



## Arts Commission Minutes

### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

CHAIR BRIARE called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR BRIARE and COMMISSIONERS SPROTT (via teleconference until 4:09 p.m. when she arrived in person), TUPAZ, TRIMBLE, CURRAN (via teleconference), LOWDEN (via teleconference), PACHECO, STRAUS (via teleconference), KLEVEN (via teleconference), and HAYNES-HAMBLEN

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONER KARPEL

ALSO PRESENT: LAURA MACHADO, Visual Arts Specialist II, REBECCA HOLDEN, Visual Arts Specialist II, JEANNE VOLTURA, Visual Arts Specialist I, SETH FLOYD, Deputy City Attorney III, and ASHLEY FOSTER, 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 State of Nevada Executive Department Declaration of Emergency Directive 006: The City of Las Vegas website – [www.lasvegasnevada.gov](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov) and The Nevada Public Notice Website – [notice.nv.gov](http://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 December 17, 2020

Motion made by John Trimble to Approve

Passed For: 10; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 1

For-Ally Haynes-Hamblen, David Tupaz, Jim Briare, John Pacheco, John Trimble, Mickey Sprott, Paul Lowden, John Curran, David Straus, Jennifer Kleven; Excused-Sandy Karpel;

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

Minutes:

CHAIR BRIARE reviewed the list of cultural events taking place throughout the city, which included the following: Spring Break workshop options offered by the Office of Cultural Affairs, the Chinese Heritage Exhibition – Year of the Ox, the African-American Heritage Exhibition, and Windows on First – Making Faces by HOLLY LAY. He

provided some of the details regarding the event/exhibit locations, dates, and artists.

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

Minutes:

LAURA MACHADO, Visual Arts Specialist II, and REBECCA HOLDEN, Visual Arts Specialist II, shared in narrating a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted and attached as backup.

3rd Street Public Art Project – MS. MACHADO shared that the poetry portion of the project will install February 26, 2021. Selected poetry will be etched onto the concrete, and an unveiling will be held for World Poetry Day on Sunday, March 21st from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Charleston Underpass Mural Project – Staff is awaiting the Nevada Department of Transportation's (NDOT) review and approval of the materials before the Artistic Agreement can be issued. Once approval is received, the name of the artists and the design will be released.

Historic Westside Legacy Park – Thirty-six individuals were recognized and will be honored at the park. Additional information can be found at the link on the PowerPoint presentation slide.

Maintenance and Conservation – MS. HOLDEN reported that the Office of Cultural Affairs conducts regular condition and inventory reports of items in the public art collection, which are used to generate a listing of 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 of [publicart@lasvegasnevada.gov](mailto:publicart@lasvegasnevada.gov). She shared photographs and discussed some of the pieces receiving attention. The AMP Maryland Parkway cabinet by MAUREEN HALLIGAN was located at the northwest corner of Maryland Parkway and Fremont Street and has been formally de-accessioned from the public art collection. Staff reached out to the City of Las Vegas' Traffic and Engineering Division who informed them the cabinet was replaced due to standard improvements in the area.

The Office of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the Nevada Community Foundation, submitted an application for the Bank of America Conservation Project Grant in order to support the maintenance and conservation efforts of Paintbrush Gateway by DENNIS OPPENHEIM. The Office also submitted a Capital Improvement Project funding request for these efforts and looks forward to hearing the determination of both requests in the Spring.

Nephele by CYD BOWN will be removed from the Development Services Center and stored until an alternate display location can be identified. The removal of the artwork requires specialty services and is currently estimated to cost approximately \$24,226.64. Future Las Vegas by PAUL FARKAS has been relocated to City Hall at no additional cost. The Scarlet Letter by ALEXIS SMITH has been relocated to the Charleston Heights Arts Center where it has undergone a thorough condition report. Staff is investigating conservation and/or restoration options.

Municipal Courthouse Public Art Project – MS. MACHADO stated that the Office of Cultural Affairs – Public Art Program seeks to commission an artist or team of artists to create an original two-dimensional work of art for the new Municipal Courthouse. The commission of an original, site-responsive, two-dimensional work of art that embodies the theme of Equal Justice for All has been recommended. The request for qualifications was issued on Tuesday, January 19, 2021, and closes on Tuesday, February 23, 2021. More information can be found at [artsregistrylas.vegas](http://artsregistrylas.vegas).

