



**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION
Wednesday, January 26, 2011, 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall
Hillside Room
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito**

This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm

Commissioners Present: Bhandari, Donovan, Franco, Halasz, Hawley, Preto

1. Selection of Commission Officers for 2011

Chair Bhandari stated she did not wish to serve as chair in 2011. Karen Pinkos and others expressed their thanks to Dyana for her service as Chair. After discussion, Commissioner Hawley nominated Commissioner Donovan, who declined. Commissioner Donovan nominated Commissioner Hawley, who said she would be willing to serve as Chair. Commissioner Preto would be interested but was unsure of his tenure with the Commission due to personal reasons. Commissioner Preto nominated Commissioner Halasz to serve as Vice Chair. Commissioner Hawley accepted to serve as Chair and Commissioner Halasz accepted to serve as Vice Chair 2011.

2. Council / Staff Liaison / Commissioners Reports

Mayor Cheng introduced herself as new Council Liaison and provided an update on recent Council activities; Staff Liaison Iarla provided an update on City project including San Pablo Avenue Historical & Cultural Pavers Project; former-Tradeway Building Window Display; Communication with muralist Joelle Provost. Assistant City Manager Karen Pinkos provided an update on the Portola School relocation to the Castro School campus and the proposed revisions to the Animals Ordinance.

The Commission expressed interest in participating in the Earth Day Celebration and the July 4th Festival.

Former Chair Bhandari provided information regarding AC5 programs and events.

3. Comments from the Public

Letter from Linda Moss regarding San Pablo Avenue Icons was received.

4. Approval of Minutes

Motion (Hawley/Preto) to approval of the December 15, 2010 minutes was approved. Unanimous.

5. City Hall Gallery Space Exhibits for 2011

After discussion, the Commission reviewed submissions from six artists (Tamar Assaf, Lorrie Fink, Dodd Holsapple, Dale Mead, Stephanie Gene Morgan, and Jeanne Rehrig) for upcoming exhibits in the Gallery Space. The Commission selected Dale Mead, Lorrie Fink and Jeanne Rehrig to show in the Gallery Space and provided staff with direction.

6. San Pablo Avenue Icons

Artists Jonathan Russell and Saori Ide presented a scale model of 16 icons on street poles, two "full size" icons as well as drawings of a few icons in their artistic style. After a conversation with the artists it was moved (Franco/Preto) for the Artists to continue their work and come back at the next Commission meeting with drawings for all the icons. Passed 6-1 (no –Donovan). After discussion with the artists, it was agreed they would come back to the Commission in March.

7. Liaison Assignments

Continued to the next meeting.

- 8. Items for Next Meeting/Future Meetings:** Request from Friends of Library, Arts and Culture Master Plan Next Steps, 510Arts.com, 2011 Folk Festival, Proposal for Dance Event (Shannon Preto)

The meeting adjourned at 9:25pm.