



City Council Chambers
Vallejo City Hall
555 Santa Clara Street
Vallejo, CA 94590
www.cityofvallejo.net

MINUTES

COMMISSION ON CULTURE & THE ARTS REGULAR MEETING 6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. May 23, 2022

CHAIR
Andrea Hernandez
COMMISSIONERS
Kathy Cook, Vice Chair
Stacey Loew
Trevor Allen
Askari Sowonde
Dalia Vidor
Rochelle Del Rosario

1. **CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 p.m.**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Andrea Hernandez, Chair, Vice Chair Kathy Cook, Commissioners Trevor Allen, Stacey Loew, Dalia Vidor, Rochelle Del Rosario

Absent: Commissioner Askari Sowonde

4. **COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. City Council Liaison Report – Reported that in the next few weeks the City Council will be approving a budget for the new fiscal year; Commission's request for funds will be from ARPA funds; also reported on various activities for Pista Sa Nayon during the month of June.
- B. Commission Liaison Report – No report, comments to address agenda items.

5. **PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Sheryl McKibben – VP, Marketing & Communications, West Coast Operations, Southern Land Company – Arts Projects on Mare Island – Gave an overview of the art work on Mare Island beginning with the art projects done on Mare Island in 2021. They looked for a partner to help with a strategic plan for art, selected Local Edition Creative. The first phase of the strategy was to bring in local artists to display large sculptures along the waterfront promenade, Mare Island Art Yard, created by renowned artists. They concurrently held community mural sessions that invited volunteers from local youth organizations and the general public to paint with their guest artists from Mare Island Studio. In 2021 they were three sculpture installations, one professional public art mural and three community murals. Received positive feedback from the public. In the process of rebranding what's happening on Mare Island implemented a soft-launch social campaign to allow them to see social media posts from visitors and engage with them, working with the Visit Vallejo's social media team. She provided information on the community painting sessions; contributed a mural to the Reynssance Family Center, installed by a team of artists from Three Thirty Three Arts. Sculptures were on the promenade for six months. In 2022 three new sculptures placed on the promenade for six months; two murals with

nautical themes will be temporarily installed on buildings. Responded to questions and comments from Commissioners. Remarks from Terry, Sage and Brian Nagy.

6. COMMUNITY FORUM

None

7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Allen moved and Commissioner Hernandez seconded to approve the May 23, 2022 agenda. Approved unanimously, 6-0, Commissioner Sowonde absent.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Vidor moved and Commissioner Cook seconded to accept the minutes from the April 25, 2022 meeting. Approved unanimously, 6-0, Commissioner Sowonde absent.

9. ACTION CALENDAR

A. Art Grant Program Update

Renay provided a written report. There are two grant recipients who have not completed their projects; Solano County Links and Olivia Fabrizio. Make final presentation at June meeting.

Information only.

B. Long Term Arts Funding Policy Update

Staff reported that the newly appointed staff is getting updated and hope to attend June meeting

Item continued.

C. Public Art Policy

Staff reported that there was nothing new to add.

Item continued.

D. Grants Ad Hoc Committee

Commissioner Cook reported that the Ad-Hoc Committee met with city staff and grant consultant, California Consulting, to discuss the Creative Core Grant which was submitted to city for consideration and review; after review decided not the right time to apply for grant due to how the grant is structured; will find out if SCAC is applying to be an Administering Organization (AO); next step is to apply to one of the AOs for funds; determine if can regrant, what qualifies, and do outreach to nonprofits and artists to apply directly to AO for grants, perhaps formulate a notice in July to community. Also look for grants acknowledging indigenous and ancestral heritage of

this region making an effort to pay attention to those artists and tell the full story of the region; mentioned other possible grant opportunities.

E. Artists Registry

Commissioner Del Rosario reported the Ad-Hoc Committee is investigating what others are doing. Will have a recommendation next month.

F. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding

Staff reported that she met with Carmen Slack, Solano County Arts Council (SCAC) after the City Manager's Office accepted the Commission's recommendation of selecting SCAC to administer the ARPA grant funding for art and culture nonprofits. Reported that next steps are to draft agreement and other documents for City Attorney review.

Information only.

G. Highlighting Artists in the Vallejo Weekly

Vice Chair Cook reported that she created a draft procedure for review for submittal to the Vallejo Weekly. Suggest a trial run of one to two artists in the beginning. Discussion regarding using article to highlight dates and times grants may be available and as well highlighting artists and artwork. Also consider using the Vallejo Weekly articles for the artists registry. Suggested that each Commissioner bring in two recommendations for the Vallejo Weekly.

Chair Hernandez moved and Commissioner Allen seconded that the draft procedure presented by Vice Chair Cook for Vallejo Weekly submissions be used with any edits to the procedure as deemed necessary. Approved unanimously 6-0 with Commissioner Sowonde absent.

H. Vocational School of the Arts

Commissioner Sowonde absent. Hold item to next meeting in June.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

A. Review and Discuss Items on the Future Agenda List

- Art in storage on Mare Island
Staff requested that Commissioners provide dates and times in July that they may be available for the art in storage tour. Ask that pieces be taken out of boxes.
- Retreat and goal setting – Waiting for report to the City Council on the goals selected by the City Council. Perhaps present work plan in October or November to City Council.
- Waterfront Park – No update. Discussion of what involvement the Commission may have.

11. Announcements and Comments by Commissioners

- Commissioner Del Rosario announced that the Vallejo Pista Sa Nayon to be celebrated throughout the month of June in fifteen different multi-generational events. Information about all the events can be found on www.vallejopistasanayon.com . A huge thank you to sponsors which include Southern Land, MCE, V-Town Farms, Recology.
- Commissioner Loew announced that Cat on a Hot Tin Roof was postponed, pushed out to three weekends to June 10th ; Annie the end of August to September; Pirates of Penzance end of October, Sylvia in December.
- Commissioner Vidor announced that “Generation Beat! Ferkubggetti Art & Music Festival” will take place at the Empress Theatre in their various venues and at Alibi Bookstore, which will take place May 28th through June 24th . Also announced that Vallejo Shakespeare in the Park is still holding auditions for Much Ado About Nothing. Interested people can go to their website, vallejoshakespeare.org for more information.

12. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE: June 27, 2022

13. ADJOURNMENT – 7:58 p.m.

ATTESTED:

Andrea Hernandez

Andrea Hernandez, CHAIR

Annette Taylor

ANNETTE TAYLOR, STAFF LIAISON