



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. October 24, 2022

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER – 6:01 p.m.**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Andrea Hernandez, Chair, Vice Chair Kathy Cook, Commissioners Trevor Allen, Askari Sowonde, Dalia Vidor

Absent: Commissioners Stacey Loew and Rochelle Del Rosario

4. **COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. City Council Liaison Report – Thanked those who attended Board and Commission Appreciation event
- B. Commission Liaison Report – Introduced Michael Nimon, Economic Development Director

5. **PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Brian Nagy and Sheryl McKibben, Mare Island Co – Presented an update on Mare Island Mural Concepts; nod to the Navy - The Silent Service, concept submarine coming out of the water on Building 801 Nimitz Avenue; Razzle Dazzle camouflage design on Building 223 on Connelly Street; both projects to be done this year. Art on the horizon for 2023, concept of an octopus on the steam stack at the power plant along Railroad Avenue and community art project, backside on Building 126. Mr. Nagy, Ms. McKibben, and representatives from Local Edition Creatives responded to comments and questions from the Commissioners including the RFP process, reaching out to Vallejo residents for community projects, designs of ships built on Mare Island.

6. **COMMUNITY FORUM**

Bonnie Bernhardt, Vallejo Symphony – Celebrating 90th season, one of the oldest symphonies in California; concerts on November 12th and 13th; music director has themed concerts. Upcoming Sound Explorers! Program beginning in Fall at Hogan Middle School, composer in residence from UC Davis, working with students who want to learn how to compose.

7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Allen moved and Commissioner Sowonde seconded to approve the October 24, 2022 agenda. Approved unanimously 5-0, Commissioners Loew and Del Rosario absent.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Cook moved and Commissioner Hernandez seconded to accept the minutes from the September 29, 2022 special meeting with corrections on meeting date for this month's meeting, October 24th vs November 16th, in the minutes. Approved unanimously 5-0, Commissioner Loew and Del Rosario absent.

9. ACTION CALENDAR

A. Graffiti Abatement Street Mural Project

Rick Weyrich, Chair, and Susan Slater, Vice Chair, Beautification Commission reported that the City Manager contacted the Beautification Commission staff liaison to do a graffiti abatement program on the bridge between Farragut and Sacramento Streets, to do a mural to keep the graffiti down; worked with Tom Arie-Donch to help her walk through what the process would be to use local artists vs going out to bids, call for artists; Beautification Commission has no funding; cost approximately \$100 per square foot, special paint, priority to have murals, 3 people submit with criteria; asked to submit to Commission on Culture and Arts (CAC) to find out if want to be involved. Noted that the CAC has not received funds this year, looking into getting grants, special fund for donations; perhaps may be funded with ARPA funding, submit proposal to City Manager Office. Comments regarding funding, graffiti artists, different types of artwork, including youth in the project. Put on Future's List to establish an Ad-Hoc Committee to work with Beautification Commission after receipt of information regarding this project.

Chair Fernandez moved and Commissioner Vidor seconded to partner with the Beautification Commission on the Graffiti Abatement Street Mural Program. Approved unanimously 5-0, Commissioners Loew and Del Rosario absent.

B. Long Term Arts Funding Policy Update

No update, to be discussed at November special meeting. Comments by Commissioners.

Item continued.

C. Public Art Policy

Commissioner Vidor discussed draft letter; asking City Council to review the public art gift and loan policy, to approve policy to get established in city governance to have correct way to catalog and accounting for public art, accept gifts, know artists, value, etc.

By motion, Commissioner Vidor moved and Chair Hernandez seconded to have letter forward to City Council and staff. Approved unanimously 5-0, Commissioners Loew and Del Rosario absent.

D. Grants Ad Hoc Committee

Commissioner Cook reported that she is sorting through the National Endowment for the Arts grants program; has a call scheduled with a specialist to answer questions, many layers and complicated process; questions regarding local arts agencies may not sub grant funds through fiscal sponsor; need documentation to operate on government's behalf, submitted question if City is applying could Commission sub grant; falling in grey area; trying to understand processes, outline of sub granting over past 3 years, submit budgets; a lot to learn; once through process perhaps encourage city to apply and have matching grants every year. More information after 16th when she speaks to NEA specialist. Questions regarding other larger grants.

Information only.

E. Artists Registry

No report.

F. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding

Carmen Slack, Solano County Arts Council, reported that all applications got in on time; total requested is \$103,500 which is \$13,500 more than available for grants; 80% of organizations were solely art oriented, about 2 applications had art and other projects; all submitted 501(3) c verification and are located in Vallejo. Ms. Slack will bring applications to staff who will distribute to Ad-Hoc Committee members.

Information only.

G. Highlighting Artists in the Vallejo Weekly

Vice Chair Cook thanked staff for assistance with getting article in Vallejo Weekly; submitting every other week; named the next three artists to be submitted; reminded Commissioners to provide information on the artists with photo, 3 photos of work, how to contact on social media.

Information only.

H. Art in Storage

Chair Hernandez reported that the draft letter is in packet for review; forward letter to City Council and staff to inform them art is missing.

By motion, Chair Hernandez moved and Commissioner Vidor seconded to approve letter and forward to City Council and staff. Approved unanimously 5-0, Commissioners Loew and Del Rosario absent.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

A. Review and Discuss Items on the Future Agenda List

- Beautification Commission graffiti abatement street mural project – establish ad hoc committee once information is received
- Retreat and goal setting – November 16, 2022; 10 am to 1 pm, Vallejo Room; staff request list of items Commissioners would like discussed; items may be added during meeting.
- Waterfront Park – No update.

11. Announcements and Comments by Commissioners

- Vice Chair Cook announced that Mira Theatre Guild is working with Solano AIDS Coalition for Dia de Los Muertos celebration on November 1st, Tree of Life; November 5th downtown, traditional fiesta and parade, November 6th free community movie, the Book of Life; also hosting Kids-N Film Festival on November 5th
- Commissioner Allen announced Art Open Studios November 12th and 13th, reception at Naval and Historical Museum, display up for the next month

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

13. ADJOURNMENT – 7:20 p.m.

ATTESTED:

Andrea Hernandez

Andrea Hernandez, CHAIR

Annette Taylor

ANNETTE TAYLOR, STAFF LIAISON