



Civic Arts Commission
Office of Economic Development

Minutes

Civic Arts Commission

Wednesday, July 24, 2019 at 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Tarea Hall Pittman South Branch Library, 1901 Russell St., Berkeley, CA 94703

1. **CALL TO ORDER** 6:02 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**
Commissioners Present: Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Ozol, Passmore, Ross, Tamano.
Commissioners Absent: Slattery.
Staff Present: Jennifer Lovvorn, Commission Secretary & Chief Cultural Affairs Officer; and Mara Engelson, Civic Arts Analyst.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
None

4. **ACTION ITEMS** (*All items for discussion and possible action*).
 - a) *Berkeley Big People* by Scott Donahue – Discussion and Possible Action to Initiate Deaccession (Attachment 1)
Action: M/S/C (Passmore/Anno) to initiate deaccession of the Scott Donahue, *Berkeley Big People* sculptures.
Vote: Ayes – Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Ozol, Passmore; Ross, Nays – Tamano; Abstain – None; Absent – Slattery.
Public Comment: Former Civic Arts Commissioner David Snippen stated that the artist has done amazing sculptural works, but this particular artwork is not a fit for the bridge.
 - b) Extend Display of *Home* by Michael Christian at Downtown Berkeley BART Plaza to September 2020 with Conditions (Attachment 2)
Action: M/S/C (Blecher/Anno) to approve extending the display of the *Home* sculpture by Michael Christian with the artists' conditions and the additional condition that we must be notified at least one month prior to the sculpture being removed.
Vote: Ayes – Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Ozol, Passmore, Ross, Tamano; Nays – None; Abstain – None; Absent – Slattery.
 - c) Purchase of Six Artworks by Stephen McMillan and Artwork Framing for 1947 Center Street (Attachment 3)
Action: M/S/C (Anno/Blecher) to approve the purchase of six artworks by Stephen McMillan and Artwork Framing for 1947 Center Street within the approved budget of \$5,000 and with staff discretion upon inspection of artwork in person.
Vote: Ayes – Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Ozol, Passmore, Ross, Tamano; Nays – None; Abstain – None; Absent – Slattery.

- d) Approval of Policy Statement on Inclusion of Affordable Housing for Artists and Cultural Workers in the Proposed Overall Policy Framework for Affordable Housing for the City of Berkeley (Attachment 4)
Action: M/S/C (Passmore/Ross) to approve the Policy Statement on Inclusion of Affordable Housing for Artists and Cultural Workers in the Proposed Overall Policy Framework for Affordable Housing for the City of Berkeley with changes to final bullet point to read: “Prevent displacement of artists in West Berkeley by developing policies to protect existing live/work spaces from being displaced by new businesses (such as cannabis businesses).”
Vote: Ayes – Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Ozol, Passmore, Ross, Tamano; Nays – None; Abstain – None; Absent – Slattery.
- e) FY20 Civic Arts Commission Annual Work Plan – This item was continued to the next Commission meeting.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a) June 26, 2019 Draft Minutes (Attachment 5)
Action: M/S/C (Blecher/Ozol) to approve June 26, 2019 Draft Minutes with the spelling correction of Kriss Worthington’s name on 9b.
Vote: Ayes – Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Ozol, Ross, Tamano; Nays – None; Abstain – Passmore; Absent – Slattery.

6. **CHAIRS REPORT**

- a) The Chair stated that there is a need for additional advocacy regarding the short term rental revenues as a funding stream for the Civic Arts. She suggested that Civic Arts Commissioner could align with the Housing Advisory Commission to advocate to Council for these revenues to be provided to the arts and affordable housing as discussed at the December 19, 2017 City Council meeting.
- b) The Chair also reported that the Policy Subcommittee is working on a process for the selection of the next and future Poet Laureates.

7. **STAFF REPORT**

- a) Staff Jennifer Lovvorn gave an update on the audit of the 1.5% for Public Art funds. She has discussed the issue with the Deputy City Manager David White who will be looking into it in order to provide more information to the Commission this fall.
- b) Subcommittees have been meeting to work on their committee work plan items and the consolidated FY20 Civic Arts Commission Annual Work Plan will be on the September Commission meeting.
- c) Staff Mara Engelson reported on the geographic distribution of the Civic Arts Grants by districts for FY20.
- d) Staff Jennifer Lovvorn presented the quarterly report on Public Art in Private Development.
- e) Reminder about the Council Work Session on the Cultural Plan on September 17, 2019.

8. **PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION I** *(All items for discussion only and no action)*

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Grants – Grants Committee met on July 10 to discuss: a) Civic Arts Commission Annual Work Plan for Grants Committee Work in FY20; b) Review Possible Changes to Grant Guidelines for FY21; c) Schedule for FY21 Grant Application Process; and d) Grant Program Convening/Application Process Kickoff
 - John Slattery, Chair
 - Kim Anno

- b) Policy – Policy Committee met on July 8 to: Discuss and Develop Policy Statement on inclusion of Affordable Housing for Artists and Cultural Workers in the Proposed Overall Policy Framework for Affordable Housing for the City of Berkeley. Policy Committee met on July 24 to discuss: Develop FY20 Annual Work Plan for Policy Committee
 - Kim Anno, Chair
 - Lisa Bullwinkel
 - Liz Ozol
 - Jennifer Ross

- c) Public Art – Public Art Committee met on July 22 to discuss: a) “Berkeley Big People” sculpture by Scott Donahue - Review for Deaccession and Possible Action; b) Discuss Changes to Public Art in Private Development Guidelines; c) Develop FY20 Annual Work Plan for Public Art Committee; d) Extend display of “Home” sculpture by Michael Christian for 1 year with conditions; e) Purchase of six framed artworks for 1947 Center Street: Permit Center, Customer Service and Police Review Commission Lobby; f) Update on completed pedestal shape for Cat Stack.
 - Matt Passmore, Chair
 - Kim Anno
 - Dana Blecher
 - Modesto Covarrubias

- d) Berkeley Cultural Trust Representative – The Berkeley Cultural Trust has been discussing affordable housing for artists and cultural workers.
 - Lisa Bullwinkel

- e) Berkeley Arts Education Steering Committee Representative – Meeting scheduled for August 1st at 3:30 pm at Civic Center to discuss the annual work plan.
 - Liz Ozol

- f) Design Review – Commissioner Covarrubias reported that there will be more on-site Public Art in Private Development projects coming to Public Art soon.
 - Modesto Covarrubias

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS and COMMUNICATION

- Staff announced that Local Artists Berkeley is seeking Civic Arts Commissioners to serve on an artist selection panel for art walk sculptures. Commissioners Anno and Passmore volunteered.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Action: M/S/C (Anno/Covarrubias) to Adjourn at 7:49 pm.

Vote: Ayes – Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Ozol, Passmore, Ross, Tamano;
Nays – None; Abstain – None; Absent – Slattery

Staff Contact:

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Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the Civic Arts Office located at 2180 Milvia Street, Fifth Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704.

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