



Project Development Subcommittee of the Arts Commission Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

CHAIR BRIARE called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR BRIARE and COMMISSIONERS TUPAZ, KARPEL, and PACHECO

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONERS TRIMBLE and SPOTT

ALSO PRESENT: ALLY HAYNES-HAMBLIN, Director of Cultural Affairs, MAGGIE PLASTER, Deputy Cultural Affairs Director, LAURA MACHADO, Visual Arts Specialist II, REBECCA HOLDEN, Visual Arts Specialist II, ERIN LITTLE, Technician/Specialist, VAL STEED, Deputy City Attorney V, 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 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. Report by Office of Cultural Affairs staff regarding current financial updates to the Percent for the Arts Fund – All Wards

Minutes:

ALLY HAYNES-HAMBLIN, Director of Cultural Affairs, stated that the Municipal Arts Fund received a transfer from the Capital Improvement Fund of \$945,000. Last year, a little more funding was allocated towards projects before taking into account the \$60,000 reserve for maintenance and conservation, which left only \$54,000 for maintenance and conservation; however, not all of this money was spent. To date, there is approximately \$900,000 available to allocate towards projects this year.

CHAIR BRIARE asked if the unspent money in the Percent for the Arts Fund carry over. MS. HAYNES-HAMBLIN confirmed the remaining amount carries over because the Percent for the Arts Fund is within the Municipal Arts Fund, which is a special revenue fund under the City's financial structure. However, by ordinance, the Percent for the Arts Fund cannot exceed \$1 million of undesignated revenue at any one time or the excess amount can be reallocated to another fund elsewhere within the City.

5. Discussion for possible action regarding new projects to be reviewed by the Project Development Subcommittee for recommendation to the Arts Commission at the September 16, 2021 meeting – All Wards

Minutes:

CHAIR BRIARE stated that this item is for the Subcommittee to consider projects to present to the Arts Commission for approval. He thanked staff for providing documentation regarding the Municipal Code as well as memorandums at the previous meeting. The Chair indicated he had a list of 16 potential projects, some of which were outside the scope of the Arts Commission, but he hoped these could be considered in the event they could be pursued through different avenues. He reviewed his list, which included updating the City of Las Vegas website; grants for neighborhood associations to run art programs; grants for artists to participate in First Friday; the creation of a tourist attraction; establishing a program for younger, inexperienced artists; pursuing relationships with transit services; a program for veterans to engage with the arts community; enhance inclusiveness with programs that attract minority participants; pursue programs for the Latin-based arts in Ward 3; establish a large exhibit; seek funding for programs that promote art education; identify ways in which the Arts Commission can help push for an internationally significant art museum; identify three locations per ward for significant public art that emphasizes sustainable, environmentally-based artwork; include a question on the Zoning and Development Application regarding the inclusion of public art in the plan; and explore a Percent for the Arts Fund in private development.

COMMISSIONER PACHECO complimented the Chair's suggestions and commented that in the past architects were required to include an artistic component in a development and wondered if this could be researched.

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. MS. HOLDEN noted that a worksheet with a list of proposed projects, a copy of which was included in the backup, as well as a blank page for notes were provided to the Commissioners.

East Las Vegas Community Center Mural Project – MS. MACHADO stated that this project is proposed in partnership with the Consulado de Mexico en Las Vegas. The Ward 3 office connected the consulate with the Office of Cultural Affairs in hopes they could work together to create a mural on the exterior of the community center. She pointed out the area identified for the mural along Stewart Avenue, noting the Office of Cultural Affairs recommended funding this project with a budget of \$40,000.

Healing Garden West Sculpture Project – This project is for a proposed sculpture to be installed in the public right-of-way north of the intersection of South Art Way and South Casino Center Boulevard in Ward 3. The right-of-way area has been designated as a location intended for public art and has a conduit with electrical that can be used to install lighting. The Office of Cultural Affairs recommended funding this project with a budget of \$200,000.

3rd Street Public Art Project – MS. HOLDEN stated that this project is proposed for East Ogden Avenue and East Fremont Street in partnership with the Department of Public Works. She noted the Department has been working to revamp the pedestrian corridor and has worked with stakeholders to identify possible projects, which may include historic panels depicting the downtown area, murals, or sculptures. The Office of Cultural Affairs recommended funding this project with a budget of \$300,000.

Ogden Underpass Public Art Project – This project would include black and white timeline panels depicting Las Vegas history to enhance the underpass, which has recently undergone renovations that include enhanced pedestrian lighting, safety measures, paint touch ups and repairs. The Office of Cultural Affairs recommended funding this project with a budget of \$150,000 with an allocation of \$350,000 from the Department of Public Works for a total of \$500,000.

COMMISSIONER PACHECO wondered if signage could be proposed for the Healing Garden West area for advertisement and informational purposes as he had mentioned this at a past meeting. ALLY HAYNES-HAMBLIN, Director of Cultural Affairs, said part of the reason that project did not move forward is because the Percent for the Arts Fund does not allow funds to be spent on signage.

COMMISSIONER PACHECO provided history about an iron sculpture located in an empty lot along 3rd Street and Charleston Boulevard and wondered if the Arts Commission could procure it for restoration. He also noted

there are utility boxes along 3rd Street that are graffitied often and believed if they were painted by artists they would not be tagged. Lastly, he asked if the Arts Commission could send mailers to teachers within specific areas of the city to inform students of artwork commission opportunities. MS. HAYNES-HAMBLEN informed the Commissioner that staff distributes calls for artists to a mailing list, which includes Clark County School District (CCSD) art instructors. Regarding the sculpture, CHAIR BRIARE asked if COMMISSIONER PACHECO could provide a budget number for restoration. COMMISSIONER PACHECO indicated he has been in contact with former COMMISSIONERS MARC ABELMAN and PACO ALVAREZ regarding the matter but would try to obtain additional information. MS. HOLDEN indicated that she has also spoken to former COMMISSIONERS ABELMAN and ALVAREZ and asserted that funds could not be expended for the iron sculpture unless it was formally accessioned into the City of Las Vegas' public art collection.

CHAIR BRIARE asked if the amounts provided by staff for the four proposed projects were estimates or actual budgeted numbers. MS. MACHADO explained that the \$40,000 for the East Las Vegas Community Center Mural Project is a cost estimate based on meeting held with the Consulado de Mexico en Las Vegas and the art producer. Regarding the Healing Garden West Sculpture Project, staff based the dollar amount on the area of the right-of-way and similar projects completed of that scale. MS. HOLDEN added that the allocation for the 3rd Street project was based on previous projects that have been completed in the past, and staff wished to recommend an amount that would allow for more than one project. It was at the Arts Commission's discretion to recommend what they would like to see in that space. She confirmed for the Chair that \$350,000 has been allocated towards the project with the recommendation of an additional \$150,000. This amount may not cover the entire surface of the underpass or allow for extensive electronic work but it would allow for art to enhance the underpass as well as tell the story of Symphony Park and the downtown area being bridged.

COMMISSIONER KARPEL thought much of what CHAIR BRIARE shared currently exists. She also thought many of the items need more details. Regarding the suggestion of grants for neighborhood associations, CHAIR BRIARE explained that neighborhoods would need to apply for a grant in order to receive funding. MS. HAYNES-HAMBLEN pointed out that the City offers grants through the Neighborhood Partners Fund program as well as the Youth Neighborhood Partnership Program, which eligible art projects could qualify for.

COMMISSIONER KARPEL also noted there are buses that travel throughout Las Vegas and thought it would be great to include artwork on a rotating basis. She liked this idea; however, she was unsure if the Arts Commission or the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC) is responsible for this. MS. HAYNES-HAMBLEN also appreciated this idea and stated that the RTC has the Arts in Transit Advisory Council, which has funding allocated for artwork incorporated into bus stops and buses. She believed it would be a great time to reach out to the agency regarding reinstating that council and potentially ask for a funding match from the RTC. Staff confirmed they would put together a budget amount.

COMMISSIONER TUPAZ wondered about starting an art museum with items currently in the public art collection. MS. HAYNES-HAMBLEN informed the Commissioners that the City of Las Vegas has been involved in many efforts to establish and build a fine art museum in Las Vegas. She believed the City in general does not feel that it has the capacity to fund the creation of a museum on its own. Recently, the City of Las Vegas partnered with the Nevada Museum of Art to create a statewide art museum, which MS. HAYNES-HAMBLEN believed was a collaborative project with the Nevada Museum of Art, the private sector, Clark County, the State of Nevada, and the City of Las Vegas. This project is still live but put on hold due to the pandemic. There is an outreach director located in Las Vegas who is actively programming exhibitions and projects connected to the Nevada Museum of Art. Additionally, the Office of Cultural Affairs runs a very robust gallery program with a rotating group of exhibitions in several City facilities. CHAIR BRIARE wondered if there was anything the Arts Commission could do to aid this project to which MS. HAYNES-HAMBLEN stated the Arts Commission would be most effective in an advocacy role.

COMMISSIONER TUPAZ reminded the Subcommittee that a fine art museum exists at the Sahara West Library and inquired about its use. CHAIR BRIARE believed the Nevada Museum of Art had momentum and felt the Arts Commission should pledge support in any way that it can.

In response to his query, MS. MACHADO informed CHAIR BRIARE that there was no need to add the AMP utility cabinet painting project to the list of projects for next year as there will be 247 new utility cabinets that will be painted. MS. HOLDEN explained the two different utility cabinet programs and stated that concerns can be sent via e-mail to staff who will handle it if it is within the City of Las Vegas public art collection.

CHAIR BRIARE mentioned his idea regarding a sustainable, environmentally-based artwork and thought it could apply to the Healing Garden West Sculpture Project. COMMISSIONER TUPAZ wondered if the project would concentrate on local artists. MS. MACHADO indicated that when a Request for Qualifications or a Request for Proposals is issued, it is open to everyone; however, in the past, they have been limited to small businesses operating in Nevada to incentivize local artists to apply. It could be applied to this particular project.

Regarding the 3rd Street Public Art Project, CHAIR BRIARE cautioned the Commissioners that this would be a significantly sized piece and might attract high level applicants; however, he was also hesitant about the budgeted amount.

COMMISSIONER PACHECO inquired about a juried art show to establish a large exhibit to attract tourists. MS. HAYNES-HAMBLLEN thought this was a cool idea and believed proposals could be sought and artists compensated whose proposals are used in a public exhibit.

CHAIR BRIARE read from the list of proposed projects and took a vote for each one. He expressed hesitancy with ascribing amounts to the motions. DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY VAL STEED advised that the Subcommittee is to make recommendations to the full body of the Arts Commission but did not believe the full body is bound to those recommendations. He did not have a preference for whether the votes were taken under one or multiple motions as long as it is clear what is being recommended and the amounts, if any. MS. HAYNES-HAMBLLEN wished for a maximum amount to be established for recommendations where a budgeted amount is not specified in order to provide guidance to staff. MR. STEED thought this was fine.

Subsequent to the votes, CHAIR BRIARE asked COMMISSIONER PACHECO to obtain additional information regarding the sculpture he mentioned. COMMISSIONER PACHECO proposed the idea of a sculpture with a digital readout on it. CHAIR BRIARE advised the Commissioner to develop his idea and present it at an upcoming Arts Commission meeting. COMMISSIONER KARPEL asked COMMISSIONER PACHECO to keep in mind that anything electrical has wires and wires dry out in the heat.

Motion made by Jim Briare to Approve sending the East Las Vegas Community Center Mural Project, with the proposed budget of \$40,000, to the Arts Commission for consideration of full approval

Passed For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 2

For-Sandy Karpel, John Pacheco, Jim Briare, David Tupaz; Excused-John Trimble, Mickey Sprrott;

Motion made by Jim Briare to Approve sending the Healing Garden West Sculpture Project to the Arts Commission for consideration of approval with the \$200,000 proposed budget, limited to certain parameters making the project more environmentally sustainable and any added parameters imposed upon by the Arts Commission

Passed For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 2

For-Sandy Karpel, John Pacheco, Jim Briare, David Tupaz; Excused-John Trimble, Mickey Sprrott;

Motion made by Jim Briare to Approve sending the 3rd Street – East Ogden Avenue to East Fremont Street Public Art Project, with the proposed budget of \$300,000, to the Arts Commission for approval

Passed For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 2

For-Sandy Karpel, John Pacheco, Jim Briare, David Tupaz; Excused-John Trimble, Mickey Sprrott;

Motion made by Jim Briare to Approve sending the Ogden Underpass Public Art Project to the Arts Commission for approval of the proposed additional budget of \$150,000, contingent upon funding in the amount of \$350,000 from the Department of Public Works

Passed For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 2

For-Sandy Karpel, John Pacheco, Jim Briare, David Tupaz; Excused-John Trimble, Mickey Sprrott;

Motion made by Jim Briare to Approve sending the Bus Art Program, with the proposed budget of \$60,000, to the Arts Commission for approval

Passed For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 2

For-Sandy Karpel, John Pacheco, Jim Briare, David Tupaz; Excused-John Trimble, Mickey Sprott;

Motion made by Jim Briare to Approve sending the project discussed as the Big Idea Proposal Exhibit, with the proposed budget of \$100,000, to the Arts Commission for approval

Passed For: 4; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 2

For-Sandy Karpel, John Pacheco, Jim Briare, David Tupaz; Excused-John Trimble, Mickey Sprott;

6. **Citizens Participation:** Public comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee. No subject may be acted upon by the Committee 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.

7. **Adjournment**

Minutes:
The meeting was adjourned at 4:59 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 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