



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

MINUTES

COMMISSION ON CULTURE & THE ARTS SPECIAL MEETING 6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. September 29, 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, Askari Sowonde, Dalia Vidor, Rochelle Del Rosario

Absent: Commissioner Stacey Loew

4. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. City Council Liaison Report – No report
- B. Commission Liaison Report – Reported that second round of ARPA funding received; City Council to decide how to allocate.

5. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Lynette Henley – Solano County Links, LLC gave an update on the poetry program and presented a copy of the poetry book to the Commission for the city. A picture was taken with Ms. Henley presenting the book to the Commissioners.

6. COMMUNITY FORUM

None

7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Allen moved and Commissioner Vidor seconded to approve the September 29, 2022 agenda. Approved unanimously 6-0, Commissioner Loew absent.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Hernandez moved and Commissioner Del Rosario seconded to accept the minutes from the July 25, 2022 meeting. Approved unanimously 6-0, Commissioner Loew absent.

9. ACTION CALENDAR

A. Art Grant Program Update

Renay Conlin gave a brief overview of the art grant program and provided some suggestions on how to improve process if there are future grants. Commissioners offered suggestions.

Information only.

B. Long Term Arts Funding Policy Update

Staff reported that there are no actions to report. Comments by Commission.

Item continued.

C. Public Art Policy

Randy Risner, Chief Assistant City Attorney, reported that there is a policy that is drafted and ready to go, committed to go to Council by the end of the year; though have no control on Council agendas. Commissioner Vidor recommended an Ad Hoc Committee formed to draft a letter to City Council to move this item forward.

By motion, Chair Hernandez moved and Vice Chair Cook seconded to have Commissioners Vidor, Allen and Sowonde serve on the Ad-Hoc Committee to draft letter to City Council. Approved unanimously 6-0, Commissioner Loew absent.

D. Grants Ad Hoc Committee

Commissioner Cook reported that the Ad-Hoc Committee did not meet due to scheduling conflicts and there are no further grant recommendations at this time. Focus remains the National Endowment for the Arts grants for the arts project, matching fund grant that can be administered by city arts commission; one-year time line for submission; focus to target February application portal for fiscal 2024-time frame.

E. Artists Registry

Commissioner Del Rosario reported that there are not any updates at this time.

Information only.

F. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding

Carmen Slack, Solano County Arts Council, gave an update on the ARPA nonprofit grant funding. Approximately 20 people have applications ready and four people have sent in the applications; all groups from Vallejo; giving listening sessions, workshops; may get at least 15 applications; confirm October 21st deadline to submit applications; November the Commission recommends selections. Ad Hoc will need to meet and make recommendations to full Commission at the special meeting in

November. Another meeting with grantees one year after receipt of grant to provide information.

G. Highlighting Artists in the Vallejo Weekly

Staff reported that she spoke with Christina Lee, PIO, regarding the Commission's submittal of articles in the Vallejo Weekly. Commissioner Vidor commented on the memo to Vice Chair Cook from the PIO and articles that appeared in the previous Vallejo Weekly. Vice Chair Cook reminded Commissioners that artists need to be Vallejo residents; still need submittals from some of the Commissioners.

Staff to work with the PIO to get articles placed in Vallejo Weekly.

H. Art in Storage

Commissioner Vidor reported the pieces that are missing are Space Daisy by Bella Feldman, Triad by Freda Koblick, and two metal sculptures that are unnamed; doesn't seem there is any records of location of pieces. Spoke to have pieces installed.

By motion, Chair Hernandez moved and Commissioner Vidor seconded to have Chair Hernandez, Vice Chair Cook, and Commissioner Vidor serve on the Ad-Hoc Committee to draft letter to City Council. Approved unanimously 6-0, Commissioner Loew absent.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

A. Review and Discuss Items on the Future Agenda List

- Mare Island Co. to provide an update on art projects on Mare Island
- Beautification Commission to make a request to Commission to assist with a graffiti abatement street mural project
- Retreat and goal setting – November 16, 2022; 10 am to 1 pm, Vallejo Room.
- Waterfront Park – No update.

11. Announcements and Comments by Commissioners

- Commissioners Allen and Vidor thanked Commissioner Sowonde for the Black Lives Matter mural
- Commissioner Vidor announced that Waterfront Weekend is this upcoming weekend, lots of events on both sides of the strait; 2-day event with new events both days
- Commissioner Allen announced the Vallejo Kids Book Festival, October 8th from 10 am to 4pm, Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum, 734 Marine Street, Free admission; one free book per child, as long as supplies last; sponsored by First Five Solano
- Vice Chair Cook announced the Verismo Opera will be performing segments of Il Trovatore on October 1 and 2 at 1 pm as part of the Waterfront Weekend Festival

12. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE: November 16, 2022, Special meeting, 10 am to 1 pm

13. ADJOURNMENT – 7:22 p.m.

ATTESTED:

Andrea Hernandez

Andrea Hernandez, CHAIR

Annette Taylor

ANNETTE TAYLOR, STAFF LIAISON