

City of Las Vegas

MAIN STREET AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE ARTS COMMISSION
CITY HALL, 495 S. MAIN STREET
CITY CLERKS 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
CITY OF LAS VEGAS INTERNET ADDRESS: www.lasvegasnevada.gov

MINUTES

MAY 21, 2015

2:30 P.M.

ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA MAY BE TAKEN OUT OF THE ORDER PRESENTED; TWO OR MORE AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION MAY BE COMBINED; AND ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA MAY BE REMOVED OR RELATED DISCUSSION MAY BE DELAYED AT ANY TIME. BACKUP MATERIAL FOR THIS AGENDA MAY BE OBTAINED FROM LUANN D. HOLMES, ACTING CITY CLERK, AT THE CITY CLERKS OFFICE AT 495 SOUTH MAIN STREET, 2ND FLOOR OR ON THE CITY'S WEBPAGE AT www.lasvegasnevada.gov.

1. [CALL TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

CHAIR ABELMAN called the meeting to order at 2:36 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR ABELMAN and COMMISSIONERS GROGAN, ALVAREZ (via teleconference) and TUPAZ (excused until 2:51 p.m.)

ALSO PRESENT: DIANNE CRIPE, Visual Arts Specialist II, JOHN RIDILLA, Deputy City Attorney, and JACQUIE MILLER, Deputy City Clerk

2. [ANNOUNCEMENT RE: COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETING LAW](#)

Minutes:

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE: This meeting has been properly noticed and posted at the following locations: City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor; Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway; Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue; City of Las Vegas Development Services Center, 333 North Rancho Drive.

3. [PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THIS PORTION OF THE AGENDA MUST BE LIMITED TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA FOR ACTION. IF YOU WISH TO BE HEARD, GIVE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD. THE AMOUNT OF DISCUSSION, AS WELL AS THE AMOUNT OF TIME ANY SINGLE SPEAKER IS ALLOWED, MAY BE LIMITED](#)

Minutes:

None.

4. [Discussion for possible action regarding activities and initiatives \(signature sculpture and art benches\) of the Main Street Ad Hoc Subcommittee \(No Fiscal Impact\) Ward 3](#)

Motion made by MARC ABELMAN to Direct staff to move forward with the RFQ (Request For Qualifications) process that includes the ability to review the finalists so the Commissioners can recommend approval of the signature piece and put it on public display, and to provide for an honorarium for the proposals

Passed For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0

STEPHEN GROGAN, BRIAN ALVAREZ, MARC ABELMAN, DAVID TUPAZ; Against-(None); Abstain-(None); Did Not Vote-(None); Excused-(None)

City of Las Vegas

Minutes:

CHAIR ABELMAN stated that there is a desire to make the downtown area an iconic place, and the Commissioners need to keep that in mind when considering art work and ensuring that the processes support art that will make a statement. He asked the Commissioners for their thoughts regarding the art benches and the signature art piece relevant to creating iconic art for the future as well as creating a legacy for the downtown area and Las Vegas. CHAIR ABELMAN reported that there has been conversation regarding the caliber of the benches; he believed that the Commissioners were shown some incredible benches but did not have enough turnaround time. He believed that the Commissioners need to make sure that the signature piece is a stellar piece. COMMISSIONER GROGAN thought that the Commission should take their time selecting the right artist.

COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ thought that there should be conversation with this Committee and the Arts Commission regarding RFQ (Request For Qualifications) versus RFP (Request For Proposal). He would like to request proposals from the artists encouraging them to work as a team. The team could include two or three artists, an engineer, an architect, a visual artist and a sculptor, similar to what was done with the Ogden Underpass Bridge. The teams would submit proposals enabling the Commissioners to visualize what the artist and community are thinking. One of the challenges with the benches was that the RFQ process was used; the committee chose the top three artists but did not necessarily receive what they thought the artist would produce. The RFP process allows for the proposals to be seen up front; an artist would not propose something they could not produce, and this process would encourage them to team up with people who can manufacture what they propose.

DIANNE CRIPE, Visual Arts Specialist II, stated that traditionally the artists do not like the RFP because they have to put a lot of time and effort into creating a proposal up front without being paid for it. She explained that this project would only be offered to Clark County artists, and because there is a longer timeline for this project, the RFQ could still be done. Three or four finalists could be selected and given an honorarium to create a proposal; they could then come back before the panel with their proposal, which would provide a better sense of what they would produce for this particular project.

In response to COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ' inquiry, MS. CRIPE explained that traditionally the City has given \$400 as an honorarium, but since complaints have been received, that amount would probably be raised to between \$500 and \$1,000. The artists would have approximately three weeks from the time they are announced as a finalist to present a proposal to the selection panel.

CHAIR ABELMAN wondered if three finalists would be enough, and MS. CRIPE said that traditionally three or four finalists are selected to develop a proposal, but it would depend on the number of submissions. There were 27 submissions from artists for the park benches, and there may be more or less because this project is only for Clark County artists. MS. CRIPE believed that three or four weeks would provide enough time for the artists to develop their proposal, noting that a full-blown maquette would not be expected. CHAIR ABELMAN was concerned about what the piece would look like and liked that idea, as it would provide the ability to evaluate the proposal for the project.

In response to COMMISSIONER GROGAN'S inquiry, MS. CRIPE confirmed that the Arts Commission could reject all three proposals if it did not achieve its vision. COMMISSIONER GROGAN desired to move forward and have MS. CRIPE draft documentation to issue the call. CHAIR ABELMAN felt a sense of urgency expressing concern regarding wasting time if they did not like the three finalists' proposals.

COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ inquired about the timeframe for this project. MS. CRIPE explained that an RFQ has been written and the Purchasing Department was working with the Public Works Department regarding funding. The request will be out for four to five weeks, and the artists who have submitted a complete packet will be considered for the project. An artist should be selected by the end of July or the end of August. Once the selection panel chooses three or four finalists, the finalists will have three or four weeks to present their proposal to the panel who will then select the artist. MS. CRIPE added that oftentimes the proposal will change slightly from what was proposed, but they want the artist to communicate their ideas to the community. COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ thought it was a good idea to get the word out and encourage artists to apply for this, and he would like to see a team of artists come together.

COMMISSIONER GROGAN did not want to short change the ability of a single artist, but it could be suggested that one artist or a group of artists could submit. MS. CRIPE added that it is open to artists and artist teams.

CHAIR ABELMAN mentioned that the Ogden Underpass project raised the bar for what was produced, and he thought it would be worth looking at that process. MS. CRIPE thought that the City contracted COLAB, who worked with the teams for their

City of Las Vegas

presentations.

COMMISSIONER GROGAN suggested being open to the possibility of having a consultant, once the finalists have been selected and having an area set aside where their proposals could be viewed by the public.

CHAIR ABELMAN thought that the information should also be distributed to the CAC (Contemporary Arts Center) and COLAB so that community of artists would be aware of the project. COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ thought that the City's PR Department personnel/staff and the Commissioners could help spread the word as well.

COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ mentioned that he worked with MELISSA PETERSEN, President of the Contemporary Arts Center, to put together a show for the LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer) Center, and with their combined contacts, they had a really good show. With those contacts as well as those of the Commissioners, they should be able to get the word out and encourage artists to participate and possibly collaborate.

CHAIR ABELMAN and his fellow Commissioners felt better about the process after this discussion. MS. CRIPE felt good about the timeline, and because there was more time for this project, it would allow for extra steps in the process making it more in line with the standard public art process. CHAIR ABELMAN would like information regarding the installation timeline as well.

5. [Discussion for possible action regarding fundraising for the Main Street/Commerce Street artworks/enhancements \(No Fiscal Impact\) Ward 3](#)

Minutes:

MEMBER GROGAN stated that a public notice had been done regarding seeking funds and contributors that would either support the signature piece and/or other artwork. The Public Works Department identified a number of pads along the Main Street construction route that could be used for art pieces. MEMBER GROGAN would like to select four pad locations and seek artists within Clark County to produce artwork. He suggested making the artist responsible to fund the production of the artwork and setting it on the pad. The artist could fund the project themselves or they could fundraise the money, and the City would help with setting the artwork in place.

CHAIR ABELMAN thought that having the artist do the fundraising was an interesting idea as that has always been a challenge for the Commissioners.

COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ also suggested seeking corporate sponsorships and organizations to sponsor a pad and provide the artist a certain amount of funds to produce a piece of art.

CHAIR ABELMAN requested that at the next meeting, the Public Works Department explain where the pads are so the Commissioners can select pads for the artwork.

COMMISSIONER TUPAZ wondered if the Arts Commission could hold an event and invite corporations and artists to make them aware of the sponsorship opportunities without soliciting funds. COMMISSIONER GROGAN suggested holding an event once the pads have been selected.

COMMISSIONER GROGAN requested that this item be placed on the next Arts Commission agenda.

6. [Discussion regarding topics for future agenda items by the Main Street Ad Hoc Subcommittee of the Arts Commission. Comments made during this portion of the agenda by individual Commissioners shall refer solely to proposals for future agenda items and any discussion shall be limited to whether or not any such proposed item\(s\) is/are within the purview of the Commission and/or whether such proposed item\(s\) shall be placed on a future agenda. No discussion regarding the substance of any such proposed topic shall occur and no action shall be taken regarding the proposal.](#)

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER GROGAN requested that items regarding the signature sculpture art piece and identifying which pads the Commissioners would select to use for artwork along the Main Street construction route be placed on the next agenda as possible action items.

City of Las Vegas

7. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION: PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THIS PORTION OF THE AGENDA MUST BE LIMITED TO MATTERS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE COMMISSION. NO SUBJECT MAY BE ACTED UPON BY THE COMMISSION UNLESS THAT SUBJECT IS ON THE AGENDA AND IS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION. IF YOU WISH TO BE HEARD, GIVE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD. THE AMOUNT OF DISCUSSION ON ANY SINGLE SUBJECT, AS WELL AS THE AMOUNT OF TIME ANY SINGLE SPEAKER IS ALLOWED, MAY BE LIMITED

Minutes:

RUZO LOGIC, Artist in the 18b Arts District, requested to be added to the June 2015 agenda to make a presentation to the Commission. MEMBER GROGAN clarified with MR. LOGIC that he would like to make the presentation at the Arts Commission meeting and advised him to mention the request to one of the Arts Commissioners who would make that request on his behalf.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Jacquie Miller, Deputy City Clerk

Dianne Cripe, Visual Arts Specialist II

Facilities are provided throughout City Hall for the convenience of disabled persons. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate physically handicapped persons. If you need an accommodation to attend and participate in this meeting, please call the City Clerks office at 229-6311 and advise of your need at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Dial 7-1-1 for Relay Nevada.

THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor
Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway
Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue
City of Las Vegas Development Services Center, 333 North Rancho Drive
Las Vegas Senior Center, 451 East Bonanza Road