

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING – WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2022
VIRTUAL MEETING WITH NO PHYSICAL MEETING LOCATION
6:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Toni Hsu called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Committee members Cliff Bryant, Susi Merhar, Regina Sakols, Vice Chair Toni Hsu, and Chair Jesse Cupp (joined at 6:14 pm).

Absent: Tootoo Thomson (Excused) and Don Whitebread (Excused).

Staff Present: John Lang, Economic Vitality Manager; and Tiffany Chew, Business Development Specialist.

3. MINUTES APPROVAL

The minutes of the April 27, 2022 and May 11, 2022 meetings were distributed prior to the meeting and approved as distributed.

Motion—M/S Cupp/Bryant—Carried 5-0-2; Thomson, Whitebread absent—Approve the April 27, 2022 and May 11, 2022 meeting minutes as presented.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mary Hodder and Louise Katz, residents of Mountain View and members of Livable Mountain View, provided a brief presentation on the historical significance of artwork located on and at the Chase Bank on 769 West El Camino Real. A proposal for the redevelopment of the bank building exists, and the Livable Mountain View Steering Committee asked the Visual Arts Committee to consider:

- a. Endorse preservation of public art when the funding of public art is discussed;

- b. Creation of a formal mechanism for members of the public to receive notice of this meeting in public places such as the Library, City Hall, schools, and plazas; and
- c. Register their input particularly as the building and public artworks are threatened by demolition.

5. UPCOMING AGENDA TOPICS

Historical Preservation of buildings and artwork.

Public Comment: None.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 CIP PUBLIC ART PROJECT UPDATES

Staff provided updates on the following projects.

- Pyramid Park, Project 17-34, is going to have a soft opening in June with a park dedication planned for July.
- Mora Park, Project 17-46, will have a Grand Opening event on June 22 at 10:00 a.m.
- Rengstorff Park Aquatics Center, Project 18-38, has started demolition. Existing artwork has been demounted and is being assessed. The VAC will be apprised on the viability to reuse the existing art.
- Fayette Park, Project 20-48, has the contract in processing and will start construction in late July.
- Rengstorff Maintenance and Tennis Buildings (21-48). The two selected artists have met with the Senior and Youth Advisory Committees to obtain input on mural concepts, and staff is working on executing contracts with both artists. At the May 10 City Council meeting, Council awarded a 2% art budget for the project.

Public Comment: None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 DEACCESSIONING POLICY OR GUIDELINE DISCUSSION

Staff introduced best practice research on deaccessioning criteria. Suggested criteria presented for consideration for inclusion into a policy or guideline included:

- Artwork's physical and structural condition poses a threat to public safety.
- Artwork requires excessive maintenance, has faulty design or workmanship, and repair or remedy is impractical or unfeasible.
- Artwork has been damaged and repair or remedy is in gross excess of aesthetic value, or restoration would prove either infeasible or misleading.
- Significant, adverse public reaction to the artwork has occurred for a period of time.
- The artwork is proved to be inauthentic or in violation of laws.
- The artwork has exceeded its expected lifespan at the time of creation.
- No suitable site is available for relocation or exhibition, or significant changes in the use, character, or design of the site have occurred which affects the integrity of the artwork.
- The artwork can no longer reside in its original location because the original location is altered due to construction, a change of site usage, or sale of the site.
- A written request from the artist has been received to remove the work from public display.

Staff asked for Committee feedback on the suggested criteria along with new ideas or suggestions. Committee feedback included the inclusion of storing artworks that have gone through deaccession, develop a second life program for artwork, historical context of art, and develop a vital records collection for public art.

Public Comment: Hala Alshahwany, a Mountain View resident, would like to see a policy on preserving historical artwork to include the private artwork in public realm in addition to public art in public realm.

7.2 FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 ACOMPLISHMENTS

Staff provided an overview of the current fiscal year accomplishments by Visual Arts Committee. Chair Cupp asked about the Center for the Performing Arts celebration. The item did not happen in the fall of 2021.

Public Comment: None.

7.3 REVIEW DRAFT FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 ANNUAL VAC WORK PLAN

Staff presented a draft work plan for the next fiscal year and sought feedback from the Committee on the proposed work plan. Chair Cupp asked about including staffing into the work plan. Staff recommended including the item in the Art Strategy, which could then be included as a future year consideration in a work plan. Chair Cupp recommended adding an updated Art Map to the work plan. Vice Chair Hsu asked about web statistics for the existing public art page. Last year, there were 1,062 page views and 870 unique views. A Committee member asked that the Public Art Strategy work plan item be separated by the development of the strategy versus implementation action items. Committee member Bryant asked about a pedestrian bridge over Shoreline Boulevard project. The project is delayed and, therefore, is not showing up as a CIP project in the next fiscal year.

Public Comment: Mary Hodder commented on the City's Public Art Map. Would like to see more private-sector art with more details. Also, would like to see a more mobile-friendly version. Hala Alshahwany asked about the location of the Public Art Map on the City website as she was unaware of the resource. Link to the Public Art Map: [Public Art—City of Mountain View, CA \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com)

7.4 OTHER PUBLIC ART STRATEGY CONSIDERATIONS

Staff reviewed for the Committee a handful of items that have come up in prior discussion related to the Public Art Strategy that warrant further investigation and review.

- Housing for all to support diverse housing mixture and makeup that is attractive to creatives/artists;
- Align land uses to permit/allow/encourage artist studios were appropriate;
- Incorporate artistic elements and mediums to Improve wayfinding in downtown and throughout Mountain View;

- Downtown Posting Boards;
- Artist/functional street furniture;
- Sidewalks/parking lots/alley walls;
- Refine and improve artist jurying process for public art; and
- Develop a Public Art Coordinator position.
- Public Art Fund Development:
 - Sources and uses
 - o Endowments;
 - o Donations; and
 - o Type of Art.
- Document/Inventory public art (City-maintained) and private public art that is publicly accessible.
- Review new initiatives/strategies to be for consistency with the new Council Policy K-5.
- Support and partner with artist organizations.
- Explore Arts Education.

Staff sought clarity and feedback from the Committee on any potential items that were not captured correctly or if items were missing. Committee member Merhar asked for the slides for further reflection and review. Committee member Bryant requested adding language on encouraging residents to create and share art. Staff will bring back select items that need further refinement by the Committee.

Public Comment: None.

8. COMMITTEE/STAFF COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, COMMITTEE REPORTS

Staff anticipates that upcoming Committee meetings will be going back in-person most likely by September. Staff is awaiting direction from the City Clerk's Office on timing and process going forward; staff will advise Committee members of direction once known. Staff also reminded the Committee that they have now have access to a shared online document, which has information and links for public art-related news and programs for learning and education purposes only.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

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

Approved on _____.

JL/1/CDD
819-06-08-22mn