

PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 18, 2018
450 Civic Center Plaza, 2nd Floor
Richmond Room
Richmond, CA 94804

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Michelle Baker, Jenny Balisle, Gretchen Borg-Hillstead, Linda Kalin, and Jessica Parker

Absent: Tom Herriman and Phillip Mehas

Staff: Michele Seville, Arts & Culture Manager

Guests: Cordell Hindler

I. Chair Balisle called the special meeting to order at 7:04 P.M.

II. Roll Call

III. Agenda Review and Acceptance

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

IV. Minutes from the August 14, 2018 Meeting

Committee Member Kalin requested a correction to the second paragraph on Page 4 to show that Committee Member Borg-Hillstead, and not Committee Member Kalin as shown, had indicated her willingness to meet with the Planning Department and Ms. Seville as long as it was between 2:30 and 5:00 P.M; to address all the issues.

Committee Member Kalin referred to the second paragraph from the bottom of Page 4 related to the project where trees might need to be removed by the city and was advised by Ms. Seville that she had spoken to the artist, Masayuki Nagase, who would determine once there was a design plan whether or not any trees would have to be removed. The paragraph was amended to read that *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 should the trees need to be removed.*

Committee Member Kalin also requested that the second paragraph from the bottom of Page 5 be modified to split the paragraph into two paragraphs to separate the information related to Palo Alto awards from public art from the

paragraph inviting Florene Wiley to a PAAC meeting.

Motion by Committee Member Borg-Hillstead, second by Committee Member Parker, and carried unanimously to accept the minutes of the August 14, 2018 meeting, as amended.

V. Introduction of New PAAC Member Michelle Baker

Michelle Baker, the newly appointed member of the Public Art Advisory Committee, was warmly welcomed by the Committee.

VI. Public Comment

CORDELL HINDLER, Richmond, announced Contra Costa Civic Theater's new musical *Allegiance*, and advised that he would forward the link to the musical to Michele Seville for distribution to the PAAC mailing list. He also announced some recent appointments by the City Council to the Richmond Arts & Cultural Commission.

VII. Report on Status of Proposed Public Art Board Ordinance and Public Art Policies & Procedures (P&P)

Michele Seville reported that all of the documents to the request for legal opinion had been presented to Katy Curl, Director of Library and Cultural Services, and that the RLO was expected to be forwarded to the City Attorney on September 19.

Committee Member Kalin asked for verification that the proposed Public Art Board Ordinance had been set aside at this time and had not been included in the submittal to the City Attorney. Staff confirmed this.

As to why that had not been included, Ms. Seville explained that the issues related to the Public Art Board were separate from the P&P. When asked about the timeline involved, she was uncertain but noted that the primary issue was to submit the P&P to the City Attorney for comment and recommendation.

Chair Balisle recommended that the PAAC submit a letter to Ms. Curl requesting a summary of her actions and vision related to the PAAC to keep the PAAC informed.

Committee Member Kalin explained that the Ad Hoc Committee had been working on the P&P and the Public Art Board Ordinance for some time and understood that the Ordinance was more critical than the P&P at this time. She also commented that as a member of the Ad Hoc Committee, the section related to the developers' procedures was missing significant information that had been intended to be included once the policy had been clarified. She emphasized that section, as submitted, was never intended as a completion to the document.

Ms. Seville advised that she would provide an email summary with submittal of the information to the City Attorney to identify the background and chronology of the effort to provide a clear picture of what had been done to date. She also noted that once the City Attorney had provided his comments, the document would return to the PAAC for review, comment, and approval.

VIII. Review and Vote on Public Art Roster

Chair Balisle reported that after the last meeting the PAAC's requested suggestions and changes had been incorporated into the Public Art Roster and the revised document that had been submitted included those changes. She emphasized the importance of the document given the developer requests for artists' names and the Percent for Art requirements, and sought PAAC review and comment.

Ms. Seville identified the next step as submittal of the document and the instructions to artists to the Finance Department for approval, after which it could be implemented.

Motion by Committee Member Borg-Hillstead, second by Committee Member Kalin, and carried unanimously to approve the Public Art Roster Summary, to be submitted to the Finance Department for approval.

IX. Report on Staff's Meeting with Planning Department re Public Art Checklist and Planning/Building Forms

Ms. Seville reported that she had met with Lina Velasco in the Planning Department on August 29, confirmed that developers were now being informed of the Percent for Art requirement, and the information related to that requirement would now be located on the planning and building forms, specifically on the Inspection Record Card and the Multi-Family Residential and/or Commercial Development Project checklist.

Committee Member Kalin commented that there was another form similar to the Multi-Family Residential form that related to private residences, and while it was noted by Ms. Seville that form was reportedly not applicable, she sought a clarification given the language in the ordinance.

Ms. Seville recommended a review of the private ordinance language at the next PAAC meeting.

Ms. Seville referred to the list of all new private development projects that had been submitted separately, and sought comments from the PAAC. She verified that August 18, 2017 was the eligible date of project applicability.

