



Arts Commission Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

CHAIR BRIARE called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR BRIARE and COMMISSIONERS SPROTT, KARPEL, LOWDEN (via teleconference), STRAUS (excused until 4:05 p.m. via teleconference), KLEVEN (seated as Second Vice Chair after Item 8), GUSTAFSON, and HAYNES-HAMBLÉN

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONERS TUPAZ, TRIMBLE, CURRAN, and PACHECO

ALSO PRESENT: LAURA MACHADO, Visual Arts Specialist II, REBECCA HOLDEN, Visual Arts Specialist II, JEANNE VOLTURA, Visual Arts Specialist I, SAPIRA CHEUK, Technician/Specialist, 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 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 February 18, 2021

Motion made by Sandy Karpel to Approve

Passed For: 8; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 4

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

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

Minutes:

CHAIR BRIARE welcomed COMMISSIONER GUSTAFSON who was appointed to the Arts Commission by COUNCILWOMAN VICTORIA SEAMAN as the representative of Ward 2. He also thanked former COMMISSIONER RICHARD PLASTER for his service to the Commission.

The Chair shared information submitted by COMMISSIONER CURRAN regarding the Easel Show featuring MIKE RAMDIJAN at Ferguson's Downtown Market and Alley on Sunday, March 21st from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the rooftop. He reviewed the list of cultural events taking place throughout the city, which included: a public event to celebrate the work of local poets RELINDA TRUTH, KEITH BRANTLEY, ASH DELGREGO, FLYNN DEXTER, BRUCE ISAACSON, HEATHER LANG CASSERA, RODNEY J. LEE, A.J. MOYER, KARI O'CONNOR, and VOGUE ROBINSON in honor of World Poetry Day and the Third Street Poetry Unveiling as well as the following exhibitions on display: 160 SQF, The 211 Project by NIMA ABKENAR, the African-American Heritage Exhibition, the Chinese Heritage Exhibition: Year of the Ox, and Windows on First – Making Faces. He provided some of the details regarding the event/exhibit locations, dates, and artists.

COMMISSIONER KLEVEN wished to highlight that the Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas will be open on March 19th until 8:00 p.m. The museum is free, but tickets must be booked in advance. She noted there are six exhibits on display as well as free parking.

COMMISSIONER GUSTAFSON stated that there is an Art in the Park event on April 17th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Bruce Trent Park. Tables and booths are available for \$50 each; those who cannot afford this amount will be taken into consideration.

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

Minutes:

REBECCA HOLDEN, Visual Arts Specialist II, and LAURA MACHADO, Visual Arts Specialist II, 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, which was included in the backup, was provided to the Commissioners.

Welcome to New Staff – She welcomed and acknowledged SAPIRA CHEUK, Technician/Specialist, and HOMERO HIDALGO who were new to the Office of Cultural Affairs team.

Third Street Public Art Project – MS. MACHADO stated that poetry has been etched into the concrete and welcomed the Commissioners to attend an event on March 21st from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. to celebrate.

Arts District Public Art Project – The off-site application for Emergent has been approved, but the artist team, YASMINA CHAVEZ and JAVIER SANCHEZ, have experienced a delay with the fabrication. Staff hoped to have an updated installation date at the next Arts Commission meeting.

Charleston Underpass Mural Project – The Office of Cultural Affairs is awaiting the Nevada Department of Transportation review and approval of the project materials. The artist's name and design will be disclosed as soon as the project has been awarded.

Historic Westside School Design Center Mural – ASHANTI MCGEE and BRENT HOLMES have been selected to create an original work of art for the Historic Westside School Design Center, and the artists have begun painting.

Las Vegas City Hall Grand Gallery – Each year, the Public Art team works with the Gallery Program to facilitate a joint exhibition to be hosted in the Las Vegas City Hall Grand Gallery. A request for proposals was issued in February, and NIMA ABKENAR was selected to create an original, site-specific installation. The artwork, titled 160 SQF, The 211 Project, opened March 1st and will close June 23rd with hopes of a closing reception.

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 email address of publicart@lasvegasnevada.gov. She shared photographs and discussed some of the pieces receiving attention. Graffiti has been noted on one of the street guards by JEFF FULMER along 4th Street in front of the Historic Fifth Street School and will be addressed.

Staff received notification that the Office of Cultural Affairs was not awarded the Bank of America Conservation Project Grant. Additionally, staff is awaiting notification to see if the additional capital improvement project funding

request has been awarded for maintenance efforts.

Municipal Courthouse Public Art Project – MS. MACHADO stated that City of Las Vegas management has made the determination to reissue the Request for Qualifications solicitation for the new courthouse entryway artwork with the added stipulation that the artist awarded the project must be registered as an emerging small business operating in Nevada. The updated Request for Qualifications will be issued by the Purchasing and Contracts Division. She asked the Commissioners to share the link provided in the PowerPoint presentation with those who are interested in applying and noted the amount under Budget on the slide should reflect \$80,000.

Queen of the Arts – MS. HOLDEN indicated that fabrication is underway with an estimated completion date in April of 2021.

The Westside Will Rise Again Mural Project – The Office of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the Office of Community Services, has identified a 14-foot high by 75-foot wide wall on City of Las Vegas property located at 609 West Adams Avenue to be painted by COURTNEY HAYWOOD in coordination with community members. The mural painting has been scheduled to occur on May 10 through May 15, 2021, and a ceremonial event titled Take Flight is scheduled to unveil the mural on May 15th at 2:30 p.m.

Website Update – MS. HOLDEN thanked the Commissioners who provided updated headshots and biographical information for the website and asked the others to visit the website and send their updated headshots and biographical information to her e-mail address.

