

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING – WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2023
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 Jesse Cupp.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Committee members Cliff Bryant, Regina Sakols, Vice Chair Susi Merhar (Virtual), and Chair Jesse Cupp.

Absent: Toni Hsu (excused), Tootoo Thomson (excused), and Don Whitebread (excused).

Staff Present: John Lang, Economic Vitality Manager.

3. MINUTES APPROVAL

The minutes of the May 10, 2023 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting and approved as distributed.

Motion—M/S Bryant/Sakols—Carried 4-0-3; Hsu, Thomson, and Whitebread absent—To approve the minutes of the May 10, 2023 meeting as presented.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC—None.

5. UPCOMING AGENDA TOPICS

- Interest in having a conversation about Community Benefit spaces for projects.
- Evelyn Park Call for Artists for the September meeting.
- Art Treatment for Castro Street Pedestrian Mall segments for the September meeting.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 CIP PUBLIC ART PROJECT UPDATES

- Rengstorff Park Aquatics Center (CIP Project 18-38): The project is approximately 25% complete and on track to open in fall 2023. All artist coordination has now commenced with the design team.
- Fayette Park (CIP Project 20-48): Construction has commenced. Artist has completed fabrication of all the art and is on track for anticipated installation in June. Staff showed an image of one of the completed pieces, a yellow squirrel.
- Rengstorff Park Maintenance and Tennis Buildings (CIP Project 21-48): Opening construction bids on May 25 for work starting in June. Short-Form Agreements with both artists have been executed, and the VAC will evaluate renderings at the September meeting.
- Transit Center Grade Separation and Access Project (CIP Project 21-35): Staff has executed five of the six honorarium contracts. The one outstanding agreement must resolve a W-9 issue. All six artists are working on design concepts. The artwork will be submitted for jurying by July 21, 2023. Staff will have the Public Works engineering team review submission prior to sending to the VAC for jurying. Item will be further discussed at the September meeting of the VAC.

Public Comment: None.

6.2 UPDATE FROM AD HOC COMMITTEE RELATED TO PUBLIC ART STRATEGY

Ad Hoc Committee members (Cupp, Merhar, Sakols) shared with the larger Committee updates on their research on Mountain View-based artists along with identifying public art (private and public) throughout Mountain View. The Ad Hoc Committee found additional artists in Mountain View along with additional details on public art in Mountain View. The Ad Hoc Committee's work was furthered by Committee member Bryant, who was able to locate photograph pieces that the Ad Hoc Committee identified as incomplete. The Ad Hoc Committee also provided their research on quantifying the value of public art in Mountain View. Through the use of historical research and a calculator from Americans for the Arts, staff can now estimate the economic impact of Mountain View arts on the economy.

Public Comment: None.

6.3 APPROVE ANNUAL VISUAL ARTS COMMITTEE WORK PLAN UPDATE

As required by the City Council Policy A-23, the Committee will prepare an annual work plan that is submitted to Council for review and approval in fall 2023. Staff presented an updated work plan based upon discussions at the May 10, 2023 Visual Arts Committee meeting.

The Committee discussed the work plan and proposed a change to Attachment 1 by changing the title to Item No. 4 from “Update Public Art book from 1996 in support of the Public Art Strategy” to “Promote the Public Art Strategy.” The old title will be moved to the Key Milestone category.

Public Comment: Community member Jazmin Aber inquired about what is the final product associated with the Public Art Strategy. Additionally, Jazmin inquired how the Public Art Strategy is being informed or developed and by whom.

Motion—M/S Cupp/Merhar—Carried 4-0-3; Hsu, Thomson, Whitebread absent—Approve the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Visual Arts Committee Work Plan with a language change to Item No. 4 in Attachment 1, making the title and description “Promote the Public Art Strategy.” The original language will be moved into Key Milestone.

6.4 PUBLIC ART STRATEGY

As presented in the memorandum, staff sought input from the Visual Arts Committee on the draft strategies for potential inclusion into the Public Art Strategy. The Committee provided staff a range of feedback on both the goals, strategies, and initiatives.

Feedback included:

The Committee should revisit the goals as they do not seem to align with the strategies and initiatives.

The Committee should consider expanding the Strategy to more than just art organizations.

Initiative 1.2 needs language change to reflect percent for public art on private property.

Initiative 1.8 should include additional language on trails and public easements.

Initiative 2.7 should include language about maintaining art box installations.

Initiative 2.8 should be more expansive than just focusing on youth and include components of art appreciation.

The Committee also offered additional word choice edits which will be captured in the final Strategy.

Public Comment: Jazmin Aber asked why the chat feature was disabled for the public to engage in the Committee conversation.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS—CALL FOR ARTISTS 2024

Staff sought feedback from the Committee on any potential theme to consider regarding the temporary art displays within the Center for the Performing Arts for the 2024 calendar year.

The Committee did not have any preference for a theme. A Call for Artists will be issued in the summer without specifying a theme.

Public Comment: None.

8. COMMITTEE/STAFF COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Comment: None.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

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

Approved on _____.