



Civic Arts Commission Meeting Minutes

Zoom Webinar – Pleasanton, CA February 7, 2022 - 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairperson Huling Song.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited.

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Katie Brunner, Janice Coleman-Knight, Anne Giancola, Hira Raghaven, Jamie Yee, and Chairperson Huling Song.

Commissioners Absent: John Biaocchi and Jeanne Farley-Rodgers.

Staff Present: Rachel Prater, Recreation Manager; Lia Bushong, Assistant Library and Recreation Director and Edith Caponigro, Recording Secretary.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

Ms. Prater provided the following amendments to the agenda:

1. Item 4 on the agenda should indicate eight agencies with a total of four that have not submitted a midterm report and eight were late submitting reports. Also, the Amador Livermore Valley Historical Society has expended the total amount of funding granted to \$4,680.
2. Item 5 should indicate five agencies with a total of six midterm reports submitted to date.

MINUTES

- 1. Approve regular meeting minutes of December 6, 2021**

A motion was made by Commissioner Coleman-Knight, seconded by Chairperson Song to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2021 meeting. **The motion was approved unanimously.**

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

2. Introductions/Awards/Recognitions/Presentations

None.

3. Public Comment from the audience regarding items not listed on the agenda.

None.

MATTERS FOR THE COMMISSION'S REVIEW / ACTION / INFORMATION

4. Review Fiscal Year 2020/21 Community Grant Midterm Reports

Ms. Prater informed commissioners that of the \$54,903 in grant funds awarded for FY 2020/21 a total of \$12,504 has been expended to date with final reports from all agencies due by July 19, 2022.

Commissioner Brunner questioned if there was going to be any consequences for agencies who submitted late reports and what happened to funds that were unused by agencies. Ms. Prater advised there would be no consequences, but commissioners could take this into consideration when making funding recommendations during the next cycle. Commissioner Brunner suggested staff reach out to agencies to determine why funds have not been used.

Commissioner Yee indicated she would like to learn if agencies had not used funds because they had been unable to complete projects due to issues from COVID. Commissioner Coleman-Knight also expressed her concerns regarding this and wondered if it was because most agencies operate on a calendar year.

Further discussions took place regarding unused funds and Ms. Prater advised that the deadline for agencies to use funds in both Item 4 and Item 5 was June 30, 2022 and confirmed that any unused funds would carry over to next funding cycle.

5. Review Fiscal Year 2021/22 Community Grant Midterm Reports

Ms. Prater informed commissioners that for FY 2021/22, a total of \$45,958 had been awarded in grant funds and that a total of \$6,462 had been expended to date.

6. Discuss Evaluation Process and Meeting Format for Fiscal Year 2022/23 Civic Arts Community Grant Program Review

Ms. Prater advised that at the March 7, 2022 meeting commissioners will be reviewing applications for the Fiscal Year 2022/23 Civic Arts Community Grant Program. A total of eight applications have been received for an aggregate funding request of \$57,150 with a total of \$41,000 in funding being available. Commissioners were advised that funding applications would be available for them to review on ZoomGrants until 11:59 p.m. on February 11, 2022.

Commissioners were reminded that the March meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m., all applicants will be invited to attend the meeting and would be available to answer any questions that commissioners may have during the meeting.

Commissioner Brunner asked Ms. Prater to reiterate the amount of funding available for allocation and confirm that there would be no rollover funds included.

7. Discuss and Select a Commissioner to Act as a Community Judge for a Nature Photography Contest Hosted by Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan

Ms. Prater provided details about a nature photography contest being hosted by Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan and the request made for a member of the City of Pleasanton Civic Arts Commission to serve as a community judge.

Commissioner Giancola questioned if this was going to be an annual contest and was advised by Ms. Prater that it was not. Commissioner Giancola volunteered to serve as a community judge for this event.

Commissioner Yee commented on an email she has received pertaining to this contest and indicated she would forward it to Ms. Prater who could then forward it to Commissioner Giancola and other members of the commission.

8. Review Civic Arts Project Status Report

Ms. Prater reviewed the Civic Arts Project Status Report with commissioners commenting on the following: 1) the library's hosting of Story Times at the Firehouse Arts Center; 2) the current California Watercolor Show at the Harrington Art Gallery that will run until March 12, 2022, a gallery talk event, and plans for live demos; and 3) information about a 46th Annual Campana Jazz Festival to be held at the Amador Theater at 2:00 p.m. on February 12th.

