



Arts Commission Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

CHAIR SPROTT called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR SPROTT and COMMISSIONERS KLEVEN, TUPAZ, CURRAN (via teleconference), LOWDEN (via teleconference), PACHECO, and HAYNES-HAMBLÉN

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONERS TRIMBLE, KARPEL, STRAUS, HAMPTON, and HACKETT-MORGAN

ALSO PRESENT: MAGGIE PLASTER, Deputy Cultural Affairs Director; LAURA MACHADO, Visual Arts Specialist II; REBECCA HOLDEN, Visual Arts Specialist II; MARY SABO, Visual Arts Specialist II; JEANNE VOLTURA, Visual Arts Specialist I; HOMERO HIDALGO, Technician/Specialist; VAL STEED, Deputy City Attorney V; ASHLEY FOSTER, Deputy City Clerk; and BRIAN CARROLL, Deputy City Clerk

2. Announcement Regarding: Compliance with Open Meeting Law

Minutes:

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE: This meeting has been properly noticed and posted at the following locations in accordance with the noticing standards as outlined in NRS 241.020: City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor; The City of Las Vegas website – www.lasvegasnevada.gov; and The Nevada Public Notice website – notice.nv.gov.

3. Public Comment: Comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters on the agenda for action. If you wish to be heard, come forward and 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. For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Regular Meeting of January 20, 2022

Motion made by Jennifer Kleven to Approve

Passed For: 7; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 5

For-Ally Haynes-Hamblen, David Tupaz, John Pacheco, Mickey Sprott, Paul Lowden, John Curran, Jennifer Kleven; Excused-John Trimble, Sandy Karpel, David Straus, Ryan Hampton, Suzanne Hackett-Morgan;

5. Report by Mickey Sprott, Arts Commission Chair, regarding monthly summary of current initiatives, cultural events and opportunities – All Wards

Minutes:

CHAIR SPROTT and COMMISSIONERS KLEVEN and TUPAZ shared in reviewing the list of exhibitions and cultural events taking place throughout the city, which included: A Focus on Portraits, an African American

Heritage exhibition, Black Weekend 2022: Kemet in the Desert Series, the Rainbow Company Youth Theatre's production of Still Life with Iris, Time Capsule: A Valentin Yordanov Exhibition, Sankofa Communiversity Program Workshop, Continuing the Legacy of Dance Concert Series, and Lunar New Year Exhibition: Year of the Tiger. They provided some of the details regarding event/exhibit locations, dates, and artists.

COMMISSIONER KLEVEN shared information about The Neon Museum's Artist in Residence, which is opened to the public on February 17-19 and February 24-26 from noon to 6:00 p.m. at the Juhl Las Vegas. It features artwork by GABRIEL BARCIA-COLOMBO.

CHAIR SPROTT said the Clark County Winchester Cultural Center Gallery is hosting an art reception for Eat Your Heart Out, juried by TIFFANY LIN, on Tuesday, February 22nd from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. She believed the reception would be fun and interactive.

6. Report by Office of Cultural Affairs staff regarding monthly summary of current initiatives – All Wards

Minutes:

Prior to the staff report, DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY VAL STEED reminded the Commissioners about staying on topic during each agenda item.

REBECCA HOLDEN, Visual Arts Specialist II, and LAURA MACHADO, Visual Arts Specialist II, and shared in narrating a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted and attached as backup. MS. HOLDEN noted that a copy of the monthly Staff Report, included in the backup, was also provided to the Commissioners.

Staff Update – MS. HOLDEN announced that MARY SABO has been promoted to Visual Arts Specialist II. The Ward 3 Proud Banner Project and the Ogden Underpass Project are among the projects MS. SABO will work on. STEPHANIE SUMLER, Instructor 2, was also welcomed to the Public Art Program team. MS. SUMLER has helped with the operations at the Mayor's Gallery at the Historic Fifth Street School. Lastly, MS. HOLDEN welcomed HOMERO HIDALGO, Technician/Specialist, to the meeting. MR. HIDALGO has helped take the lead on many maintenance and conservation efforts.

