



County of Santa Cruz

PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES

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JOE SCHULTZ, DIRECTOR

ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES

Monday, March 1, 2010

4:30 PM

Meeting/Retreat

Simpkins Family Swim Center

979 17th Avenue

Santa Cruz, CA 95062

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m.

Members: Shirlee Byrd, Cynthia Kilian, James Nee, Joanna Phillips, Judy Stabile, Bobbi Todaro, Evelyn Bernstein

Present: Cynthia Kilian, James Nee, Joanna Phillips, Judy Stabile, Bobbi Todaro, Evelyn Bernstein

Staff: Joe Schultz, Christine Bennett, Kathy DeWild

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS OR APPROVAL

The agenda was accepted as written (Stabile/Phillips 6/0).

III. CONSENT AGENDA

The information and reports were accepted and filed (Stabile/Phillips 6/0) and the minutes of January 23, 2010 were approved (Stabile/Todaro 6/0).

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Bernstein shared that she attended the Regional Arts Network meeting coordinated by the Cultural Council. She was very impressed, specifically with Valeria Miranda who holds a newly funded position with the County Office of Education, because she was dynamic and informed. The meeting occurs every three months and is intended as a collaboration tool for various arts-related organizations in the County. Commissioner Kilian stated that the Santa Cruz Symphony is performing a short series of youth and family concerts at the Civic Auditorium and the Mello Center to get elementary school-aged children interested in the music. There will also be a fundraising event at Holy Cross Hall on the 6th of this month. Commissioner Nee heard of community a 'competition' between two cities to determine who had the best art/artists and he suggested that perhaps Santa Cruz and Monterey counties do something similar. A thank you was extended to Commissioner Stabile for her generous donation of \$200 toward the promotion listed in the 'All-County Museum' brochure.

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Schultz announced that the "Pooches In the Park" event will be held this Sunday, from 10-3, at the Polo Grounds in Aptos. He stated that Supervisor Campos sent a letter on

behalf of the Board of Supervisors thanking the Commissioners for their past year's efforts. County Parks is co-sponsoring a "Night of Inspiration for Adult Athletes" on March 19th from 7-9PM at the Simpkins Family Swim Center. On Sunday, March 28th the Cultural Council is holding a fundraising event at Chaminade with a 1940s theme titled "Primavera." The Parks Department is being asked to make 20% cuts again this year which will reduce funding to cultural agencies such as MAH, Cultural Council, etc. by that amount as well.

Kathy DeWild updated the Commissioners on the "Call To Artists" for Pleasure Point Park / Parkway and Chanticleer Park public art projects. The deadline was February 26th and there were approximately ten submittals for each park. These will be reviewed to ensure that each proposed project is eligible for consideration, and then panel members will be contacted regarding potential first-meeting dates. The panel meetings will probably take place the 2nd or 3rd week of March. The Artist of the Year event for Robert Kelley will be held at 7:00 PM on May 21st at the Rio Theatre.

VI. AGENDA

A. Action Items

1. Securing Art Donations from former Artists of the Year

Kathy DeWild reported that there is a case on the 5th floor of the Government Center which is locked, visible, and suitable to exhibit a donation from Lynda Watson, should she choose to make one. She also has contacted Laurie King about a donation and is waiting to hear back. No other updates at this time by Commissioners.

2. Discuss Artist of the Year nomination and selection process

Kathy DeWild proposed that the Commission adopt a process similar to what the Cultural Council used for the Poet Laureate selection process (copy of that provided to Commissioners). She stated that as a panellist, it was nice to have the complete packet of information presented to review. Commissioner Stabile suggested that a points system should be considered. Commissioner Kilian suggested a sub-committee be formed to review and revise the Cultural Council's document and present a draft to the Commission. The sub-committee will be Commissioners Stabile, Todaro, and Byrd, and they will present a draft to the group at the June meeting.

B. Information Items

1. Restoration/Repair Fund For Public Art

No update at this time per Kathy DeWild.

2. Consider A Wider Variety of Awards

Commissioner Phillips said that an award for an emerging artist should be considered, but criteria should be established and that perhaps a similar selection process to the Artist of the Year can be used. A sub-committee of Commissioners Stabile, Todaro and Byrd was formed and suggestions from the other Commissioners were requested. Commissioner Stabile stated that she likes the process used for the Rydell Fellowship Award, which involves asking arts agencies and organizations to nominate potential recipients.

3. Establishing A Networking Meeting/Mixer With Other Cultural Organizations And Local Artists

Commissioner Stabile suggested that a member or members of the Arts Commission attend the next Regional Arts meeting, and that they report back any information at the next Commission meeting, as Commissioner Bernstein did.

4. Recognition For Incorporating Public Art In Private Projects

Kathy DeWild suggested postponing this item forward due to the absence of Commissioner Byrd who was on the sub-committee for determining criteria. Commissioner Kilian stated that she will e-mail to the group the information that Commissioner Byrd gave her a few months ago. This item will be discussed again in April.

5. Staff Report on Feedback from the Public Relative to Hestwood Park Letter to Editor

Kathy DeWild stated that the County Information Officer said that for a Letter to the Editor to be submitted by the Commission, it would require approval by the Board of Supervisors. In lieu of obtaining that approval, a neighbor of the artist submitted the letter to the Sentinel instead.

VII. AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:

**Monday, April 5, 2010 at 4:30 p.m.
Simpkins Family Swim Center, 2nd Floor**

A. Action Items

1. Recognition for incorporating public art in private projects
2. Review Emerging Artist Award Criteria (draft)
3. Review Artist of the Year Award selection process revamp (draft)

B. Information Items

1. Staff report on public art projects in progress

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m. (Kilian)