

## **MINUTES**

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REGULAR MEETING – WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2022  
VIDEO CONFERENCE WITH NO PHYSICAL MEETING LOCATION  
6:00 P.M.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Toni Hsu called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Committee members Cliff Bryant, Susi Merhar, Regina Sakols, Tootoo Thomson, Don Whitebread, Vice Chair Toni Hsu, and Chair Jesse Cupp.

**Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** John Lang, Economic Vitality Manager; Tiffany Chew, Business Development Specialist; and Rey S. Rodriguez, Senior Project Manager.

**3. MINUTES APPROVAL**

The minutes of the March 9, 2022 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting and approved as presented.

**Motion—M/S** Whitebread/Bryant—Carried 7-0—Approve the March 9, 2022 meeting minutes as presented.

**4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

A member of the public asked that the Visual Arts Committee (VAC) consider or recommend that Public Art should be included as a component into roadway design and landscaping, especially in terms of complete street projects.

**5. UPCOMING AGENDA TOPICS**

None.

## 6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### 6.1 CIP PUBLIC ART PROJECT UPDATES

Staff noted no updates for Pyramid Park, Project 17-34, and Mora Park, Project 17-46; provided updates on Pyramid Park, Project 17-34; Mora Park, Project 17-46; staff stated demolition should begin in a couple of months and the artist is being onboarded for Rengstorff Park Aquatics Center (Project 18-38); staff is working on artist contracts for Fayette Park (Project 20-48); staff has coordinated with both artists to meet and discuss with the Senior and Youth Advisory Committees to seek input on overall mural concepts for Rengstorff Park Maintenance and Tennis Buildings (CIP Project 21-48).

### 6.2 PUBLIC ART STRATEGY

Staff presented different vision statements developed from Committee feedback on March 9, 2022. Members of the Committee provided information and responses to the three questions staff posed related to the development of a public art strategy vision statement:

1. Do any of the vision statements developed by staff resonate with the Committee for consideration and inclusion into the Public Art Strategy?
2. Are there alternative considerations for a vision statement?
3. Would the Committee prefer to refer the development of a vision statement to an ad hoc committee for further refinement and development?

The Committee discussed the presented vision statements and augmented one of the vision statements. The Committee collectively agreed upon the following Vision Statement for the Public Art Strategy: "The creation of diverse public art enriches Mountain View's innovative and creative culture, enhances the vibrancy of our community, supports local artists, and transforms Mountain View into an arts hub."

The Committee will review the Vision Statement again, at such time the Public Art Strategy is drafted, to ensure it is aligned with the complete document.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

### 7.1 PUBLIC ART STRATEGY-DONATION AND MAINTENANCE POLICIES

Staff introduced to the Committee the reasoning behind developing an Art Donation Policy for the City of Mountain View. Staff explained a potential donation policy would complement the existing Council Policy K6—Acceptance of Gifts.

Discussion questions the VAC addressed include:

1. Should there be a dollar threshold (value of art) for acceptance of donated art?
2. Should an endowment be required for future maintenance of an art piece as a condition of acceptance?
3. What site and placement criteria should be evaluated as part of acceptance of donated art?

Feedback from the Committee was a more appropriate criterion for acceptance of art and should be related to the relevance, context, meaning, and ability to enhance Mountain View versus a monetary threshold for consideration. Committee comments also included the status/fragility/durability of an art piece could be addressed through the site-specific location. The Committee suggested using the jurying process and setting standards or checklists to determine the acceptance or rejection of an art piece. Lastly, if art is to be donated to the City, the City should accept the responsibility for maintaining an art piece. The future financial responsibility of maintaining art pieces should not be the responsibility of the donating party.

Staff introduced to the Committee the reasoning behind developing an Art Maintenance Policy for the City of Mountain View.

Discussion questions the VAC addressed include:

1. Should the City hire a professional conservator to evaluate and audit the Public Art collection?
2. Should future Public Art RFPs include art maintenance plans or require limited maintenance for the life of the art piece?
3. Should future Public Art pieces require an estimate of the lifespan of the art piece?

Feedback from the Committee included ensuring the City has a better inventory/registry of all the art pieces and a conservator was not necessary. Other comments included knowing what maintenance may be needed up front from artists. Additional considerations can include art pieces that require exceptional maintenance versus regular maintenance for pieces.

## **7.2 PUBLIC ART DONATION INQUIRY**

Staff introduced to the Committee an inquiry about a possible art piece donation. Artist Yeon Warner contacted the City of Mountain View about donating a 62x87x180 granite sculpture entitled “La Scappata” that he created. Staff sought feedback from the Committee on the suitability of the piece in Mountain View. Committee feedback to staff was to inquire with both the artist as well as other City staff about appropriate locations for the piece within Mountain View and bring it back to the Committee for consideration.

## **7.3 DEVELOP AND AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR WORK ON DEVELOPING A PUBLIC ART STRATEGY**

Staff provided guidance from the City Clerk’s Office on the process for establishing an Ad Hoc Committee.

**Motion**—M/S Cupp/Sakols—Carried 7-0—Approve the development of a time-limited ad hoc committee for work specific to developing a Public Art Strategy made up of Committee members Susi Merhar and Regina Sakols, and Chair Jesse Cupp.

## **7.4 PLANNING A JOINT MEETING WITH THE DOWNTOWN COMMITTEE**

Staff provided an update on the time and date of the virtual Joint Special Meeting between the Visual Arts Committee and Downtown Committee. The meeting date is set for Wednesday, April 27, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Topics for discussion include, murals, activating vacant storefront windows with art, art on other structures, and the Art Box Program.

## **8. COMMITTEE/STAFF COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Staff informed the Committee that the virtual meetings are currently allowed under Council resolution. It is envisioned this resolution will not be extended in the near future. The Committee will either be meeting in-person or virtually but will not be able to support a

hybrid meeting approach. Staff will keep the Committee abreast of any changes to meeting format once determined.

Committee member Bryant encouraged the Committee and public to visit Wyandotte Park to see the recent wood sculpture bench installation now that the wood has been treated. The treatment is resulting in a transformed look of the bench.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

JL/4/CDD

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