



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
Arts and Culture Commission
Wednesday, February 15, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall – Hillside Conference Room
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. Commissioners Donovan, Franco, Hawley and Lupinsky were present; Commissioner Halasz was absent.

1. Selection of Commission Officers for 2012

The commission unanimously selected Joyce Hawley to serve as Chair and Nancy Donovan to serve as Vice Chair for 2012.

2. Council / Staff Liaison / Commissioners Reports

Council Liaison Benassini provided an update on recent Council actions including the City's new animals ordinance; Staff Liaison Iarla provided an update on shows scheduled for the City Hall Gallery Space.

3. Comments from the Public

None

4. Approval of Minutes

It was moved (Donovan/Hawley) to approve the minutes of the meeting of the meeting of January 18, 2012. Unanimous.

5. Discussion and possible action regarding the San Pablo Avenue Streetscape Public Art Sculptures

Artists Jonathan Russell and Saori Ide made a brief presentation regarding the project, including the locations. Jonathan Russell said the locations of the sculptures could easily be changed in the future.

It was moved (Donovan/Franco) to direct the Artists to come back with the Final Design Proposal for the Commission's approval next month. Unanimous.

The commission provided staff with three preferred dates in March for the special meeting to hold the public hearing in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

6. Discussion and possible action regarding "Our Town" grant application

Staff Liaison Iarla provided information about the City's possible National Endowment for the Arts "Our Town" grant application. There was discussion.

It was moved (Lupinsky/Donovan) to support grant application. Unanimous.

It was agreed Chair Hawley would sign a letter of support.

7. Presentation, Discussion and possible action regarding Public Art at the new Recycling and Environmental Resource Center

Staff Liaison Iarla introduced Environmental Services Division Manager Melanie Mintz who provided a brief presentation regarding the Public Art Project for the new Recycling and

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Environmental Resource Center. There was discussion and general agreement for the project as proposed by Environmental Services Division staff. There was consensus to limit the Call to Artists to professional artists in the San Francisco Bay Area only.

8. Discussion and possible action regarding participation in upcoming City Events

After discussion, the Commission declined to host an activity at "Street Play" on Sunday March 25th. The matter of hosting an art activity at the Earth Day celebration on Saturday, April 21st was deferred to the April meeting. The matter of having a booth at the July 4th festival on Wednesday July 4 was deferred to the May meeting.

9. Liaison Assignments

Commissioner Lupinsky reported he recently attended an El Cerrito Art Association meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:03pm