

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC ART COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Adam Gillitt called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Adam Gillitt, Commissioners Mark Farrell, Kirstin Van Cleef, and Tierney Sneeringer. Vice Chairperson Liz Rush arrived late at 6:38pm.

Lois Butler (PAC Secretary) and Amanda Gehrke present as staff to the Commission.

3. MINUTES

3-A 2021-674 Review and Approve Draft Minutes December 21, 2020

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Farrell and seconded by Chairperson Gillitt. Ayes: Chairperson Gillitt, Commissioners Van Cleef, Sneeringer, and Farrell. Nays: none. The motion carried 4-0.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

5. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

5-A 2021-675 Presentation by Alameda Fire Department on Public Art for Fire Station 3/Emergency Operations Center

Fire Chief Rick Zombeck of the Alameda Fire Department provided an update on the public art for Fire Station 3/Emergency Operations Center. The Fire Chief has sought the remaining \$150,000.00 funding needed to complete the public art project in the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year budget request, and will update the PAC once the budget has been approved and finalized. Commissioners asked clarifying questions.

5-B 2021-671 Recommendation to Approve the Attached Resolution and Conditions Approving the “Tidal Arch Public Art Proposal”

Staff member Gehrke presented the staff report on the recommendation to approve the attached resolution and conditions approving the “Tidal Arch” public art proposal. Artist Adrian Segal made a statement about her inspiration and intention for the art piece. Staff member Gehrke and Artist Siegel answered clarifying questions from commissioners.

Public member Morgan Bellinger requested that any anti-skateboarding measures be rounded edges as opposed to raised metal brackets.

Commissioners discussed the proposed art.

A motion to approve the attached resolution and conditions approving the “Tidal Arch Public Art Proposal” by Commissioner Van Cleef, and was seconded by Chairperson Gillitt. Ayes: Chairperson Gillitt, Commissioners Van Cleef, Sneeringer, and Farrell. Nays: none. The motion carried 4-0.

Lois Butler noted for the record that Vice Chairperson Rush joined the meeting.

5-C 2021-672 Review and Approve Recommended Changes to the Public Art Ordinance and Recommend Adoption by City Council

Staff member Gehrke presented the staff report on the recommended changes to the Public Art Ordinance to be recommended for adoption by the City Council. A summary of the recommended changes are as follows:

- Require developers to declare their intention to install on-site artwork or contribute to the Fund prior to receiving planning approvals, and clarify that, after on-site artwork is reviewed and approved by the PAC, any change in location will require PAC approval.
- Clarify that the maintenance agreement shall be reflected in the conditions of approval and recorded against the property prior to the issuance of the first certificate of occupancy.
- Remove the requirement that cultural arts grants can only go to non-profit organizations.
- Specify that City Council approval is needed only for Fund expenditures that exceed the purchase authority of the City Manager.
- Allow the use of public art funds for conservation and maintenance of public art.
- Allow the use of public art funds for deaccession of public art.

Gehrke answered clarifying questions and invited commissioner discussion. Commissioner Farrell requested clarification that the intention is to remove the \$2000.00 cap from the ordinance and include the cap in future public art guidelines. Staff clarified that this is the intention.

Tara Pilbrow suggested that people seeking small public art grants be allowed to seek grants via fiscal sponsorship by non-profits.

Commissioners reviewed and discussed recommended changes.

A motion to approve the recommended changes to the Public Art Ordinance was made by Chairperson Gillitt and seconded by Commissioner Van Cleef. Ayes: Chairperson Gillitt, Vice Chairperson Rush, Commissioners Van Cleef, Sneeringer, and Farrell. Nays: none. The motion carried 5-0.

5-D 2021-673 Review Master Plan Documents and Synergy Report in Preparation for April 19 Public Art Commission Meeting

Staff member Gehrke provided an opportunity for initial public and commissioner comments to the proposed Master Plan Documents and Synergy Report in

preparation for April 19 PAC meeting. Gehrke answered clarifying questions. Staff member Gehrke offered to research what year the Santa Rosa and Emeryville Master Plans were written.

Public member Tina Blaine expressed frustration that there have only been 2 RFPs for the Public Art Fund since 2016, commented that there has been a degree of turn-over in the PAC, and expressed support for adjusting the public art contribution rates to encourage contributions to the in-lieu Fund.

6. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Secretary Butler updated the commission on small grants, and advised that all previously-approved public art small grant pieces that were delayed due to COVID-19 will receive an extension to the next fiscal year.

Staff member Gehrke provided the following updates:

- The public art upcoming project report will be brought to the PAC 3 times per year moving forward.
- Construction of the foundations for the Rock Spinner and Mosaic Columns located at Jean Sweeney Park is due to start next week.
- Over 700 responses to the Dan Fontes Mural survey have been received which will be shared with the PAC at the next meeting.
- The working session to provide feedback for the existing PAC website will take place at the April meeting.

7. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None.

8. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA

Vice Chairperson expressed her regrets for the delayed arrival to the meeting.

Commissioner Farrell expressed appreciation for the Staff to provide reports to the commission, and thanked the members of the public for their participation.

9. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Public member Tina Blaine requested that the cap on small art grants be raised to \$5,000.00 to allow for larger projects.

Public member Tara Pilbrow asked when the next RFP for small art grants will be. Secretary Butler confirmed that funding for small grants has been included the 2021-2022 FY budget request, dependent on PAC decision to solicit projects next fiscal year.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Gillitt adjourned the meeting at 7:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Butler
Economic Development Manager
Secretary
Public Art Commission