

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING – WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2023
ATRIUM CONFERENCE ROOM – 500 CASTRO STREET
6:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Chair Jesse Cupp.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Committee members Cliff Bryant, Toni Hsu (arrived 6:15 p.m. after roll call), Tootoo Thomson (arrived 6:06 p.m. after roll call), Don Whitebread, Vice Chair Susi Merhar, and Chair Jesse Cupp.

Absent: Committee member Regina Sakols (excused).

Staff Present: John Lang, Economic Vitality Manager; Kirstin Hinds, Economic Development Strategist; Amanda Rotella, Economic Development Strategist; David Printy, Principal Project Manager; and Marichrisse Hoang, Associate Civil Engineer.

3. MINUTES APPROVAL

The minutes from September 13, 2023 and October 11, 2023 were distributed prior to the meeting and approved as distributed.

Motion—M/S Merhar/Whitebread—Carried 6-0-1; Sakols absent—To approve the minutes of the September 13, 2023 and October 11, 2023 meetings as presented.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Anita Rosen, a Mountain View resident, shared with the Visual Arts Committee (VAC) that she is working to raise private money to support murals on a private-owned building similar to a work effort being led in Los Altos.

Steve Wallace, a Mountain View resident, commented that public art is branding for the City, and that is why it is so important. He supports the work of the Ad Hoc Committee and would like to see digital art included in the strategy.

5. **UPCOMING AGENDA TOPICS**—None.

6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Chair Cupp asked and received VAC consensus to take Item 7.2 out of order.

7.2 **EL CAMINO REAL BELL INTERVENTION CONCEPT ART PROPOSAL**

Mountain View resident and student Naya Chang outlined an art proposal they will be submitting to Brown University for grant funding. The concept project is to develop a temporary art installation next to the El Camino Real Bell located on El Camino Real at Castro Street in Mountain View. Ms. Chang is seeking a letter of support from the VAC regarding their grant proposal to Brown University.

Committee member Bryant commented on the proposed Gateway project as a potential issue related to the location of Ms. Chang’s proposed art project.

Motion—M/S Cupp/Whitebread—Carried 6-0-1; Sakols absent—To direct staff to explore how the VAC can send a letter of support on the proposed grant application.

Public Comment: Bruce England spoke about Ms. Chang’s proposal and the importance related to indigenous people and how it reflects Mountain View’s past. Mr. England would like to see art be reflective of Mountain View’s history. Ms. Chang’s proposal has a “cool” factor.

6.1 **CIP PUBLIC ART PROJECT UPDATES**

- Rengstorff Park Aquatics Center (CIP Project 18-38): The project is under construction. Art is not envisioned to be installed until spring 2024 due to other delays with the project.
- Fayette Park (CIP Project 20-48): Fayette Park has completed construction, and the park had a grand opening on October 18, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. featuring artwork by Colin Selig.
- Transit Center Grade Separation and Access Project (CIP Project 21-35): The project timing is shifting, and staff is keeping the artist up to date based upon potential design and timing changes.

6.2 UPDATE BY AD HOC COMMITTEE WORKING ON PUBLIC ART STRATEGY ELEMENTS

The Vice Chair provided an overview of recommended changes to the proposed the goals, strategies, and actions, as noted in the staff memorandum. The VAC asked questions and provided comments on specific works for the vision, goals, strategies, and actions.

For next steps, staff will work with the Ad Hoc Committee to address the feedback from the VAC along with augmenting some of the words to best align with policy or program development and return to the VAC at the December 2023 meeting.

Public Comment: Bruce England reiterated an earlier public comment that public art should be representative of Mountain View history and have a local flavor.

6.3 RENGSTORFF PARK MAINTENANCE AND TENNIS BUILDINGS (PROJECT 21-48)

Staff provided the VAC feedback from the Youth and Senior Advisory Committees on the mural designs of Harumo Sato and Fernanda Martinez as outlined in the staff memorandum. The VAC briefly discussed the feedback from both Committees. They acknowledged and appreciated the insights both Committees provided. A brief discussion included the viability of asking the artists for more changes and ultimately decided to not make additional asks of the artists.

Motion—M/S Cupp/Bryant—Carried 6-0-1; Sakols absent—To direct staff to move forward with both artists’ proposals as originally presented.

Public Comment: None.

6.4 EVELYN JURYING (PROJECT 21-60)

Staff provided an overview of the updated jury scoring for the Evelyn Project. Complete jurying results were:

Artist	Mean	Median	Mode
Arts, Looking Up	6	7	7
Selig, Colin	5.3	6	7
Dinh, James	3.9	4	4
Harris, Diego	3.6	4	1
Susnea Litman, Adrian	3.1	4	1

VAC members discussed the Looking Up Arts proposal. Committee members flagged the illumination that was proposed with the project and it being in conflict with future dark sky policy work the City was doing.

Motion—M/S Cupp/Merhar—Carried 6-0-1; Sakols absent—To direct staff to move forward with Looking Up Arts’s proposal, ensuring the LED component is consistent with a dark sky approach.

Public Comment: None.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

7.1 **2024 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR THE VISUAL ARTS COMMITTEE**

Staff presented the calendar of dates as drafted in the memorandum noting no meeting dates proposed for January, July, and August.

Public Comment: None.

Motion—M/S Thomson/Cupp—Carried 6-0-1; Sakols absent—To approve the following meeting schedule for 2024: Second Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. on February 14, March 13, April 10, May 8, June 12, September 11, October 9, November 13, and December 11. There will be no meetings on January 10, July 10, and August 14.

7.2 **EL CAMINO REAL BELL INTERVENTION CONCEPT ART PROPOSAL**

Item taken out of order.

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

Staff commented that there will be a new Committee member joining the VAC in 2024, pending City Council approval at their meeting.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

These Minutes are hereby submitted for approval by John Lang, Recording Secretary.

Approved on _____.

JL/6/CDD
~~819-11-08-23mn~~