

PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 11, 2019
450 Civic Center Plaza, 2nd Floor
Richmond Room
Richmond, CA 94804

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Michelle Baker, Gretchen Borg-Hillstead, Tom Herriman, Linda Kalin, Phillip Mehas, and Jessica Parker

Absent: Jenny Balisle

Staff: Michele Seville, Arts & Culture Manager
Katy Curl, Library & Cultural Services Director

Guests: Bret Baird, Rosalie Barnes, Bryan Cornelius, Norma Lynn Cutler, and Michael Leaf

- I. Chair Pro Tem Phillip Mehas called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.
- II. Roll Call
- III. Agenda Review and Acceptance

The agenda was accepted as submitted.

Committee Member Kalin requested an update on the Percent for Art Checklist for Planning, and Michele Seville stated it had not been on the agenda given no meeting with Planning staff at this point, although Committee Member Borg-Hillstead stated that the Public Art Brochure had not been available in the Planning office nor had any other percent for art in private development information been available.

- IV. Minutes from the May 14, 2019 Meeting

Committee Member Kalin referred to the bottom of Page 3 of the May 14, 2019 minutes with respect to the 12th and Macdonald project, and corrected the date of the art review board meeting as June 26, 2019.

By consensus (but no motion), the PAAC approved the minutes of the May 14, 2019 meeting, as corrected.

- V. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

VI. Presentation and Action on Public Art Concept for Shops at Hilltop

Norma Lynn Cutler, art consultant for the public art concept for Shops at Hilltop presented one phase of the arts program proposed at Hilltop and noted that there would be several phases involved. The public art would address the multiculturalism and diversity in the City of Richmond, be placed at each of the four primary entrances into Hilltop, and be treated similarly but differently. The interpretative art concept would represent the many species of birds at Hilltop as things of beauty, of community, and of nature, and would embrace Richmond's birds as the touchpoint for inclusivity. The sculpture was titled *Flight of Inclusion*, a sculpture of unity. Each sculpture would include a different type of bird.

Michael Leaf, the sculptor, presented the details of the proposed metal sculpture, its size at 20 feet tall and 30 feet wide, using 20-gauge recycled steel, to be installed with the birds projected from a flat surface mounted rigidly to a building structure. He described the native birds that would be represented, reiterated that no entrance would be the same in color and shape, and no bird would be the same at each entrance. Plaques would be placed on all Flights of Inclusion sculptures and the type of bird would be identified.

Recommendations from the PAAC:

- The name of the native Richmond bird species represented be used to identify the entry and serve an educational aspect for children;
- Questioned why the living wall would now be artificial and suggested that the real or artificial plants on the wall represent the bird species;
- Asked if there had been outreach to the community in terms of the theme of inclusion; and
- Suggested the shapes implied more than just birds and that water appeared to also be represented, which was good.

Ms. Seville stated that while she liked the tones, she was missing the birds because of the background and asked about the plants, to which Ms. Cutler stated a landscaper would be engaged to determine where the walls would be placed, what plants to use, whether real, artificial, or a melding of both. Nothing had been finalized in terms of the material.

Ms. Cutler requested copies of the minutes to be apprised of the comments.

VII. Presentation, Report, Discussion, and Additions to RACC/PAAC Work Plan

Rosalie Barnes, a member of the Richmond Arts & Culture Commission (RACC), presented an update to the RACC/PAAC Work Plan for the City Manager and explained that the document in the packets was not the most recent draft. She described the format for the Work Plan, highlighted the summary to enhance the Neighborhood Public Art (NPA) Mini-grants, extend the terms for PAAC members, increase administrative and tech support for the Arts & Culture Manager, and approve procedures for percent for art implementation.

The Work Plan also included approval of a Policies and Procedures (P&Ps) official document and preparing a 2020-2024 Strategic Plan for the Arts & Culture Division Committees.

There had also been a suggestion that the RACC and PAAC consider making recommendations to the City Manager with respect to rules of engagement for members and guests. The RACC would review the Work Plan again at its June meeting and it would return to the PAAC in July with hopefully representation from both bodies and with staff representation, details yet to be determined.

Ms. Barnes read the Work Plan's Executive Summary to the PAAC and Chair Pro Tem Mehas requested that it show the bigger picture in that the City of Richmond was becoming an integral participant in the art work in the Bay Area.

Committee Member Kalin suggested that the most important things should be at the beginning such as the P&Ps, which would go hand in hand with the Percent for Art in Private Development Ordinance as well as considering some official organization of the PAAC, and addressing the issue with respect to term limits. She urged that the document be consolidated to be concise and brief.

Ms. Seville stated she had spoken to the Mayor who was supportive of extending term limits. The Mayor's office had suggested the existence of the PAAC should not be confined to the P&Ps, that it should be defined by ordinance or resolution and should be updated and formalized as soon as possible. She suggested the P&Ps would take longer and the term limits and PAAC should be defined first, which were the highest priorities.

It was clarified with respect to terms limits that several terms of PAAC members would expire in October, with the remainder to expire by February 2020, and Ms. Curl noted that members would have 90 days after the expiration of terms to be reappointed or not.