Committee Member Borg-Hillstead reported that she had reviewed the list, had

found three applicable projects, and would provide her comments to Ms. Seville. Committee Member Baker requested an electronic copy of the list that could be converted to Excel, to then include the estimated cost of each project to verify eligibility.

Ms. Seville reported that the Planning Department would craft a boilerplate letter to projects that had not been asked to contribute the Percent for Art allocation. On the question as to whether individual addresses could be part of a larger multi-family application, she would verify how that would be addressed. She also noted that Ms. Velasco had recommended that the brochure and all supporting documents associated with private development be posted on line, with potentially a website or a special portion of the city's website for private developers under the Planning Department for ease of use by developers.

Committee Member Kalin recommended instead the creation of a new public art website for the documentation rather than attempting to incorporate into the existing site, which could be linked with the Planning Department. The PAAC recommended that topic, along with how such a website could be funded, for discussion at the next meeting.

X. Report on New Developer Handout Materials and Brochure Update

Ms. Seville reported the number one suggestion offered by Ms. Velasco was to swap out the photos and include photos of Richmond public art along with examples of what might be done.

Chair Balisle recommended keeping track of what was possible, and Committee Member Parker commented that with the opportunity to create a website, there would still be the opportunity to add something similar to a photo album and include images to inspire or showcase actual local artists without limitation.

Committee Member Kalin noted that one of the examples was the Palo Alto brochure, which had used examples from other places to show their vision beyond what already existed. She referred to Emeryville's examples of public art that already existed and emphasized the intent of the Richmond brochure to introduce developers to the new ordinance. She added that Richmond had no public art using the money from the new ordinance.

Ms. Seville commented, however, that there was public art in Richmond that had been created at the request of private developers. She identified the location of some of that art.

Committee Member Kalin asked for photos of that art to consider what might be included in the brochure. Given the website and other opportunities, she stated there would be an ability to post a lot online, and recommended an FAQ or examples for another sheet to avoid attempts to fit everything on one sheet. On the discussion, she requested an email to identify how the photos had been

selected and where they had originated, for presentation to Ms. Velasco.

XI. Discussion of Percent for Art in Private Development Implementation Plan

Committee Member Kalin reported that the Ad Hoc Committee had devised a list of what needed to be completed to create a smooth process. She summarized the tasks involved, identified the status of each, and spoke to the tasks that would need to be completed prior to the presentation to the Planning Department for comment. A presentation from the PAAC to the Planning Department is expected in the near future.

XII. Status Report on CIP Projects, Current and Upcoming

Ms. Seville reported there was nothing new with respect to CIP projects.

XIII. Status of New Development Projects/Assignment

Ms. Seville presented a report on the Power Plant Park cannabis project, where space would be leased to growers. She distributed the plans to the PAAC and reported she had submitted a list to Ms. Velasco for opportunities on the project site such as decorative fencing around the entire project, decorative elements on traditional fencing, artwork on the walls of the board room, the education room, or the various meeting spaces, decorative lighting, sculptural elements, and the like.

On the discussion, several recommendations were offered, with a request that examples be provided:

- Consider decorating the poles holding the multiple cameras (Borg-Hillstead);
- Apply art to the actual architecture of the building (Baker);
- Consider a subcommittee to review the many new projects (Balisle);
- Recommend clear directives to subcommittees (Parker);
- Recommend examples of what could be done for public art, with more pieces to be provided (Kalin).

Committee Member Parker noted that the City Council had just approved the new Factory Bar on San Pablo Avenue which offered another opportunity for public art.

Mr. Hindler reported that the Richmond Heights Neighborhood Council had supported the Factory Bar at another location.

XIV. Staff Report

Ms. Seville highlighted the staff report included in the packet. With respect to the Port Sculpture at Pt. Sheridan, she explained that her budget had paid for the building permit because while included in the contract it had not been budgeted. In response to the PAAC, she suggested the policy of waiving permit fees for

city-commissioned public art should be revisited.
XV. Announcements

Committee Member Kalin took this opportunity to explain that she had received a number of comments from PAAC members on the brochure, that everything had been taken seriously, and that she had incorporated the comments in the brochure where appropriate in what she characterized as a “discreet beginning step” with a small focus.

The PAAC commended Committee Member Kalin for all her efforts.

Ms. Seville commented that she had been looking for the sculpture titled *Ellis Landing*, which had been on the side of the East Bay Center of the Performing Arts but had been removed in 2002, broken down into pieces, cataloged, wrapped, crated, and stored by Public Works. While she had been unsuccessful to date, her ongoing search continued for the City’s first piece of public art by Tom Brown, a Richmond artist.

The PAAC requested a photo of *Ellis Landing*.

In other announcements, Ms. Seville reported that *Califas* at the Richmond Art Center was an extraordinary show, with a performance scheduled for September 19. She also mentioned a grant opportunity called the Southern Exposures Grant Program; the deadline is October 12, 2018.

XVI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M. to the next meeting on October 9, 2018.