

PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, August 14, 2018
450 Civic Center Plaza, 2nd Floor
Pt. Molate Room
Richmond. CA 94804

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Jenny Balisle, Tom Herriman, Gretchen Borg-Hillstead, Linda Kalin,
Phillip Mehas*, and Jessica Parker*

*Arrived after Roll Call

Absent: None

Staff: Michele Seville, Arts & Culture Manager

Guests: Cordell Hindler

I. Chair Balisle called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

II. Roll Call

III. Agenda Review and Acceptance

Motion by Committee Member Kalin, second by Committee Member Borg-Hillstead, and carried unanimously to accept the agenda, as submitted.

IV. Minutes from the July 10, 2018 Meeting

Committee Member Mehas requested an amendment to his comment under Announcements on Page 4 that “the proposed storage space on Cutting Avenue would be in possible competition with Bridge Arts.”

Motion by Committee Member Borg-Hillstead, second by Committee Member Mehas, and carried unanimously to accept the minutes of the July 10, 2018 meeting, as amended.

V. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

VI. Report on Status of Proposed Public Art Board Ordinance and Public Art Policies & Procedures

Michele Seville reported that she had submitted a request for a legal opinion on the Public Art Board proposed ordinance and had been advised by the Library

and Cultural Services Director, Katy Curl, that changes had to be made to the Policies & Procedures prior to addressing the Public Art Board issue. She had made the requested changes that everything relevant to private development be made into a separate document, which document had been included in the Committee packet. She clarified that she had advised Ms. Curl it was not the PAAC's recommendation to separate the document.

For the record, Chair Balisle expressed disappointment that the PAAC's recommendations had not been considered and suggested it represented another example of not understanding the work and research of the PAAC's volunteers. She otherwise expressed her appreciation to Ms. Seville for her time and effort.

Ms. Seville referred to the draft Richmond Private Art and Private Development Fact Sheet, which had been created per Ms. Curl's request; a flow chart of how the developer would move through the city with a private development public art project. Another document, a Private Development draft brochure, outlined much more broadly what the developer could look forward to as part of the process. She suggested with those three documents, Ms. Curl had what she needed in order to make her comments and move forward to the Legal Department.

Committee Member Kalin noted that there were some differences from what the Ad Hoc Committee had recommended and what had now been presented. She also commented that Ms. Curl had pulled the Request for Legal Opinion which had been sent in May 2018 to the Legal Department, and expressed concern for the four-month delay, which was not only inefficient but extremely frustrating to those assigned the task of getting the job done.

Committee Members Borg-Hillstead and Parker concurred with the comments.

Ms. Seville advised that once the Policy & Procedures in Private Development portion had been submitted to the Legal Department, it would be reviewed and there would be a response.

VII. Report on Public Art Roster

Chair Balisle stated that she and Committee Member Parker had worked on the Public Art Roster, refined it, kept it as simple as possible with an identification and summary, research and resources. The Public Art Roster was now ready to move forward. She added that while feedback from Ms. Curl had been expected, it had yet to occur.

Committee Member Mehas made a motion to approve and implement the Public Art Roster. There was no second to the motion.

Ms. Seville referenced a meeting with Ophelia Alvarado in the Finance Department, who had offered guidance. She suggested the refined documents

Director, Kay Curl that it be sent back to her for feedback and confirmation as to city policy and process. The PAAC reviewed the Public Art in Private Development Fact Sheet drafted by Ms. Seville, and the Public Artist Roster Summary. Seville recommended a revision to the latter document to provide a heading to identify the paragraphs, and in response to a reference to “sizeable technological limitations within the city” in the third paragraph of the Summary recommended instead “technological access limitations within the city,” to be included in the paragraph identifying the use of Dropbox.

In addition, it was also recommended that the Conclusion section on the last page could be eliminated, and the website link and billing information could be included in the Why Dropbox? Section.

Chair Balisle advised that she and Committee Member Parker would refine the documents based on the discussion, with the documents to then be submitted to Ms. Seville and Ofelia Alvarez of Finance for review. The Public Art Roster could then be placed on the PAAC’s September agenda for action.

VIII. Report on New Developer Handout Materials

Committee Member Kalin presented the brochure, thanked members for the comments received, noted the document was the same as previously submitted, and explained that she would make all of the changes at once. She referred to one of the comments from Michelle Baker, who had recommended that developers who did not qualify under the requirements of the ordinance should be encouraged to also consider a public art submittal. On the discussion of that recommendation, some PAAC members supported the inclusion while others suggested it might confuse the process. Several options were discussed to encourage developers and the possibility of amendments in the future to identify options was acknowledged.