Ms. Barnes emphasized as part of the Work Plan development the term limits would have to be defined and an ordinance or resolution would be prepared. Committee member Kalin pointed out that an ordinance defining the PAAC and term limits had already been created. Before the next meeting it was recommended that the Work Plan subcommittee review the existing document created by the Policies & Procedures subcommittee and offer comments at the July PAAC meeting regarding changes or suggestions for rewriting this document or creating a new resolution so that a formalization of the PAAC could move forward as expeditiously as possible. Ms Barnes volunteered to contact Ben Choi, the PAAC Liaison to the City Council, to get his advice on creating a term limits 'failure plan'.

The PAAC was asked to identify its priority issues and the RACC would be asked the same question.

On the discussion of the business license issue with respect to the NPA grants, Ms. Curl clarified that the deferment of the business license was a one-time special exception and if there was a desire that NPA grants not require a business license the ordinance would have to be changed to waive that requirement.

VIII. PAAC Officer Election Discussion

Ms. Seville stated that typically the PAAC had not had designated officers, although Chair Balisle had recommended an official election of Chair and Vice Chair. Volunteers were requested to serve the PAAC between now and February 2020 when all member terms would have expired, or term limits might have been extended. She referred to the RACC's Nominating Committee which identified a list of people willing to serve and where a vote would be taken to select a Chair and Vice Chair. She recommended the same for the PAAC.

Chair Pro Tem Mehas volunteered to continue to serve as Chair pending a decision.

The PAAC supported Chair Pro Tem Mehas as the Chair and Ms. Seville recommended that anyone interested in serving as Vice Chair could be designated at the next meeting.

IX. Discussion about SF Mime Troupe

Ms. Seville reported that the San Francisco Mime Troupe had requested a waiver of City fees for this year's performance at Nichol Park. Since that was not possible this year, she explained that the Mime Troupe had declined to come to Richmond because it did not have the funds to pay the City's permit fee.

On the discussion, it was clarified that the NPA mini-grants could not be used for the troupe because that would require a grant a year in advance and there was a question whether mini-grants could be used for permits, although there was a suggestion that the one percent for art funds might be used for that purpose.

X. Report on Website Update

Committee Member Baker explained that the website would be updated once the Public Art Brochure had been finalized.

XI. Report on Existing/Future CIP and Private Development Projects

Ms. Seville stated that she would be attending a Technical Review Board meeting in the near future and would learn about the rescue mission that would be expanded and its eligibility for the one percent requirement. She would also get things secured at that time regarding the Public Art Brochure with Planning

and Finance Department staff.

Of the projects eligible for the one percent requirement, Ms. Seville referred to the marijuana project that had been approved, the Hilltop project, and the 12th and Macdonald project. She added that the Baranoff project had not been accepted and it would not be involved. She described the selection panel for the 12th and Macdonald project, and provided details of the situation and the art that had been proposed.

Committee Member Kalin referred to the Hilltop project that had earlier been presented and requested that the PAAC be provided with building development costs to be able to match it to the one percent for art requirement, which was a concern, particularly with phased projects.

XII. Report on Status of Changes to Public Art Brochure

Committee Member Kalin advised that once she had approval for the final copy of the Public Art Brochure she would create the next print-ready version of the brochure and would provide an Adobe® InDesign version for the City.

XIII. Staff Report

Ms. Seville highlighted her staff report and pointed out the details of the 12th and Macdonald project; the Port Sculpture which would go to the City Council on June 18; the Officer Bradley A. Moody Underpass project was moving forward and the Neighborhood Council would provide an update at its next meeting; the Community Conversation Grant mural had begun next to the Hacienda Grill parking lot on Nevin and Harbor; the late poems for Richmond Writes! 2019 had been processed and a short book would be printed and made available to the participants; The Verde School and RYSE Center NPA mini-grants had been completed and other projects were either under way or terms had been extended given the delay with business licenses; and the John Toki sculpture was currently being fired after which the sculpture would be reassembled at the Justice Center.

XIV. Next Steps Discussion

Committee Member Kalin advised that she would finish the Public Art Brochure; Committee Member Baker would send the updated draft of the Work Plan; Committee Member Parker would attend the next Work Plan meeting with more next steps associated with that document and would attend the June 26 art review board meeting for the 12th and Macdonald project; and Chair Pro Tem Mehas would continue to monitor the Design Review Board (DRB) meetings. Committee Member Kalin expressed a desire to attend the art review board meeting on June 26 as a non-voting PAAC member.

Ms. Seville reported she would talk to Sue Hartmann about the Public Art Brochure; the Planning Department about the Planning Checklist; identify the building development costs for Hilltop; remove all Committee Members' personal

information from the packet; poll for the PAAC election; explore the one percent for art in lieu funds for use by the San Francisco Mime Troupe and business licenses for the NPAs; advise Winifred Day that the Request for Proposal (RFP) had been circulated; and ask whether Committee Member Kalin could attend the art review board meeting for 12th and Macdonald.

XV. Announcements

Ms. Seville reported that the Richmond Library was conducting a free Summer Gardening Talk Series in June, July, August, and September at 6:30 P.M. the second Thursday of each month in the Whittlesey Room. The 30th Anniversary Pastors for Peace Cuba Caravan would be held on June 18 at 6:00 P.M. at the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalist Church, a fundraising event to raise money to help people in Cuba.

XVI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 P.M. to the next meeting on July 9, 2019.