The Windows on First – MS. MACHADO announced that the Office of Cultural Affairs seeks proposals from artists for artwork as part of a rotating temporary public art exhibition program at City Hall. Interested artists are encouraged to apply at www.artsregistrylas.vegas. The deadline is April 20th at 6:00 p.m.

COMMISSIONER GUSTAFSON wondered how to access the report outside of the meeting. MS. HOLDEN said the information could be found on www.artslasvegas.org, which is the City's website for the Office of Cultural Affairs. Additionally, everything that is presented or discussed at the meeting is archived and made available to the public on the City of Las Vegas' Prime Gov website.

MS. MACHADO informed COMMISSIONER KLEVEN of the website and process for the Request for Qualifications for the Municipal Courthouse Public Art Project.

CHAIR BRIARE wondered if there is any contribution that the Arts Commission can make to assist in writing, selecting, or finding grants. MS. HOLDEN indicated information is always welcome; however, there is a group within the Office of Cultural Affairs that pursue grant opportunities. COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLEN confirmed this and noted there is a process through the City that must be followed. She told COMMISSIONER GUSTAFSON that any grant opportunity only needs to be presented to staff.

See Item 7 for related discussion.

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

Minutes:

The Commissioners reviewed the document 'List of Subcommittees and Ad Hoc Subcommittee' included in the backup. CHAIR BRIARE wondered if one of the subcommittees might allow for ideas to be drafted and submitted to the Mayor's Fund for Las Vegas LIFE. COMMISSIONER SPROTT acknowledged the Public Art Advisory Subcommittee and thought that might be a good subcommittee for such a matter.

The Chair recognized the Project Development Subcommittee and mentioned this subcommittee allows for the discretion of funds for projects such as those reported on under Item 6; however, this year funding has been significantly reduced as a result of the pandemic. COMMISSIONER GUSTAFSON wondered if a new subcommittee or ad hoc subcommittee could be created to search for funding to bolster what has been lost. DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY SETH FLOYD stated that there are limitations under state law of any public official's ability to solicit funds. He would provide a report on this at a later date.

COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLEN stated that subcommittee meetings are open to the public; therefore, the Commissioners are able to attend. However, MR. FLOYD advised the Commissioners not to participate in the deliberations if they are not a member of that particular subcommittee as it could be a violation of the Open Meeting Law as it pertains to quorums.

COMMISSIONER SPROTT suggested there be more than three voting members on the Fast Track Subcommittee. COMMISSIONERS KLEVEN, HAYNES-HAMBLEN, and KARPEL nominated themselves for the Fast Track Subcommittee.

CHAIR BRIARE wondered if the Main Street Ad Hoc Subcommittee has ever met. REBECCA HOLDEN, Visual Arts Specialist II, replied that the ad hoc subcommittee predominantly met during the early developmental stages of the Main Street Project. It is still kept on the list because there are some open initiatives in the Main Street area.

The Chair noted the Education Subcommittee also has not met since he has been a Commissioner.

Motion made by Jim Briare to Approve the nominations as presented during the meeting and retaining existing subcommittee members

Passed For: 8; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 4

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

8. Discussion for possible action regarding the election of the Second Vice Chair to the Arts Commission – All Wards

Minutes:

CHAIR BRIARE noted this item was to replace former COMMISSIONER RICHARD PLASTER who was the Second Vice Chair. COMMISSIONER SPROTT reviewed and commented that the Second Vice Chair is a great starting position.

CHAIR BRIARE nominated COMMISSIONER KLEVEN as Second Vice Chair who accepted the nomination.

Motion made by Jim Briare to Approve Jennifer Kleven as Second Vice Chair

Passed For: 8; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 4

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

9. Discussion regarding increasing artistic initiatives honoring Hispanic heritage within the area bounded by East Washington Avenue, North Nellis Boulevard, East Charleston Boulevard and Eastern Avenue – Ward 3

Minutes:

CHAIR BRIARE said this item was brought about by COMMISSIONER PACHECO. As he was excused, the Chair wished to Strike the item.

Motion made by Jim Briare to Strike

Passed For: 8; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 4

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

10. Discussion for possible action to approve the proposed design for a sculpture by Sue Ann Cornwell to be installed at the Healing Garden, located at 1015 South Casino Center Boulevard – Ward 3

Minutes:

Staff recommended this item be Tabled; therefore, a vote was taken to do so.

Motion made by Jim Briare to Table

Passed For: 8; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 4

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

11. **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 GUSTAFSON requested a budget review. CHAIR BRIARE believed, traditionally, a budget review is given before the September meeting. COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLEN stated that she provides a budget review at the June meeting in anticipation of project development over the summer but could provide an update at the next meeting if desired. COMMISSIONER SPOTT added that the budget was reviewed two months ago and is in the meeting minutes on the website. COMMISSIONER GUSTAFSON confirmed the information contained in the meeting minutes on the website would provide the information requested, in lieu of an agenda item.

12. **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:

ALI KASAMPULA stated that he was originally from France but has lived in Las Vegas for nearly 20 years. He shared several images of wooden statues from Cameroon that he wished to sell. MR. KASAMPULA informed the Commissioners that the pieces were purchased from a museum in Cameroon but were crafted 200 years ago.

CHAIR BRIARE was not sure if there was an organization or program locally that might be interested in the wooden statues. COMMISSIONER SPOTT believed the wooden statues to be museum pieces.

13. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Ashley Foster, 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 STATE OF NEVADA EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY DIRECTIVE 006
The City of Las Vegas website – www.lasvegasnevada.gov
and
The Nevada Public Notice Website – notice.nv.gov