Because the brochure would be in the Planning Department at the counter, it was decided to keep it simple, and a statement was recommended to be added to the handout that “Public art enhances all projects regardless of budget, if you have an interest please contact Michele Seville.”

IX. Status on Checklist for Planning and New Development Review

Ms. Seville advised that she was waiting for comments from the Planning Department.

With respect to the planning documents into which the requirement for the one percent for private development would go, as shown in the meeting packet, it was recommended that the private development requirements be inserted into the existing planning documents, where appropriate, and specifically that the Inspection Record Card include Art in the Final Inspection box.

Committee Member Borg expressed concern that the Planning Department had reportedly not been enforcing the Public Art and Private Development ordinance until the information had been included on their forms available at the counter in the Planning Department. As such, she suggested that Committee Member Borg-Hillstead, who had knowledge of Planning department procedures, join Ms. Seville in the meeting with the Planning Department.

Committee Member Borg verified with Ms. Seville that she would meet with the Planning Department to address all the issues; the Public Arts Brochure, the insertion of the art requirement in the Planning documents, the fact that the ordinance was not being enforced, a new project list of all developments, and whether what had been submitted was adequate, with the responses to be provided to the PAAC.

X. Status of CIP Projects

Ms. Seville advised that as earlier reported, \$16,000 would be transferred into the Public Art Budget from two Port of Richmond projects. There will be no on-site public art associated with those projects. She also reported that John Toki's contract would end on October 31, 2018, and she had been advised that the project could take another six months to complete.

The PAAC requested progress reports on Mr. Toki's project every couple of months.

Ms. Seville reported that Masayuki Nagase, the artist who will be doing the Moody Underpass project, has done other projects involving the Ohlone community and other Native tribes both in the Bay Area and out of state. The community meetings will be scheduled in October.

The PAAC expressed concern that the city had planted trees on the site of a proposed art project and urged that City staff be apprised of the fact that there would be a project on the site and some of the trees may need to be removed. The artist will be consulted by the Arts & Culture Manager first. Committee Member Parker identified a connection who could accept donated trees. The PAAC requested that Ms. Seville contact the appropriate staff to express that concern.

In addition, Ms. Seville described a meeting with Lisa O'Reilly, who is raising money for environmental public art, and who invited her to a planning meeting of the upcoming Tribal Canoe Journey organized by Native Americans in the Northwest. Seville attended that meeting, and made contact with several local tribal members. The event is scheduled to take place in 2019 for the 50th Anniversary of the Occupation of Alcatraz.

XI. Report on Community Conversations Workshops

Ms. Seville reported there had been two Community Conversations Workshops and described the input from the community. People were being asked to bring in their memorabilia and stories, and some had been asked to go over the Richmond Museum of History's Archives, which had just been cataloged. Volunteers were sought to go over the Museum's photographs. Several artists were being pursued to brainstorm the mural. The artists would be tasked with a plan for the mural. The site had not yet been determined. She emphasized that those who had participated in the workshops were passionate about having a community space run by the community to allow community access and future events.

XII. Staff Report

Ms. Seville highlighted the staff report, and described the recent Rosie the Riveter event as well attended.

On the discussion of the Baranoff Holdings project that would include art studios, the PAAC recommended a future discussion to create an art zone similar to an economic zone.

XIII. Announcements

Ms. Seville reported that Bridge Storage would have a launch party on September 15, 2018 from 3:00 to 7:00 P.M.

Committee Member Kalin reported that Palo Alto had received two awards for its public art, and out of all the different cities the PAAC had looked at Palo Alto had offered the most information and modeled a lot of what Richmond was attempting to do.

Ms. Kalin expressed a desire to invite Florene Wiley, a member of the Richmond Arts & Culture Commission (RACC) to a PAAC meeting for a report on her observations and thoughts related to Hilltop's closed theater that might be reopened.

Ms. Seville referred to a sculpture that had been on the parking lot side of the East Bay Center building, which had been removed in 2009 because the building had been expanded. The sculpture had been carefully cataloged, documented, removed, wrapped, and stored by the City of Richmond's Public Works Department. While the location of where it had been stored was not currently available, Seville was looking for the crates containing the sculpture at Pt. Molate because of a desire to have it repurposed.

XIV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 P.M. to the next meeting on September 11, 2018.