Commissioner Coleman-Knight confirmed with Ms. Prater and Ms. Bushong that the gallery talk event was scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on February 12th and the Jazz Festival was scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on the same day. Commissioner Brunner noted that the jazz festival is an all-day event with performances and bands playing at various times.

Chairperson Song questioned the reopening of the Amador Theater and Ms. Bushong commented on a winter concert, she had attended at the theater that was well attended.

Commissioner Yee indicated that every year she has difficulty figuring out the schedule for the jazz festival and asked Ms. Prater to email her information on who she could contact to obtain the schedule.

Ms. Prater informed commissioners that the Teen Poet Laureate will be hosting a Valentine's Day Poetry Workshop at the library from 4:00-5:00 p.m. and encouraged commissioners to join with their friends and bring their favorite poems and lyrics to share. Chairperson Song noted that the Museum on Main was also holding an event on the same day.

MATTERS INITIATED BY COMMISSION

None.

COMMISSION REPORTS

9. Committee Meetings

a. Public Art Website Subcommittee

Commissioner Coleman-Knight commented on the formation of an Excel sheet with information for the public art website. Thirty-six pieces of art have been targeted that includes sculptures and utility box paintings. Of the thirty-six originally targeted pieces, information has been completed on nineteen pieces by Chairperson Song, Commissioner Coleman-Knight and a volunteer named Xiao Rong. Fourteen of these were sculptures and others were utility boxes. Research on the pieces included notes from artists, information obtained from staff person Michele Crose, details obtained from newspaper archives, internet research done on artists, as well as information from Gary and Nancy Harrington's book on Pleasanton Public Art.

Commissioners were provided information about marking of art and how it is done. She noted that paragraph writings on art pieces consists of one or two paragraphs on each piece that will provide the reader with a better understanding about the art piece. Commissioner Coleman-Knight commented on the utility box painting work done by a 15-year-old and the request of the Civic Art Commission for her to include a rose, which led the subcommittee to research about Jackson-Perkins Rose Company established in Pleasanton.

Chairperson Song commented on the steps she has taken in obtaining and providing information garnered from the website and individual artists. She and Commissioner Coleman-Knight discussed the amount of information saved, organized, and color-coded. Commissioner Coleman-Knight hoped that when finished, people would find this helpful information.

Chairperson Song thanked Commissioner Coleman-Knight for the report and for asking her friend to volunteer to help with this project.

b. Mobile Wallpaper and Virtual Background Art subcommittee

Commissioner Giancola advised that the subcommittee has not made progress on this project, and she had been informed by Michele Crose that staffing changes with the staff liaison had

paused the project temporarily. When the project is underway, a report will be provided at a subsequent meeting.

10. Other brief reports on any meetings, conferences, and/or seminars attended by the Commission members.

Chairperson Song indicated she had attended the Watercolor exhibit at the Harrington Gallery and had enjoyed talking with staff members there who advised that the gallery has been able to sell the works of several artists. Commissioner Raghaven indicated she hoped to get to the gallery soon to see the watercolor exhibit.

Commissioner Giancola noted that several Pleasanton artists are participating in the Bankhead Theater art and literature event. She advised that the event was open Thursday through Sunday from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. and another event was planned for October 8th.

FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

11. Virtual Programming

Chairperson Song confirmed that virtual programming was an agenda item planned for the April meeting agenda. Ms. Bushong advised that this is an item carried over from a previous commission request to explore the feasibility of continuing virtual programs in the arts and asked the commission to clarify if this is something they wished to continue pursuing, and if so, what would they like staff to provide in a report.

Commissioner Raghaven asked Ms. Bushong to clarify what is needed from the commission. Ms. Bushong advised that staff needs to determine if this is something that the commission wishes to pursue and what programming information staff needed to provide.

Commissioner Raghaven commented on the possibility of recording programs such as those provided by Creatures of Impulse, so people who were unable to attend events could view them online and Chairperson Song discussed livestreaming events she has been able to watch during the past two years of COVID.

Ms. Bushong thanked commissioners for their comments and felt they would be helpful to staff.

Chairperson Song reminded commissioners that the March meeting is scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Brunner advised Ms. Prater that she had emailed her the updated schedule for the jazz festival for her to share with commissioners.

Commissioner Coleman-Knight commented on a structural evaluation to be done for the Amador Theater and asked if this was something that could be added to the April meeting agenda. Ms. Bushong advised that an assessment is being conducted and this was something that could be placed on the agenda for a future meeting when there is information to report.

Commissioner Coleman-Knight discussed the recent restoration work done at the theater and how amazing it was.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Next Meeting: March 7, 2022