3rd Street – East Ogden Avenue to East Fremont Street Public Art Project – Staff continues to meet with the stakeholders, with the Department of Public Works, to discuss the project scope.

AMP Utility Cabinet Painting Project – MS. MACHADO stated that the Office of Cultural Affairs, Contract Unit, sent out artistic services agreements and purchase order request information to the artists. The next step is to order supplies and obtain painting schedules.

Biblos by Guy Laramée – MS. HOLDEN said the sculpture has been installed at the Las Vegas Municipal Courthouse.

Charleston Underpass Mural Project – MS. MACHADO indicated that information was sent to the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) in December of 2020 and following the permit submission, revisions were requested, which are currently being reviewed by the Federal Highway Administration. Staff is also awaiting approval of a permit and will share more information with the Commissioners once it is received.

Historic Westside Mural Program – MS. HOLDEN said CHASE McCURDY has been contracted as the Mural Project Coordinator to oversee community engagement, the conceptual development, and the installation of multiple large-scale public murals throughout the Historic Westside. This project is anticipated to be completed by July 31, 2023 and is in partnership with the Mayor's Fund for Las Vegas LIFE. She believed MR. McCURDY would present about the program at a future Arts Commission meeting.

Maintenance and Conservation – The Office of Cultural Affairs conducts regular condition and inventory reports of items in the public art collection. These reports are used to generate a listing of current maintenance and conservation efforts. The public is encouraged to reach out with any maintenance, conservation, graffiti concerns, or general collections care items relating to the public art collection at the e-mail address publicart@lasvegasnevada.gov or by calling 702-229-ARTS (2787). The condition of the Ansan Sister City Park sculpture is being assessed in partnership with the Office of Ward 1. Photos were shown of the eye of the character, where there are hard water deposits having a reaction to the previous wax coating that was applied.

MR. HIDALGO is working to clean the sculpture and restore it to its previous condition. Staff is also assessing the Southern Nevada Law Enforcement memorial sculpture by ADOLFO GONZALEZ. The slate tiles must be replaced on the base as well as the protective coating on the exterior of the sculpture. Additionally, there were concerns about the lighting program, which requires a survey of the lighting to be conducted at night. Staff is also working to address the ongoing maintenance of the Atomic Passage benches along Casino Center Boulevard, which are situated in a high-traffic area. She shared photos of one of the benches, which was cleaned by MR. HIDALGO. Lastly, staff is still working with JESSE SMIGEL to address the protective coating on the Snowball in Vegas sculpture. The sculpture was installed in 2014 and was last removed for refurbishment in 2019.

Municipal Courthouse Public Art Project – MS. MACHADO reminded the Commissioners that Domsy Glass was selected to install Equal Justice for All, which will be an entryway installation at the Las Vegas Municipal Courthouse. It was determined by Domsy Glass that additional support beams will be required for the installation. An additional quote is being sought in order to complete the project, and MS. MACHADO anticipated an extension to the project timeline.

Officer Igor Soldo Memorial Park Sculpture – MS. HOLDEN said Hanlon Sculpture Studio was commissioned through the Office of Cultural Affairs, Public Art Program and in partnership with the Office of Ward 6 and the Department of Public Works to create a bronze sculpture to honor fallen Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department OFFICER IGOR SOLDO. The project is anticipated to be completed by June 30, 2022. She stated that the original plans have been revised, and the statue will not be installed temporarily alongside the OFFICER ALYN BECK sculpture but will be installed at its own separate park.

Ogden Underpass Project – MS. SABO stated that a new iteration of this project is underway. She noted funding for the Municipal Art Plan was approved at the October 20, 2021 City Council Meeting, and a new scope of work is being drafted for this project.

