



## Arts Commission Minutes

### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

CHAIR KLEVEN called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR KLEVEN and COMMISSIONERS PLASTER, HACKETT-MORGAN, CURRAN (via teleconference), HAMPTON (via teleconference), BEDNARCZYK, ROBERTS (via teleconference), WESTFIELD, and DE SANTIS (via teleconference)

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONERS SPROTT, DOUGLAS, and DODSON

ALSO PRESENT: LAURA MACHADO, Public and Visual Arts Section Manager; REBECCA HOLDEN, MARY SABO, and HOLLY LAY, Visual Arts Specialists II; VAL STEED, Chief 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 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](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 the Arts Commission and the Education Subcommittee of the Arts Commission Meeting of April 20, 2023

Motion made by Maggie Plaster to Approve

Passed For: 9; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 3

For-John Curran, Jennifer Kleven, Ryan Hampton, Suzanne Hackett-Morgan, Heather Bednarczyk, Eric Roberts, Monique Westfield, Maggie Plaster, Joan De Santis; Excused-Mickey Sprott, Fawn Douglas, Michael Dodson;

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

Minutes:

CHAIR KLEVEN reviewed the list of exhibitions and cultural events taking place throughout the city, which

included: the installation of Equal Justice for All by Domsy Glass, the We, Westside by IANDRY RANDRIAMANDROSO dedication event, an online public meeting with Art Builds Community, Helldorado Days Exhibition, Celebrating Life! 2023 Exhibition, and The Sum is Total of the Parts Exhibit featuring Clay Arts Vegas. She provided some of the details regarding event/exhibit locations, dates, and artists, noting additional information can be found at [www.artslasvegas.org](http://www.artslasvegas.org) or by calling 702-229-ARTS.

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

Minutes:

LAURA MACHADO, Public and Visual Arts Manager, and REBECCA HOLDEN, MARY SABO, and HOLLY LAY, Visual Arts Specialists II, shared in narrating a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted and attached as backup, regarding current projects and artistic opportunities. MS. SABO noted that the monthly Staff Report was also provided to the Commissioners, a copy of which was submitted for the record.

Upcoming Arts Commission Schedule – MS. SABO said there will be no Arts Commission or subcommittee meetings in July. On August 17th, there will be a Project Development Subcommittee meeting at 3:30 p.m., and on September 21st, an Arts Commission meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m.

Subcommittees – She announced that COMMISSIONER DE SANTIS joined the Education Subcommittee and COMMISSIONER ROBERTS joined the Public Art Advisory Subcommittee and the Fast Track Subcommittee. She invited Commissioners to send staff an e-mail if they are interested in joining any of the subcommittees.

3rd Street – East Ogden Avenue to East Fremont Street Public Art Project – MS. HOLDEN stated that the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs is still in the process of commissioning original artwork for the newly renovated Third Street Pedestrian Mall in Downtown Las Vegas. She noted the project is being called the Third Street Pedestrian Mall Public Art Project. The presentation for three finalist design proposals was held virtually and in person on Tuesday, May 9th at the Downtown International Innovation Center. Staff will work with those finalists on a second phase of proposals.

Aerial Gallery Banners (First Street Art Trail) – MS. LAY said the banners are being printed and will be installed in the next few weeks.

AMP Utility Cabinet Painting Project (All Wards) – This project is underway. A lot of artists finished their cabinets, and a few more will finish in June.

AMP Utility Cabinet Painting Project – Ward 2 – MS. SABO said this project was completed, noting The Lakes Association reached out to the Ward 2 office to request painted cabinets in and around their neighborhood. Ward 2 contributed some of their CIP (Capital Improvement Project) funding, and MIGUEL HERNANDEZ, local artist, completed the project on June 6th.

Casino Center Pocket Park Sculpture Project – This project is in progress, and the four finalists selected by the evaluation panel submitted their final proposals. Presentations will be held on June 28th to select the finalist.

Charleston Boulevard Underpass Mural Project – MS. LAY stated that staff is working with Purchasing to finish contract details and are waiting for NDOT (Nevada Department of Transportation) approval.

Contemporary Public Art Program – MS. MACHADO said J. ALEX SCHECHTER, artist, will install the Holy Mountain temporary art installation. The process will take a few days, and staff has been working with Building and Safety, as well as an engineer, to ensure the art piece is secure. Staff will share photos at the next Arts Commission meeting. MS. LAY stated that NIMA ABKENAR, artist, is fabricating Davoud, and the City is working with an engineer to provide calculations, as well as Public Works to coordinate the permitting process. The artwork is anticipated to be installed in the Fall. Additionally, Beck+Col are working on their contracting and have begun fabricating their art piece. MS. SABO said X DARVI, artist, is currently fabricating the sculpture Love Vegas, which will be installed in late June. It will be located on the corner of Main Street and Hoover Avenue.

Conservation and Maintenance – MS. HOLDEN said the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs – Public Art Program conducts regular condition and inventory reports of items in the collection. These reports are used to generate a listing of current maintenance and conservation efforts. The public is encouraged to

reach out with any concerns at the e-mail address [publicart@lasvegasnevada.gov](mailto:publicart@lasvegasnevada.gov).

The base of the Ansan Sister City Park sculpture was rebuilt and refinished in more durable stamped concrete to match the existing aesthetic elements of the park. MS. HOLDEN contacted ERIC PAWLOSKI, artist, to help refinish and repair the bronze, as he has done so in the past. She noted the placement of this plaza and sculpture was an afterthought, as there is a reoccurring issue with park irrigation and water over spraying onto the sculpture.

The Six Ways to Draw Attention mural by ERIK BURKE was de-accessioned from the collection. It was located at the fire station headquarters on Casino Center Drive and was installed as part of the Contemporary Public Art Program. This mural experienced a lot of damage, and the Fire Department opted to de-accession the mural in its entirety in order to restore the door.

Lastly, she noted that an AMP Utility Cabinet Painting Project by ANIKO DOMAN was replaced, and staff suspected it was due to a vehicular collision. MS. DOMAN was willing to repaint the cabinet; however, MS. HOLDEN said there is a long list of artists they hope to engage with for Fiscal Year 2024.

Liberty Bell Repair – MS. LAY stated that a company was sourced to repair the Liberty Bell, and they are scheduling their timeline.

Historic Westside Mural Program – MS. SABO said We, Westside by IANDRY RANDRIAMONDROSO, the third mural project part of this program, was completed at the Neighborhood Housing Services of Southern Nevada located at 500 Jefferson Avenue. There will be a dedication event on June 28th at 1:00 p.m. The fourth and fifth murals are planned for the A.D. Guy Knowledge Center and West Las Vegas Arts Center.

Medical District Public Art Project – MS. HOLDEN said the Arts Commission allocated \$436,000 last year in order to incorporate original site-responsive public art into the Medical District. Staff worked to develop a plan for how they will responsibly distribute those funds with the greatest impact. The final draft of the plan proposes a distribution of Percent for the Arts funds across four different project sites within the Medical District that would be permanently-placed, three-dimensional objects. There is a fifth project currently being developed from a CIP Fund contribution from Ward 1. In addition, there was an RFQ (Request for Qualifications), and four finalists were selected. Those four finalists are developing proposals, which staff should have by August. She hoped a selection would be made by September and artists would begin painting when the weather is suitable.

Municipal Courthouse Public Art Project – MS. MACHADO stated that this project would be installed soon, and everyone was excited for it to move forward. The installation should be completed in one day, and an unveiling was scheduled for soon after. She invited the Commissioners to attend.

Public Art Master Plan – MS. HOLDEN said they are working with Art Builds Community as the consultant on the Public Art Master Plan. The link for more information was provided on the PowerPoint slide, and she noted that [www.artslasvegas.org](http://www.artslasvegas.org) will also redirect to the link as well. There were two upcoming virtual meetings on June 28th and 29th from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The Zoom registration link was provided on the City's website, which also includes an online survey that closes on July 31st. Additionally, there is a steering committee and public meetings, and the organization is holding focus group meetings with private developers, artists, and educators.

COMMISSIONER WESTFIELD asked if there is a calendar of all of the events. MS. SABO said there is one on the website and offered to send an e-mail with a couple of highlights. MS. MACHADO said she will send information about what was discussed and mentioned that the We, Westside dedication event will have free t-shirts and snow cones.

COMMISSIONER HACKETT-MORGAN thanked staff for their efforts. She thought they do an amazing job and agreed that a calendar would be helpful. She was pleased to present the awards at the opening reception of Celebrating Life! because this annual exhibit means a lot to the people who participate in it.

7. Discussion regarding the incorporation of public art into the planning process of capital improvement projects – All Wards

Minutes:

MARY SABO, Visual Arts Specialist II, believed COMMISSIONER ROBERTS wished to talk about the incorporation of public art into the early stage of landscape public art projects. COMMISSIONER ROBERTS said from his personal involvement in design and construction, it often feels like art becomes a late addition or afterthought to projects. He felt if the City identified itself as a city that values and has a place for the arts, artwork could be considered from the beginning of a project. Further, the Commissioner believed having a percentage of capital improvement costs going towards art would be good for the City. He asked if something like this could be considered.

COMMISSIONER PLASTER said sometimes Percent for the Arts funds do not line up with the projects that receive CIP (Capital Improvement Project) funding from the City. She agreed with the Commissioner and thought the incorporation of public art for approved CIP projects could be considered at the August subcommittee meeting. She noted COUNCILMAN BRIAN KNUDSEN is an advocate of public art, and there is an upcoming dog park project on Oakey Boulevard and Rancho Drive that will incorporate public art; however, it will not be funded through the Percent for the Arts but will be funded through an allocation from the Councilman.

COMMISSIONER ROBERTS wondered about a percentage of allocated funding for projects for public art. COMMISSIONER PLASTER thought that might have to be established through an ordinance. At the moment, the City management team looks to the Percent for the Arts Fund for public art projects. She suggested the Commissioners request funding from their Councilmembers for public art. COMMISSIONER ROBERTS was open to this idea. CHAIR KLEVEN asked if City staff still works on CIP-funded projects, to which MS. SABO replied in the affirmative.

The Chair said they could plan to look at upcoming projects in August and see how art can be incorporated into the design process. She also wished to discuss artwork placement.

COMMISSIONER DE SANTIS wondered if public art was considered for the Oakland A's stadium; however, COMMISSIONER CURRAN advised the stadium will be located within the County.

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 item 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.

9. **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:

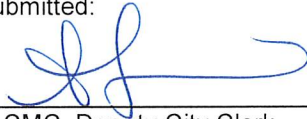
COMMISSIONER PLASTER announced that they are in a master planning process for the African-American Museum and Cultural Center and have been delivered a 50-percent plan that outlines the final plan. There are six experiential elements to the plan for museum-goers, one of which involves a contemporary art museum. Feedback from the public will be sought on different elements of the museum through workshops held at Nevada Partners located at 690 West Lake Mead Boulevard on June 16th from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., June 23rd from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and June 30th from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. She noted that LAURA MACHADO, Public and Visual Arts Section Manager, would e-mail the Commissioners the information.

10. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

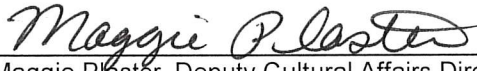
The meeting was adjourned at 4:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



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Ashley Foster, CMC, Deputy City Clerk



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Maggie Plaster, Deputy Cultural Affairs Director  
Department of Parks, Recreation and 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](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov)

The Nevada Public Notice website – [notice.nv.gov](http://notice.nv.gov)

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor