



Special 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, SCHEFCIK (via telephone), TUPAZ (via telephone), CURRAN, PACHECO, STRAUS, and HAYNES-HAMBLÉN

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONERS TRIMBLE, KARPEL, LOWDEN, and PLASTER

ALSO PRESENT: REBECCA HOLDEN, Visual Arts Specialist II, LAURA MACHADO, Visual Arts Specialist II, SETH FLOYD, 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 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 20, 2020

Motion made by John Curran to Approve

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

For-Ally Haynes-Hamblen, David Tupaz, Jerry Schefcik, Jim Briare, John Pacheco, Mickey Sprott, John Curran, David Straus; Excused-John Trimble, Paul Lowden, Richard Plaster, 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 welcomed COMMISSIONER STRAUS to the Arts Commission. He is a Las Vegas native, was recommended by MAYOR GOODMAN, and was appointed by the City Council to the Arts Commission on June 17, 2020.

The Chair reviewed the list of cultural events taking place throughout the city, which included the following: the Contemporary West Dance Theater (CWDT), the Windows on First, featuring “Bouquet of Fission” by artist Sean Russell, and the Clay Arts Vegas Collaborative International exhibition in the Grand Gallery of City Hall. 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:

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

Updated Mission – COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLÉN stated that the Office of Cultural Affairs was grateful to have received a budget for Fiscal Year 2021, and she identified its updated mission statement. She indicated most programs, if not all, will be focused on contracting local artists and providing opportunities through various programs to support the local art community. A new partnership program is also being created for artist residencies.

3rd Street Public Art Project – MS. MACHADO said the work of 10 local poets has been selected to be painted along 3rd Street. The poems will be painted using an Endurablend application. The project will also include a large sculpture, Atomic Tumbleweed, by WAYNE LITTLEJOHN who is continuing to work with the Department of Building and Safety to receive approval of an off-site permit and is working with a foundry to complete and install the project within the next few months.

AMP Torrey Pines (Ward 5) – MS. HOLDEN reminded the Commissioners about the purpose of the AMP project. Recently, the Commission confirmed six locations along Torrey Pines Drive and has allocated \$10,000 towards this project. The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) posted in February and closed in March, and 19 submissions have been received.

Arts District Public Art Project – YASMINA CHAVEZ and JAVIER SANCHEZ, the artist team, continue to finalize the engineering, structural, and fabrication plans for approval by the Department of Building and Safety so fabrication may begin.

Fire Station 3 – The new Fire Station 3 was unveiled on February 27th and features the refurbished Fire House Art by JOHN BANKS, the re-imagined Rainforest mural by JOSE BELLVER, and the newly commissioned CBRNE-20 by ERIK BURKE.

Historic Markers Project – Bronze or steel plaques will be incorporated along Las Vegas Boulevard related to historic figures and events. Staff is currently working with the Historic Preservation Officer on revising the project scope to incorporate additional community engagement meetings and seek additional grant funding in order to fully develop the project.

Maintenance and Conservation – MS. HOLDEN informed the Commissioners that the Office of Cultural Affairs regularly conducts condition reports of items in the public art collection, which are then used to generate a listing of current maintenance and conservation efforts. Historically, the Arts Commission allocates \$60,000 annually towards the care of these items in the public art collection, and for Fiscal Year 2020, the Commission was also provided with an additional \$50,000 from the Department of Public Works to address maintenance concerns and items considered aesthetic enhancements. She shared an image of the sculpture at AnSan Sister City Park, which was brought to the Arts Commission in December and formally accessioned into the public art collection. Staff is currently working to clean and restore the bronze and base of the sculpture. Graffiti and damage to current art installations are also being addressed, which MS. HOLDEN shared several images of, and she noted the paintings, Stewart Ranch and Las Vegas Townsite Auction 1905 by CROSBY DeMOSS, that hang at the entryway of the Council Chambers have been removed temporarily for repairs on their frames.

Municipal Courthouse Public Arts Project – MS. MACHADO stated that a final determination for the exterior artwork is still being awaited from the Office of the City Manager after which a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) will be issued. A finalist has been selected for the entryway artwork by an evaluation panel and the artistic

services agreement will go before the City Council for review in January of 2021. The interior artwork has been put on hold until January of 2021.

Officer Alyn Beck Memorial Park – The Officer Alyn Beck Memorial Park was unveiled on January 31, 2020, and it is a new 10-acre park with a lacrosse field, soccer field, basketball court, shaded playground, and a memorial statue of OFFICER ALYN BECK by BRIAN HANLON.

Ogden Underpass – This project has been canceled. The artist, BoKo Fine Art, was paid out for the amount of work completed prior to cancellation, which was a total of \$15,600.

Symphony Park Garage – The artist team, Domsy Glass, was selected, the artistic service agreement has been executed, and the next steps are being awaited upon to develop a timeline. MS. MACHADO offered to share a rendering of the proposed sculpture at the next meeting.

T-Alley Public Art Project – LETHA WILSON and her proposed artwork, Las Vegas Canyon Alley Steel, were selected for this project. MS. WILSON has completed the engineering and fabrication plans, has received an off-site permit by the Department of Building and Safety, and is currently fabricating the sculpture at a local artist studio. The artwork is scheduled to be installed within the next four to six weeks.

Windows on First – The Bouquet of Fission is on display through January of 2021, and MS. HOLDEN noted links were provided to learn more about the project and see past installations.

CHAIR BRIARE asked why the Ogden Underpass project was canceled to which MS. HOLDEN replied due to the COVID-19 pandemic and some budget shortfalls.

COMMISSIONER SPROTT loved the updated mission statement. She asked about the Historic Markers Project. MS. MACHADO said the project was initiated in 2016 when the Arts Commission allocated \$5,000 towards the design of the historic markers. The type of material to be used was not determined at that time because further grant funding needed to be sourced. Bronze, steel, and aluminum materials have been considered. COMMISSIONER SPROTT suggested considering granite and warned about the use of bronze. In light of current events, she mentioned being mindful of who is included on the historic markers. MS. MACHADO agreed with the Commissioner's comments and noted staff is working diligently with the Historic Preservation Commission, and a committee will be sought to discuss not only who or what will be highlighted but how it will be done.

COMMISSIONER CURRAN was disappointed to learn about the Ogden Underpass project but was happy to see that the other projects are moving forward. He wondered if staff could elaborate further on the artwork to be installed across the street from City Hall. MS. MACHADO said she has only received brief information but not internally and deferred the question to COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLEN. The Commissioner shared that staff's dream scenario is to develop the parcels into a public plaza with the idea that the central piece will be a substantial piece of public art between the Municipal Courthouse and City Hall. This is the purpose of canceling the artwork for the exterior of the Municipal Courthouse. She emphasized that this was only staff's hope.

7. Report by Office of Cultural Affairs staff regarding current financial updates to the Percent for the Arts Fund – All Wards

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLEN said, typically, at the summer meetings, she provides an updated financial report but wanted to include this item to speak on what the Percent for the Arts Fund allocation will look like in 2021. She stated that no funds were budgeted from the General Fund for capital improvement projects for Fiscal Year 2021, which the Percent for the Arts Fund transfer is based upon. While a transfer of approximately \$87,000 will occur this year, next year's transfer maybe zero dollars. She believed some strategies could be put in place to address this.

8. Discussion for possible action regarding acceptance of the Officer Alyn Beck Sculpture by Bryan Hanlon, located at Officer Alyn Beck Memorial Park, 9220 Brent Lane, into the City's public art collection (No Fiscal Impact) – Ward 6

Minutes:

REBECCA HOLDEN, Visual Arts Specialist II, through a PowerPoint presentation, which has been attached as backup, discussed the acceptance of the Officer Alyn Beck Sculpture into the public art collection. She stated that the Officer Alyn Beck Memorial Park was unveiled in January and named after OFFICER ALYN BECK, who was killed in the line of duty in 2014. The Officer Alyn Beck Sculpture was acquisitioned through a public/private partnership. The Arts Commission was not involved in the development of the project; therefore, the company that developed the park also facilitated the acquisition of the sculpture, which was purchased for \$75,000 and is valued at \$165,000. She requested the Commission consider formally accessioning this sculpture into the public art collection.

She directed the Commissioners' attention to the supporting documentation found in their binders and attached as backup and noted there is a timeline of events and a maintenance budget report.

Motion made by Mickey Sprott to Approve

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

For-Ally Haynes-Hamblen, David Tupaz, Jerry Schefcik, Jim Briare, John Pacheco, Mickey Sprott, John Curran, David Straus; Excused-John Trimble, Paul Lowden, Richard Plaster, Sandy Karpel;

9. Discussion for possible action regarding the purchase of the Solar Walk Sculpture located at the corner of North Buffalo Drive and West Deer Springs Way and created for the Contemporary Public Art Program by Randy Mendre (\$10,000 of the Capital Improvement Project Fund) – Ward 6

Minutes:

Items 9-11 were read into the record separately but were heard together under this item.

REBECCA HOLDEN, Visual Arts Specialist II, through a PowerPoint presentation, which has been attached as backup, stated that the Contemporary Public Art Program was created to provide temporary, site-responsive murals, sculptures, projections, performances and other proposed media on public and private designated sites. Ten temporary and permanent projects have been created. MS. HOLDEN listed the featured artists noting the artwork would be in place for up to one year and were commissioned for approximately \$10,000 each through the Capital Improvement Project Fund. She shared several images of the artwork.

MS. HOLDEN indicated Solar Walk was commissioned for temporary installation for \$10,000 and RANDY MENDRE, the artist, provided a quote of \$10,000 to purchase the artwork and keep it installed permanently.

COMMISSIONER CURRAN wondered if this was a typical arrangement. MS. HOLDEN said this project was designed to mirror what other cities tend to do where a location is provided in a public right-of-way. She directed the Commissioners' attention to the backup documentation, which has been attached as backup, stating that this project was in development for several years, and the funding was allocated in 2016. She asserted that temporary public art is not unusual; however, staff is limited in utilizing the Percent for the Arts Fund. That is why an alternate funding source was sought. She mentioned that MR. MENDRE was in attendance to answer any questions.

COMMISSIONER PACHECO asked if the steel on the sculpture is treated. MR. MENDRE replied that the steel should be able to withstand the environment for another 100 years and acknowledged that the sculpture does have rust and has a patinaed effect. He informed COMMISSIONER SPROTT that the steel is not corten steel. MS. HOLDEN added that if the sculptures are accessioned into the public art collection, they will be on a regular maintenance and conservation schedule.

COMMISSIONER SPROTT wondered why these specific art pieces were selected. MS. HOLDEN said not much community feedback was received regarding the other pieces in the Contemporary Public Art Program but this sculpture was one in particular that received positive feedback. Also, the limited budget of the Contemporary Public Art Program did not allow for a lot of artists to use permanent materials.

CHAIR BRIARE acknowledged that he was a fan of the artwork but feared funding was being allocated twice. He asked if the money to be allocated to purchase Solar Work permanently could be used towards another temporary piece. He was aware that just because the piece is deemed temporary, there is no timeline

for when it must be removed. MS. HOLDEN said the Contemporary Public Art Program has been designed to keep artwork permanent if desired and if there is a positive community impact.

LAURA MACHADO, Visual Arts Specialist II, mentioned that when working with Las Vegas Fire and Rescue, staff knew the murals would be permanent, and each contract indicates that the mural is permanent. Six Ways to Draw Attention on Fire Station 3 exceeded more than \$10,000 as staff knew it would remain permanently based upon community feedback.

In response to the Chair's concern, COMMISSIONER SPROTT said while it does look like a double payment, the reality is that if MR. MENDRE takes the artwork back, he could sell it to someone else for a higher price.

COMMISSIONER PACHECO expressed concerns about the aesthetics of the sculpture and confirmed with MR. MENDRE that the entire sculpture is made of steel.

MR. MENDRE informed COMMISSIONER SPROTT that the paint on the sculpture is spray paint. He noted his son trains nearby at the Y (YMCA) so he sees and checks on the sculpture on a weekly basis.

CHAIR BRIARE wondered what the ramifications would be should the item not be acted upon. MS. HOLDEN referenced the timeline in the backup documentation and, dependent upon the outcome of the meeting, the artwork would be de-installed in September of 2020. The project would be completed and another piece or location within Ward 6 may be considered. She informed CHAIR BRIARE that the de-installation is included in the original \$10,000.

The Commission trailed Item 9 and discussed Item 10.

MS. HOLDEN stated that Swizzle was completed and installed in 2019 and is a mid-century modern take on cocktail sticks of vintage Las Vegas hotels. The sculpture was originally commissioned for temporary installation for \$10,000, a portion of which has been withheld until the de-installation is completed. MR. MENDRE provided a quote of \$5,000 to purchase the artwork permanently, which is anticipated to be de-installed in September of 2020. The sculpture is located along Lamb Boulevard at the entrance to the Las Vegas Wash Trail pedestrian bridge.

At the request of COMMISSIONER SPROTT, MR. MENDRE explained the materials used for the sculpture. She liked the artwork and thought that having it powder-coated is a much more permanent material. She thought \$5,000 was a good price for the sculpture.

COMMISSIONER PACHECO wondered what would happen as the sculpture deteriorates. He thought that if a piece is to be considered as temporary or permanent, the types of materials used should be considered upon installation. COMMISSIONER SPROTT thought there was a place for temporary artwork as it builds the resumes of local artists. She believed if the Office of Cultural Affairs is interested in purchasing a piece, additional conversations must be considered. She believed staff addressed some of COMMISSIONER PACHECO'S concerns.

COMMISSIONER SCHEFCIK liked and believed the sculpture would do well in its current location. He asked if the Las Vegas Wash Trail signage could be moved so as to not obstruct the view of the sculpture. MS. HOLDEN thought this was an excellent observation and offered to work with the Department of Public Works to see if they would be willing to entertain the query. She told COMMISSIONER PACHECO that if the item is accessioned into the public art collection, staff would address maintenance and conservation matters. MS. HOLDEN asserted that Item 11 is dependent upon the Commission's decision on Items 9 and 10.

The Commission trailed Item 10 and discussed Item 11.

MS. HOLDEN stated that Fore was completed and installed on March 24, 2019, and it includes three post-mounted steel circular sculptures and reflects three brutalist golf balls drawing inspiration from the surrounding Angel Park area and set against a vivid landscape. The sculpture was originally commissioned for temporary installation for \$10,000, and MR. MEDRE offered to donate the artwork to the public art collection contingent upon the purchase of Swizzle and Solar Walk. She directed the Commissioners' attention to the backup documentation, which included another timeline noting the sculpture is overdue for de-installation.

Regarding the purchase of Solar Walk, CHAIR BRIARE asked if a separate contract would be needed and, if so, could the contract include the artist's participation with maintenance. MS. HOLDEN replied in the affirmative stating that all of the sculptures were formally contracted through the City of Las Vegas' Purchasing and Contracts Division, and staff is working with them to determine the best route to identify if a modification or addendum to the original agreement or a separate purchase agreement was necessary. She confirmed the permanence of the materials and the lifespan expectation could be negotiated.

COMMISSIONER PACHECO readdressed his concerns regarding the aesthetics of Solar Walk and further discussion ensued among the Commissioners, MR. MENDRE, and staff regarding ways in which to mitigate its rusting. MS. HOLDEN informed the Commissioners that staff would have the artist provide a maintenance and conservation form, which would identify the paint used, the paint application methods, and recommended methods for maintenance, repairs, and conservation.

Some of the Commissioners expressed worry about how to vote on the items. MS. MACHADO reminded the Commissioners that funding for the pieces would be from the Capital Improvement Project Fund and not the Percent for the Arts Fund. She noted that the Department of Public Works wished to see temporary pieces throughout the Wards, and the aforementioned sculptures were temporary with the caveat that this funding could be used if the pieces were embraced by the community.

COMMISSIONER CURRAN motioned to approve Item 9 with the direction to staff that they work with MR. MENDRE on maintenance and conservation efforts to ensure the longevity of the artwork. MR. MENDRE was agreeable to this.

Motion made by John Curran to Approve

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

For-Ally Haynes-Hamblen, David Tupaz, Jerry Schefcik, Jim Briare, John Pacheco, Mickey Sprott, John Curran, David Straus; Excused-John Trimble, Paul Lowden, Richard Plaster, Sandy Karpel;

10. Discussion for possible action regarding the purchase of the Swizzle Sculpture located at the Las Vegas Wash pedestrian bridge, near the intersection of North Lamb Boulevard and Via Borega, and created for the Contemporary Public Art Program by Randy Mendre (\$5,000 of the Capital Improvement Project Fund) – Ward 3

Minutes:

See Item 9 for related discussion.

Motion made by John Curran to Approve

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

For-Ally Haynes-Hamblen, David Tupaz, Jerry Schefcik, Jim Briare, John Pacheco, Mickey Sprott, John Curran, David Straus; Excused-John Trimble, Paul Lowden, Richard Plaster, Sandy Karpel;

11. Discussion for possible action regarding the donation of the Fore Sculpture located at Angel Park Trail Head, near the intersection of South Durango Drive and Westcliff Drive, and created for the Contemporary Public Art Program by Randy Mendre (No Fiscal Impact) – Ward 2

Minutes:

See Item 9 for related discussion.

Motion made by John Curran to Approve

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

For-Ally Haynes-Hamblen, David Tupaz, Jerry Schefcik, Jim Briare, John Pacheco, Mickey Sprott, John Curran, David Straus; Excused-John Trimble, Paul Lowden, Richard Plaster, Sandy Karpel;

12. Report by Ally Haynes-Hamblen, Director of the Office of Cultural Affairs, regarding the Mayor's Fund for Las Vegas LIFE – All Wards

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLÉN provided a status update for the Historic Westside Mural Project, which is part of the Mayor's Fund for Las Vegas LIFE (Mayor's Fund). The project was launched in 2019 after which fundraising began in the community including a reception, which many of the Commissioners brought guests to. The fundraising milestone for this project has been met and exceeded to initiate the project. The overall goal of the project is \$250,000, and \$173,000 has been received with another pledge of \$35,000. She expressed excitement and noted a local artist and outreach specialist will be contracted to assist in outreach and to help see the project through. Information regarding this will be provided soon. COMMISSIONER HAYNES-HAMBLÉN asked the Commissioners to think about the next project they wish to put forward through the Mayor's Fund.

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

Minutes:

CHAIR BRIARE directed the Commissioners' attention to the handout attached in the backup, which provides a listing of the subcommittees and ad hoc committee. He asked staff about the Fast Track Subcommittee. REBECCA HOLDEN, Visual Arts Specialist II, said the Fast Track Subcommittee has not met for some time, and she read the description of this subcommittee. CHAIR BRIARE asked if the artists for the Las Vegas Senior Center project were selected through this subcommittee to which MS. HOLDEN replied that the previously created fast-track list had expired; therefore, the opportunity was publicly advertised.

The Chair identified each subcommittee and asked for the Commissioners to self-nominate for the subcommittees and ad hoc subcommittee they wish to serve on. The nominations are as follow:

Education Subcommittee – CHAIR BRIARE and COMMISSIONERS STRAUS, PACHECO, and HAYNES-HAMBLÉN

Project Development Subcommittee – CHAIR BRIARE and COMMISSIONERS PACHECO, SPROTT, CURRAN, HAYNES-HAMBLÉN, and TUPAZ

Public Art Advisory Subcommittee – CHAIR BRIARE and COMMISSIONERS PACHECO, CURRAN, SPROTT, and TUPAZ

Fast Track Subcommittee – CHAIR BRIARE and COMMISSIONERS PACHECO and SPROTT

Ad Hoc Subcommittee – CHAIR BRIARE and COMMISSIONERS PACHECO and HAYNES-HAMBLÉN

CHAIR BRIARE asked staff to contact those Commissioners who were excused to see what subcommittees they wished to be part of. MS. HOLDEN pointed out that the handout attached in the backup was made public; therefore, those excused would have had an opportunity to see it. She asked DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY SETH FLOYD if a formal vote needed to be taken to confirm their participation. MR. FLOYD indicated that Item 13 was written for possible action, and he did not believe action needed to be taken to appoint volunteers to the subcommittees and ad hoc subcommittee. A motion to approve the nominations would suffice, and staff could remove anyone who does not wish to be on the subcommittees upon being contacted.

Motion made by Jim Briare to Approve the nominations as presented during the meeting and retaining existing subcommittee members who were not present

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

For-Ally Haynes-Hamblen, David Tupaz, Jerry Schefcik, Jim Briare, John Pacheco, Mickey Sprott, John Curran, David Straus; Excused-John Trimble, Paul Lowden, Richard Plaster, Sandy Karpel;

14. **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:
None.

15. **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:
COMMISSIONER PACHECO mentioned the sculpture on 3rd Street and Charleston Boulevard which he was concerned may be vandalized.

16. **Adjournment**

Minutes:
The meeting was adjourned at 5:33 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