RTC (Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada) Public Art Project – She indicated the Arts Commission voted on September 16, 2021 to approve a proposed partnership project between the City and the RTC. Funding was approved for the Municipal Art Plan at the October 20, 2021 City Council Meeting, and staff met with representatives from the Regional Transportation Commission on November 29, 2021. A detailed proposal will be prepared.

Symphony Park Garage – MS. MACHADO said this sculpture was a commission completed by Domsy Glass, titled Larger than Life, and has passed the final welding inspection. The next step of the process will be for the art pieces to be skinned and powder coated individually. She indicated there is an installation date for the end of March and a dedication event on April 21st.

Ward 3 Proud Banner Project – MS. SABO said the Office of Cultural Affairs, Public Art Program is working with the Office of Ward 3 to complete this project, which was presented at the August 20 and October 15, 2020 Arts Commission Meetings. Staff received notification on November 3, 2021 that an additional \$30,000 was allocated by Ward 3 in order to begin the project, which was directed to be completed by June 30, 2022. Ward 3 funding was approved on February 14, 2022, and a Request for Proposals is being drafted.

CHAIR SPROTT thanked staff for working on these projects and welcomed the new staff members.

7. Discussion for possible action regarding the accession of the mural “A Phalanx of Angels Ascending” by James Stanford, located at 705 North Las Vegas Boulevard (No Fiscal Impact) – Ward 5

Minutes:

Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted and attached as backup, LAURA MACHADO, Visual Arts Specialist II, said the City of Las Vegas acquired a property located at 705 North Las Vegas Boulevard in July of 2020. When this building was purchased, a mural designed by JAMES STANFORD, titled A Phalanx of Angels Ascending, had recently been painted on it. The mural is approximately 2,000 square feet and covers three exterior walls. The mural depicts the Blue Angel sign, which was designed by BETTY WILLIS. Staff recommended the Arts Commission accession the artwork into the City of Las Vegas public art collection as the City now owns this property.

COMMISSIONER KLEVEN wondered if the building must be maintained if the mural is accessioned. MS. MACHADO said the building does not have to be maintained, noting the City has entered into an agreement with the artist, who is familiar with what could potentially happen to the building. She pointed out that the area where the building is located is part of an improvement area, and staff will inform the Arts Commission of any impacts to the building.

CHAIR SPROTT thought this was a good mural, mentioning that the Blue Angel is an iconic art piece. She was in favor of accessioning it.

Motion made by Jennifer Kleven to Accession "A Phalanx of Angels Ascending" by James Stanford

Passed For: 7; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 5

For-Ally Haynes-Hamblen, David Tupaz, John Pacheco, Mickey Sprott, Paul Lowden, John Curran, Jennifer Kleven; Excused-John Trimble, Sandy Karpel, David Straus, Ryan Hampton, Suzanne Hackett-Morgan;

8. Discussion for possible action regarding the accession of the painted Portrait of President Joe Biden by Walter M. Pfyl, located at City Hall, 495 South Main Street, inside the Council Chambers and donated by Southwest Gas Corporation (No Fiscal Impact) – Ward 3

Minutes:

Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted and attached as backup, REBECCA HOLDEN, Visual Arts Specialist II, said the Presidential Portrait Collection is part of the City of Las Vegas public art collection, and beginning in 1989, Southwest Gas Corporation provided the City with the current selection of portraits. They have since committed to donating a portrait upon the inauguration of each new president and the release of their photograph by the White House.

She indicated that LAWRENCE WILLIAMS painted the portraits of PRESIDENT GEORGE WASHINGTON to PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER, JON MARDEL painted the portraits of PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN to PRESIDENT GEORGE H. W. BUSH, and WALTER PFYL painted the portraits of PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON to PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN.

