

MINUTES

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jesse Cupp called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Don Whitebread (excused).

Staff Present: John Lang, Economic Vitality Manager.

3. MINUTES APPROVAL

The minutes of the December 14, 2022 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting and approved as distributed.

Motion—M/S Bryant/Sakols—Carried 6-0-1; Whitebread absent—To approve the December 14, 2022 minutes as presented.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Public Comment: None.

5. UPCOMING AGENDA TOPICS:

- Placemaking opportunities related to the Castro Interim Pedestrian Mall and other long-term Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects;
- Public Art Strategy;
- Discuss how art placement and landscaping integration can be further explored;

- Council Policy K-5 augmentations to better capture more CIP projects (art in bike lane integrations);
- Joint committee meeting with the Downtown Committee;
- Evelyn Park, Project 21-60;
- Discuss and review the CaFÉ platform used for calls for artists;
- Discuss touch points with artists through the contract process by developing a checklist related to calls for artists;
- Explore programs for youth artists;
- Grade Separation and Access Project location and call for artists in 2023;
- Discussion on use of Ad Hoc Committee related to Public Art Strategy; and
- Rengstorff Park Maintenance and Tennis Buildings Mural Concepts.

Public comment: None.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 CIP PUBLIC ART PROJECT UPDATES

- Rengstorff Park Aquatics Center (CIP Project 18-38): Project is at approximately 25% complete and on track to open in fall 2023. Artist coordination has commenced with the design team.
- Fayette Park (CIP Project 20-48): Construction has just recently commenced. No additional updates at present time.
- Rengstorff Park Maintenance and Tennis Buildings (CIP Project 21-48): Design is wrapping up, and the project will be bid in March. Construction expected in summer. Artist renderings will come back to the VAC for review before being finalized, anticipated in April.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 ELECTION PROCESS FOR 2023 CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Committee member Bryant nominated Jesse Cupp as Chair. Committee member Sakols seconded the nomination.

Motion—M/S Bryant/Sakols—Carried 6-0-1; Whitebread absent—To appoint Jesse Cupp as Chair of the Committee for 2023.

Committee member Sakols nominated Susi Merhar for the Vice Chair role. Committee member Bryant seconded the nomination.

Motion—M/S Sakols/Bryant—Carried 6-0-1; Whitebread absent—To appoint Susi Merhar as Vice Chair of the Committee for 2023.

Public Comment: None.

7.2 DISCUSS CHECKLIST FOR CALLS FOR ARTISTS

Staff presented to the Visual Arts Committee the draft checklist as outlined in the agenda packet for item 7.2. The Committee members provided input into refining the checklist to be used for future Calls for Artists. The Committee would like to have the following information included in a future call for artists beyond the checklist as drafted by staff:

- Provide artists with any neighborhood information/context for where the art piece is planned;
- Define timelines within the call for artists;
- Remove the requirement to submit a vision statement or a description of their envisioned project on the initial call for artists;
- Add a question about ever being commissioned to do public art; and
- Add a question that to collect website information.

Public Comment: None.

7.3 PLATFORMS FOR CALLS FOR ARTISTS

The City of Mountain View currently uses CaFÉ™, which is a nationally recognized artist platform that allows for marketing, applying, and jurying for the calls for artists. The Committee has daylighted some challenges with navigating and using the system and expressed interest in other systems. Staff shared with the Committee information on the following platforms—CODAWorx and ArtCall. The Committee discussed the benefits and limitations of the various systems. At the present time, the Committee will continue to use the CaFÉ system. Staff committed to providing more training on the CaFÉ platform, doing the initial screening of applications, and increasing the marketing and promoting of the call for artists going forward.

Public Comment: None.

8. COMMITTEE/STAFF COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, COMMITTEE REPORTS

Staff provided a brief update on the status of the Business Development Specialist recruitment.

Committee member Hsu asked if the City could survey or poll the community about recent public art installations.

Public Comment: None.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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

Approved on _____.