Presidential Portrait – MS. HOLDEN indicated the Office of Cultural Affairs – Public Art Program will continue the long-standing tradition of having a portrait installed for the newly elected PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN. The current collection has been donated by Southwest Gas Corporation through a partnership beginning with a donation received in 1989. She noted a there is federal requirement that portraits of the current and most recent Presidents be displayed in larger frames than preceding Presidents if all portraits are assembled in one location. The new portrait will be commissioned once PRESIDENT BIDEN releases an official photograph.

Queen of the Arts – The project is nearing completion and a more detailed report was provided under Item 7.

The Westside Will Rise Again Mural Project – The project is a partnership between the Office of Cultural Affairs and the Office of Community Services. A location has been identified on City property at 609 West Adams

Avenue with a wall that is 14 feet high by 75 feet wide. The mural is to be painted by COURTNEY HAYWOOD in coordination with community members.

Website Update – Staff is aspiring to update the Office of Cultural Affairs website, and she asked the Commissioners to share their biographical information as well as a headshot with MS. HOLDEN. Additionally, she asked the Commissioners to review the contact information in their binders to ensure everything is up to date.

COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLÉN asked MS. HOLDEN to share more details about the expenses associated with the relocation of the Nephelē sculpture. MS. HOLDEN explained that the sculpture was installed at the Development Services Center in 2014 and consists of six, individual, cone-shaped artworks that have stitched fabric around them. They are fairly lightweight but are suspended through a wired system across the atrium of the building from the sixth floor. The City of Las Vegas is in the process of transferring ownership of the building and rather than transfer the ownership of the Nephelē sculpture, it was determined it be relocated to a City building. A specialized company, as well as a specialized subcontracted company, will be assisting in the relocation process, and the sculpture will be temporarily relocated to Cashman Center. She noted the costs associated with the relocation include the specialized labor as well as the sculpture's transportation and materials. MS. HOLDEN informed CHAIR BRIARE the funds will come from the maintenance allocation of the Percent for Arts program.

COMMISSIONER CURRAN was surprised by the federal requirement regarding the size of the frames of the most recent Presidents to be larger than the others. He wondered if the additional art pieces for the Municipal Courthouse have been canceled. MS. MACHADO said staff is still waiting on a final determination of the placement of the exterior artwork portion of the project. The entryway artwork portion of the project is currently in discussion and on hold. She further explained how the locations were selected and noted there is a current evaluation panel but that will be scaled back as the budget has decreased.

See Item 7 for related discussion.

7. Report by Rebecca Holden, Visual Arts Specialist II for the Office of Cultural Affairs, regarding the status of the Queen of the Arts sculpture project by Gus and Lina Ocamposilva located at 947 West Lake Mead Boulevard – Ward 5

Minutes:

Through the use of a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was included in the backup, REBECCA HOLDEN, Visual Arts Specialist II, provided an update on the Queen of the Arts sculpture as the project began several years ago and since membership on the Arts Commission has changed, an update was desired. The sculpture will be located at 947 West Lake Mead Boulevard in Ward 5. Funding was allocated in 2016, the artists were selected in 2017, and the project will be completed in 2021. She displayed a rendering of the sculpture and read the Artist Statement found on the PowerPoint presentation slides. Several additional slides were displayed featuring the Site Plan, current site conditions, and an aerial view of the site. The sculpture is located near other City of Las Vegas properties and artwork.

MS. HOLDEN reviewed the artist selection process, which began with the scope development with stakeholders, followed by identifying an evaluation panel and issuing a Request for Proposals. After the close of the bid process, the evaluation panel meets to determine if additional information from the artists is needed. After that information is received, the evaluation panel meets again and selects three finalists. Those finalists are invited to attend a public meeting where they present their designs to the public after which, an artist is selected based upon public feedback and a decision by the evaluation panel. Once an artist is selected, a public Notice to Award is issued during which the public has an opportunity to receive information regarding the artist and submit any objections. The artist is then officially awarded the project and the City enters into contract negotiations. Those contracts are then executed and contain milestones that must be completed. At the project's completion, there is an unveiling ceremony.

