



Arts Commission Minutes

1. Call to Order

Minutes:

CHAIR CURRAN called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR CURRAN and COMMISSIONERS BRIARE, SPOTT, SCHEFCIK (excused until 4:15 p.m.), TUPAZ (via telephonically), WEINSTEIN, ZACHMAN, PACHECO and HAYNES-HAMBLÉN

EXCUSED: MEMBERS TRIMBLE, KARPEL and LOWDEN

ALSO PRESENT: REBECCA HOLDEN, Visual Arts Specialist, LAURA MACHADO, Visual Arts Specialist, ELIAS GEORGE, Deputy City Attorney, 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: 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.

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 April 18, 2019

Motion made by Jim Briare to Approve

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

For-Ally Haynes-Hamblen, David Tupaz, Jim Briare, John Curran, John Pacheco, Mark Zachman, Mickey Sprott, Polly Weinstein; Excused-Jerry Schefcik, Paul Lowden, John Trimble, Sandy Karpel;

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

Minutes:

CHAIR CURRAN went over the list of cultural events taking place throughout the city which included the following: The Poets' Corner, White Lies, Celebrating Life! 2019 Exhibition, Salon de Refuses portion of Celebrating Life! 2019 Exhibition, Rainbow Company Youth Theatre Season Celebration, Nevada Watercolor

Society - Signature Member Exhibition, Hearts4Vegas Touring Exhibition, Exploring the Twisted Nature of All Things... Fiber Exhibition, Reverence for the Irrelevant Exhibition, Overcast: A Multi-Media Art Exhibition featuring the artwork of Brett Bolton, Windows on First: There is Nothing I Can Do Without You, and First Street Art Trail Aerial Gallery Banner Artwork Exhibition. He provided some of the details regarding their location, dates, and artists presenting.

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

Minutes:

REBECCA HOLDEN, Visual Arts Specialist, stated that the PowerPoint presentation was in addition to the Staff Report provided to the Members, and attached as backup, in an attempt to better inform the Commission of art projects in the community. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation was submitted for the record.

MS. HOLDEN and LAURA MACHADO, Visual Arts Specialists, alternated in describing and providing the status for the projects shown on the presentation.

MS. HOLDEN displayed the structure of the Public Art Program which features ALLY HAYNES-HAMBLÉN as the Director of Cultural Affairs and who MS. HOLDEN and MS. MACHADO report to. MS. MACHADO also oversees an internship program with the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). In addition, there is a vacant hourly technician position with the Public Art Program.

MS. HOLDEN and MS. MACHADO highlighted some of the projects in which staff has recently worked on and is currently working on including the 30th anniversary of the Public Art Program, the incorporation of public art into the 3rd Street development, the restoration of the A Rose in the Desert mural, and the incorporation of more artwork along Main Street in the Arts District. MS. HOLDEN acknowledged the Aerial Gallery which is an annual banner expedition featuring 66 banners from Bridger Avenue to Boulder Avenue. She showed several slides illustrating various banners which have been featured in the past. MS. HOLDEN and MS. MACHADO also discussed the AMP Utility Cabinet Painting Project sharing images of completed boxes. The two also shared in providing an overview of the artistic bike racks and the ArtPop Street Gallery which promotes local artists' work through available media space.

MS. HOLDEN stated that the Office also facilitates an Arts Registry website which is operated by the Visual Arts unit as a whole. Artist opportunities of a lower budget (usually under \$25,000) and gallery opportunities are posted on the website.

MS. HOLDEN highlighted additional projects such as the Atomic Stars, vinyl banners in the Berkley Square Historic District, and sourcing artists for the book festival art design. MS. HOLDEN announced that the reception and awards for Celebrating Life! 2019 would be held on Friday, May 24th. The event is held annually. The Arts Commission was key in initiating the program and the Public Arts Program assists in the facilitation of the program in addition to funding the awards. She specified that the awards are not funded through the Percent for the Arts Fund but are funded through the Public Art Program General Fund allocation. Additionally, MS. HOLDEN touched upon the Chicano Park Inspired Project on Bruce Street, and MS. MACHADO spoke briefly about the Charleston Boulevard Underpass Mural Project which staff was hoping to work with the Department of Public Works to beautify Charleston Boulevard and the underpass.

MS. HOLDEN discussed the Contemporary Public Art Program which was initiated through a partnership with the Department of Public Works and mirrors other successful projects throughout the country that incorporate artworks, temporarily, in the public right-of-way and other public spaces. Images of some of the artwork throughout the city were shown.

MS. HOLDEN addressed Fire Station 3 which was demolished and is being rebuilt. There were two artworks on site. One was a fire hose art sculpture by JOHN BANKS and the other is a rainforest mural. The mural could not be saved when the building was demolished but was professionally photographed and digitally restored with the intent to install it at a freestanding wall that will be placed at the site when the new fire station is built. The fire hose art sculpture is currently in the possession of the artist for restoration and will be installed at the new site, as well.

She discussed several more projects including tile murals located on F Street, mementos left at the Healing Garden and the Hearts4Vegas campaign which were both initiated after the October 1 event.

Regarding the Historic Markers/Medallions, MS. MACHADO stated that \$5,000 was allocated from the Arts Commission and staff requested funds from the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial for fabrication and installation who in turn advised staff to work with the Historic Preservation Officer. When the Historic Preservation Officer is newly hired, staff will work with them to identify additional funds.

She briefly discussed the Historic Westside Signs which will be commissioned by HAROLD BRADFORD and will be placed on the off-ramps from U.S. Route 95 and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. Staff anticipated a reception recognizing MR. BRADFORD'S work. Regarding the Huntridge Circle Park, COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLLEN worked on a memorandum of understanding the developer J DAPPER who is working to transform the park into an interactive art and sculpture park and part children's park.

MS. MACHADO stated that COMMISSIONER SCHEFCIK reached out to the Office and Cultural Affairs as a place for UNLV interns. Staff had the opportunity for an intern to work out of the Historic Fifth Street School gallery.

MS. HOLDEN indicated that staff was in the midst of conducting an inventory of artworks in the collection as directed through the city's fixed asset policy.

MS. MACHADO shared that staff was working with the Department of Public Works and The Neon Museum to restore and repair neon signs to be placed along Las Vegas Boulevard.

MS. HOLDEN acknowledged that there were several ongoing maintenance and conservation items which were listed throughout the presentation. However, she encouraged the Commissioners to reach out to staff with any questions.

MS. HOLDEN shared information regarding her and MS. MACHADO'S participation on the 18b Board, the Cultural Corridor Coalition, and the Clark County Public Art Advisory Committee.

MS. MACHADO and MS. HOLDEN touched upon several larger projects including the future Municipal Courthouse Public Art Project, the completion of two large murals in the the Neonopolis Parking Garage, a third mural to be completed in the Neonopolis Parking Garage, the incorporation of public art along the Ogden Underpass, the conservation and maintenance of the Paintbrush Gateway, the documentation of the public art collection, maintenance of the artwork along the Pioneer Trail, and the installation of the Radial Symmetry Plaque.

MS. HOLDEN shared that the beloved Snowball in Vegas sculpture has been temporarily removed for repairs by JESSE SMIGEL. A Request for Proposal (RFP) has been completed for artwork adjacent to the Symphony Park Garage and staff was narrowing down the qualified artists for the project. Staff also works to maintain the Firefighters Memorial Monument in partnership with MR. BANKS and a separate conservator has also been hired to engrave any new names onto the memorial and to maintain and repair the granite.

MS. MACHADO and MS. HOLDEN shared several more projects including working with Kroger on a mural for the new Smith's Food and Drug grocery store located near Skye Canyon and Interstate 95, the replacement of banners along Las Vegas Boulevard for The Neon, The Mob and The Natural History Museums, and the conservation and maintenance of the Lubertha Johnson Park artworks. The Office also partnered with the Department of Youth Development and Social Innovation and the Clark County School District for a mural on the Mission High School main office building.

Additionally, MS. MACHADO and MS. HOLDEN touched upon the Mayor's Urban Design Awards, the Presidential Portraits, and the restoration of the Rafael Rivera Sculpture, the Rhythm and Hues reception, the Storm Drain Public Art Project for 2018 and 2019, the T-Alley Public Art Project, the West Las Vegas Arts Center Mural, and the West Las Vegas Arts Center Sculpture.

Lastly, information was shared regarding Windows on First which is a project in partnership with the Department of Public Works. The project is a temporary exhibit which changes out every six months. Several images were shown of previous projects.

CHAIR CURRAN and COMMISSIONER ZACHMAN appreciated the comprehensive presentation and for the work of staff.

CHAIR CURRAN asked if the Charleston Boulevard Underpass Mural Project would be painted on the slanted wall on the site. MS. MACHADO replied that staff was still working to identify the exact location. COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLEN clarified that it would be the slanted wall that leads from the upper portion of the underpass to Charleston Boulevard. She noted that the ownership of that particular stretch of Charleston Boulevard was in the process of being transferred from the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) to the City of Las Vegas.

MS. HOLDEN and MS. MACHADO explained the relocation of two artworks for the Chair and explained the importance of community response in making temporary artwork more permanent.

CHAIR CURRAN commented that it may be great to review the visitation statistics in regards to the Neonopolis Parking Garage murals. He was also under the impression that the Arts Commission can only contribute toward public or municipal properties. He wondered how a Smith's Food and Drug became involved. MS. MACHADO stated that the company reached out to staff and funded the artwork completely. MS. HOLDEN added that staff works with multiple pots of funding with different requirements for each.

COMMISSIONER SCHEFCIK complimented staff and felt the need for a third Visual Arts Specialist.

CHAIR CURRAN wished the Arts Commission a happy 30th anniversary and a happy birthday to the City of Las Vegas.

Several of the Commissioners wished for a copy of the PowerPoint presentation to which, noting its size, MS. HOLDEN indicated that the PowerPoint presentation would be attached as backup on the PrimeGov website. It was requested by the Commissioners that a link to the PowerPoint presentation slide be e-mailed.

7. Discussion for possible action regarding a strategy for which the Las Vegas Arts Commission may engage in fundraising efforts as it relates to the Mayor's Fund for Las Vegas LIFE – All Wards

Minutes:

CHAIR CURRAN and COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLEN shared in reminding the Commissioners of a presentation that was given at a previous meeting by the Moonridge Group regarding the Mayor's Fund for Las Vegas LIFE which is a public/private funding mechanism. COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLEN stated that the Mayor's Fund Advisory Committee, as well as staff, have been working hard with all to assemble materials and to put the Commission in the position to start asking for funding. She thanked DR. LISA MORRIS-HIBLER, Director of Youth Development and Social Innovation, who was responsible for developing the Mayor's Fund for Las Vegas LIFE.

DR. MORRIS-HIBLER stated that it has taken some time to establish the Mayor's Fund which would allow for the availability to have public/private partnerships to help and promote the good work of the City of Las Vegas on behalf of the community. She acknowledged CHRISTINA ELLIS, Mayor's Fund Advisory Committee, and JESSICA RAUCH, Give Better Group, who has volunteered and has an interest in public art as a whole.

Referencing a flyer which was submitted as backup, DR. MORRIS-HIBLER shared the ways in which the Commissioners can disseminate information about the Mayor's Fund for Las Vegas including hosting an event in which representatives can speak about the Historic Westside Mural Project and the goal of raising approximately \$50,000 for each mural. There are also speaking opportunities and spreading the word through the Commissioners' networks. She also wished to brainstorm with the Commissioners and asked each to provide input and ideas, noting that now there is the opportunity to get engaged in ways that were not available before. She asserted that Moonridge Group and the Give Better Group were available to help guide the Commission in sharing information regarding the projects.

CHAIR CURRAN thought this to be wonderful as the Commission has struggled for a long time with being limited by a budget and has looked for a solution. He asked for further explanation regarding the difference between the Moonridge Group and the Give Better Group. DR. MORRIS-HIBLER explained that the Give Better Group was similar in nature to the Moonridge Group; however, the Give Better Group puts together all collateral pieces and helps to flesh out ideas and finesse the project so that people can understand what is being asked for. She noted MS. RAUCH works closely with the department directors on each of the projects

and helps to conceptualize ideas that can be distributed to others. MELISSA WARREN oversees marketing and outreach and is utilized for press releases as well as assists with other public relation matters.

CHAIR CURRAN mentioned becoming aware of a crowdfunding platform called Patronicity, and he wondered if it could be incorporated as it was something being considered by his group for the T-Alley Project. DR. MORRIS-HIBLER stated that the use of a crowdfunding platform had been considered in the past for a park but was not able to be used as donations could not be solicited; however, she would look into this one mentioned.

COMMISSIONER WEINSTEIN asked about the perimeters for hosting an event such as an auction. DR. MORRIS-HIBLER stated that it is the purpose of the Moonridge Group and Give Better Group to come in and help organize an event.

DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY ELIAS GEORGE advised that the Commissioners cannot solicit donations. The Commission can only follow the model by Moonridge Group to put on an event and inspire people to donate, as explained by DR. MORRIS-HIBLER who passed out an invitation of an event that generated \$70,000 in donations.

CHAIR CURRAN noted that the Commissioners serve in different roles and wondered why, in a different role, he cannot inspire others to give. MR. GEORGE replied that, without getting into the specifics, the rule is subjective and, overall, the Commissioners cannot give the appearance of impropriety. This was one of the reasons for partnering with consulting experts. He noted that this does not preclude any of the Commissioners from contacting previous members who currently do not hold any elected position with the City of Las Vegas to serve as a conduit.

COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLÉN asked if there was contact information for those interested in assisting. DR. MORRIS-HIBLER confirmed information would be provided. She commented that some of the events grow beyond expectation, and she emphasized that the community has always had a passion for the arts and would like to see it flourish. MS. RAUCH expressed her excitement to serve as a partner and stated that the way that the Mayor's Fund has been structured is to make it simple for information to be shared with the community.

COMMISSIONER BRIARE asked if questions should be filtered through the Deputy City Attorney such as permission to hand out informational postcards. MR. GEORGE indicated that either the Office of the City Attorney or DR. MORRIS-HIBLER could be contacted for clarification.

DR. MORRIS-HIBLER expressed her excitement and interest in meeting with the Commissioners immediately so that MS. RAUCH can start outreach. COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLÉN pointed out the contact information on the submitted flyer.

CHAIR CURRAN looked forward to getting more involved.

8. **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 SPOTT asked if meetings will be held in June, July, and August. LAURA MACHADO, Visual Arts Specialist, stated that a Arts Commission meeting will be held in June subject to a quorum; however, no meeting will be held in July or August. A Project Development Subcommittee meeting will be held in August. COMMISSIONER WEINSTEIN wished for an item regarding a previous light scapes project completed under the Fremont Street Experience canopy as she would like to revisit such a project with the installation of a new canopy.

REBECCA HOLDEN, Visual Arts Specialist, believed there may be a new project under development which is not funded through the Arts Commission and would be near the Healing Garden. She would report on it at future date.

It was agreed upon by CHAIR CURRAN and staff to have a separate, routine item on the agenda to address updates to the Mayor's Fund for Las Vegas LIFE.

9. **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.

10. **Adjournment**

Minutes:
The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 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:

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