

## **MINUTES**

---

REGULAR MEETING—WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2025  
ATRIUM CONFERENCE ROOM—500 CASTRO STREET  
6:00 P.M.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Chair Susi Merhar.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Committee members Cliff Bryant, Stephanie Spaid, Tootoo Thomson (arrived 6:08 p.m.), Vice Chair Regina Sakols, and Chair Susi Merhar.

**Absent:** Committee members Joe Medwid and Lacy Rathbun.

**Staff Present:** Kirstin Hinds, Economic Development Strategist.

**3. MINUTES APPROVAL**

The minutes from the March 12, 2025 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting and approved as distributed.

**Motion—**M/S Sakols/Bryant—Carried 4-0-3; Medwid, Rathbun, and Thomson absent—To approve the minutes of the March 12, 2025 meeting as presented.

**4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC—None.**

**5. UPCOMING AGENDA TOPICS**

Committee member Bryant asked to use the existing ad hoc committee to discuss leveraging the Multicultural Festival as a space for the community to create and display public art.

## 6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### 6.1 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PUBLIC ART PROJECT UPDATES

Staff informed the Visual Arts Committee (VAC) that last year, the City received notification that the Contractors State License Board now requires public art installations to be completed by a licensed contractor. This change has disrupted several public art projects in Mountain View, including Evelyn Park, Villa Chiquita Park, the Rengstorff Park maintenance/restroom buildings, and the Shoreline Boathouse. While staff has been actively exploring options to move these projects forward, public art contracts are currently on hold pending further analyses. Additionally, Senate Bill 456, currently under review by State Senate committees, could exempt muralists from the licensing requirement, which may impact how the City proceeds.

Public Comment: None.

### 6.2 UPDATE FROM AD HOC COMMITTEE

Ad hoc committee members Chair Merhar and Committee member Bryant and artist John Patrick Thomas presented the final proposal for the Arts Mountain View public art project at the Train Depot Building and asked the VAC for a recommendation to the City Manager's Office to accept the art proposal as a donation from Arts Mountain View to place on the Train Depot Building.

**Motion**—M/S Bryant/Sakols—Carried 5-0-2; Medwid and Rathbun absent—To recommend the final proposal by artist John Patrick Thomas to the City Manager's Office to accept as a donation from Arts Mountain View to install on the Train Depot Building.

Public Comment: None.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

### 7.1 DISCUSSION ON VAC FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 WORK PLAN

Staff presented the draft VAC work plan for Fiscal Year 2025-26 and received input from the VAC. Staff will bring the final work plan back for the VAC to accept at their meeting in June.

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

Committee member Bryant said the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art is exhibiting art by Ruth Asawa and has a room dedicated to public art.

Chair Merhar said Open Studios had exhibits in Mountain View the weekend of May 10 and May 11 and will continue to have exhibits throughout the Bay Area in the coming weekends.

Committee member Spaid attended Harumo Sato's discussion on public art at the Cubberly Studio in Palo Alto and learned about Sato's public art process. Chair Merhar recommended the Committee attend future Cubberly Studio events.

Public Comment: None.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

These Minutes are hereby submitted for approval by Kirstin Hinds, Recording Secretary.

Approved on \_\_\_\_\_.

KH/6/CDD  
816-05-14-25mn