MS. HOLDEN pointed out an inconsistency with the frames, stating that a previous federal law required the most recent portraits to be displayed in larger frames than the preceding presidents if they are displayed in the same space. This law is no longer applicable, so staff will be replacing some frames. Upon the release of the official Presidential Portrait of PRESIDENT BIDEN, the Finance Department, through their Franchise division, worked with Southwest Gas Corporation to obtain the new portrait, which was installed in the Council Chambers in late October and was officially revealed and recognized by the Council at the November 2, 2021 City Council Meeting. The Arts Commissioners recognized that portrait at the November 18, 2021 Arts Commission Meeting. In alignment with the City's artwork donations policies and procedures, each donation of the Presidential Portrait must be reviewed by the Arts Commission, and staff was pleased to formally present this donation for discussion and possible action.

She indicated the portrait is an oil on canvas painting, and the artist takes time to ensure the painting is consistent with the others in the collection. It is valued at \$1,200; however, it was commissioned and purchased by Southwest Gas Corporation and donated to the City. Staff recommended accessioning the portrait into the collection.

Motion made by Jennifer Kleven to Accession the Portrait of President Joe Biden by Walter M. Pfyl

Passed For: 7; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 5

For-Ally Haynes-Hamblen, David Tupaz, John Pacheco, Mickey Sprott, Paul Lowden, John Curran, Jennifer Kleven; Excused-John Trimble, Sandy Karpel, David Straus, Ryan Hampton, Suzanne Hackett-Morgan;

9. Discussion for possible action regarding the appointment or re-appointment of members to the Arts Commission Subcommittees and Ad Hoc Subcommittee

Minutes:

At the request of the Chair, REBECCA HOLDEN, Visual Arts Specialist II, directed the Commissioners'

attention to a list of subcommittees and ad hoc subcommittee of the Arts Commission, a copy of which was submitted and attached as backup. LAURA MACHADO, Visual Arts Specialist II, identified the purpose of the Education Subcommittee, which provides oversight to the Arts Commission arts educational activities. Members of this subcommittee propose and review educational projects, develop related programs, provide outreach, suggest collaborations, and monitor project budgets. She listed the Commissioners on this subcommittee as of the March 18, 2021 meeting.

CHAIR SPROTT wondered how many Commissioners are allowed to serve on a subcommittee, to which MS. HOLDEN stated no more than six. This is to prevent establishing a quorum of the full Arts Commission. She noted the Chair serves as an ex-officio member on each subcommittee.

Discussion ensued among the Chair and Commissioners regarding who should serve on the Education Subcommittee. CHAIR SPROTT believed COMMISSIONERS KLEVEN and HACKETT-MORGAN were interested in discussing public art education for local artists and should be added to this subcommittee.

Subsequent to the vote, CHAIR SPROTT confirmed with MS. MACHADO that she would like to review who is on each subcommittee.

CHAIR SPROTT recessed the meeting from 5:14 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Motion made by Mickey Sprott to remove Commissioner Straus and add Commissioners Kleven and Hackett-Morgan to the Education Subcommittee and appoint Commissioner Kleven as Chair of that subcommittee

Passed For: 7; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 5

For-Ally Haynes-Hamblen, David Tupaz, John Pacheco, Mickey Sprott, Paul Lowden, John Curran, Jennifer Kleven; Excused-John Trimble, Sandy Karpel, David Straus, Ryan Hampton, Suzanne Hackett-Morgan;

10. **Discussion regarding topics for future agenda items.** Comments made during this portion of the agenda by individual members shall refer solely to proposals for future agenda items and any discussion shall be limited to whether or not such proposed items are within the purview of the Commission and/or whether such proposed items 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.

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER PACHECO wished to find a location for a sculpture he is familiar with. CHAIR SPROTT suggested the Commissioner work with staff regarding the donation policy and to put an item on a future agenda.

11. **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, come forward and 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:

None.

12. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Ashley Foster, CMC, Deputy City Clerk

Ally Haynes-Hamblen, Director
Office of Cultural Affairs

THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NOTICING STANDARDS AS OUTLINED IN NRS 241.020:

The City of Las Vegas website – www.lasvegasnevada.gov

The Nevada Public Notice website – notice.nv.gov

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor