
Commissioner Halasz:	Friends of the Cerrito Theater, Rialto Cinemas Cerrito
Commissioner Franco:	City Parks and Recreation Commission, Richmond Art Center
Chair Hawley:	Folk Art Festival, Friends of the El Cerrito Library

#### **8. Items for Next Meeting/Future Meetings:**

Chair Hawley led a discussion regarding priorities for the March meeting, as well as discussion regarding the process for the ACC to review the work of Artists Jonathan Russell and Saori Ide on the San Pablo Avenue Icons project. The ACC would like the artists to bring back the full size samples and to-scale model shown last month as well as see the final drawings for all the icons in advance of the meeting. In March, the ACC would like the Artists to present their final drawings as well as proposal on the groupings/placement of each icon for review and feedback.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25pm.