MS. HOLDEN displayed and provided an overview of the timeline of the Queen of the Arts sculpture. In 2016, the funding for the project was allocated, the project scope was developed, and the artist solicitation was issued. In 2017, the evaluation panel met to select the finalists, a public outreach meeting was held with the finalists, and the artists were awarded their contract. In 2018, the development of the project began which included starting the permitting process as well as an engineering review. Additionally, the quality assurance review was a component

of the permitting process and during this time it came to staff's attention that the project would fall under Clark County building code regulations, which had certain requirements such as where the sculpture must be fabricated and who must fabricate it. In 2019, the foundations of the sculpture were installed, and staff worked with the artists to resolve outstanding quality assurance items, which ultimately required the original contract to be terminated and the sculpture moved to Las Vegas where staff was able to source quotes from multiple local fabricators and work to ensure those fabricators fell within the quality assurance guidelines. Additional funding was identified, and the permit was transferred and renewed with local fabricators. She anticipated the completion of the project to be in early April.

MS. HOLDEN reviewed the budget of the project, which is \$125,000; this breaks down to \$75,000 allocated from the Arts Commission in 2016, \$10,000 from the Arts Commission maintenance fund, \$40,000 from the Mayor's Fund for Las Vegas LIFE with a special thanks to the Howard Hughes Corporation for their donation. She further broke down the budget, which is detailed on one of the PowerPoint presentation slides.

COMMISSIONER KLEVEN wondered if the sculpture will have lighting. MS. HOLDEN replied in the affirmative noting it was a requirement of the project that it is solar-powered.

COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLÉN believed this was one of the first public art projects she was briefed on when she was hired and looked forward to its completion. She and COMMISSIONER TRIMBLE thanked staff for their efforts.

See Item 6 for related discussion.

8. Discussion for possible action regarding a proposal by artist Lee Czaplinkski for the City of Las Vegas to purchase Germinol, a metal sculpture – (\$12,000 – Percent for the Arts Fund) – AllWards

Minutes:

Through the use of a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted and attached as backup, LAURA MACHADO, Visual Arts Specialist II, stated that LEE CZAPLINKSKI reached out to the Office of the Mayor for the artwork to be considered for purchase. The material of the sculpture is steel bolts welded together, the dimensions are approximately seven feet high and three feet wide, and it weighs approximately 200 pounds. The price of the sculpture is \$12,000.

CHAIR BRIARE did not believe there was a budget for purchasing artwork at the moment but thanked the artist for the offer. COMMISSIONERS SPROTT and KLEVEN agreed with the Chair who asked that the artist be thanked for their submission and encouraged to follow up with the Commission in a few years.

Motion made by Jim Briare to decline the request

Passed For: 10; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 1

For-Ally Haynes-Hamblen, David Tupaz, Jim Briare, John Pacheco, John Trimble, Mickey Sprott, Paul Lowden, John Curran, David Straus, Jennifer Kleven; Excused-Sandy Karpel;

9. Discussion for possible action regarding a potential Arts Commission project funded through the Mayor's Fund for Las Vegas LIFE – All Wards

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLÉN was aware that the option to fundraise was of interest to the Arts Commission and wished for the Mayor's Fund for Las Vegas LIFE to be considered when funding is needed. She inquired with the Commissioners if anyone had a project they would like to propose.

CHAIR BRIARE thought there were a lot of ideas both large and small that could be entertained. He shared the idea of a juried show for students or artists to produce dream concepts but was not sure if such an idea could be funded. COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLÉN deferred to legal counsel to which DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY SETH FLOYD offered to research the matter and report back to the Commission. COMMISSIONERS PACHECO, SPROTT, and HAYNES-HAMBLÉN liked the Chair's idea as it could inspire much creativity.

COMMISSIONER KLEVEN wondered if a grant program for local artists has been considered. COMMISSIONER

HAYNES-HAMBLEN said she has presented the idea of an endowment fund or cultural trust that could self-generate funding for the arts community.

CHAIR BRIARE mentioned there is a subcommittee that reviews projects for the Arts Commission and also encouraged the Commissioners to reach out to COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLEN with their ideas.

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 hear more about artwork for areas of the city with Hispanic residents.

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 4:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Ashley Foster, Deputy City Clerk

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Ally Haynes-Hamblen, Director, Office of Cultural Affairs

THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE OF NEVADA EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY DIRECTIVE 006  
The City of Las Vegas website – [www.lasvegasnevada.gov](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov)  
and  
The Nevada Public Notice Website – [notice.nv.gov](http://notice.nv.gov)