

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN ARTS COMMISSION
MINUTES

Meeting Date: September 13, 1995
4:00 - 6:00 pm
Coloma Community Center
4623 T Street

For information, call (916) 264-5558

COMMISSIONERS:

Luke W. Breit
Vera L. Davis
Gerry N. Kamilos
Quan Van Le

Anthony P. Marquez
W. Kearse McGill
Charles Miller
Sandra Yee

CALL TO ORDER - At the hour of 4:09 pm. All commissioners present.

II. APPROVE AGENDA OF SEPTEMBER 13, 1995

Moved: Kamilos; seconded: Marquez
Ayes: Unanimous

III. APPROVE MINUTES OF AUGUST 9, 1995. As written.

Moved: Miller; seconded: McGill
Ayes: Unanimous

IV. ACTION ITEMS (A - C):

A. APPROVE NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER(S) (YEE)

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS OF KURT FISHBACK TO THE VISUAL ARTS COMMITTEE AND BUCK BUSFIELD TO THE PERFORMING ARTS COMMITTEE.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved: McGill; seconded: Kamilos
Ayes 8 Noes 0 Absent 0
Motion passed unanimously.

B. APPROVE GRANTS PANEL POOL

A MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT THE GRANTS PANEL POOL AS SUBMITTED.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved: Kamilos; seconded: McGill
Ayes 8 Noes 0 Absent 0
Motion passed unanimously.

C. APPROVE YOUTH COMMITTEE

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A YOUTH COMMITTEE.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved: Marquez; seconded: Kamilos
Ayes 8 Noes 0 Absent 0
Motion passed unanimously.

V. COMMISSION RETREAT/AGENDA REVIEW, OCTOBER 7, 1995

Input is requested for the Commission Retreat; the major focus will be on the Arts Plan and City/County Directions for the Arts Commission. The facilitator for the Retreat is Lauren Barton. Commission also needs to look at the past year's work. Each program of the Arts Commission will have ten minutes to explain and/or update the participants in the program work of the commission. Please look over the draft agenda and call in with your suggestions by next week.

VI. PRESENTATION(S)

A. "Department & City Direction" - Sam Burns, Director, Community & Visitor Services; Barbara Bonebrake, Assistant Director, Community & Visitor Services

Department Director Sam Burns spoke about City and Department Direction. The new Department of Community & Visitor Services (C&VS) was created approximately two years ago, with the Arts Commission as one of the member divisions. C&VS is umbrellaed under Economic Development in the City. Mr. Burns noted that the Arts Commission has been a forerunner in reacting to the needs of the Mayor and Councilmembers concerning Economic Development, Neighborhood Services and Youth Initiatives. The divisions included within the Department includes the Zoo, Golf, Convention Center, Crocker Art Museum, Old Sacramento Waterfront and other entities of interest to visitors and the community at large.

A slide presentation was given to the Commission members overviewing the different divisions and their work within C&VS and the City of Sacramento. There are many items available for visitors and community members to do and see while in Sacramento. Mr. Burns gave a brief history of each division, their programs, number of people served each year and any other unique features of the individual divisions. Some new and/or future programs include the reopening of the Memorial Auditorium (scheduled for fall 1996), a Living History program, and the Grand Carnival of Lights, etc. The Convention Center reopened in January 1995, with new upcoming programs slated for the future. A business plan is pending for Fairytale Town, with a community/corporation based partnership.

Other future programs include the Sesquicentennial Celebration in 1996, a public market in Old Sacramento, better signage for visitors, youth program expansion in the Arts Commission, expanded Phantom Galleries, Zoo sensory garden, and other programs for the growth and development of the Department and the City.

Commissioner Le noted that the Performing Arts Committee's work done to produce the Downtown Plaza concert series this past summer. Director Walker also noted that the Committee's work at Downtown Plaza has helped to keep people downtown during the summer months. Participating organizations received only a small payment, but also gained a lot of advertising and public relations. Mr. Burns suggested that the Performing

Arts Committee meet to discuss opportunities for the future and how to work with the City process to produce such events.

Commissioner Miller asked if there is a master calendar of events happening in Sacramento. Mr. Burns said that there isn't such a calendar (except for Convention Center events). A master calendar for the City is difficult to maintain because of deadline dates for publication and subsequent changes after publication. Commissioner Miller stated that if a biannual calendar could be done on disk, it would be of great benefit to the community. Mr. Burns commented that a central location is needed for such a calendar, and Metro Arts is a good starting place. Director Walker noted that a master calendar is a part of the Arts Plan to be discussed later at the Commission Retreat. Mr. Burns noted that the current City Council has been the most supportive of the Arts in Sacramento. Commissioner Miller noted that a master calendar could be done on the Internet system. Mr. Burns said that he would work with the Arts Commission to initiate this project.

Commissioner McGill asked if there is anything more in the future for the downtown hotels; Mr. Burns stated that the hotel industry is very active concerning future projects in Sacramento as this is a business community with many opportunities for a variety of conventions. The future of the Memorial Auditorium was also questioned; Mr. Burns noted that approximately \$10 million is to be invested in the refurbishing of the Auditorium - not an overextensive job, but the Auditorium will look the same as it did originally.

Commissioner Davis asked if the relationship between the Convention Center and the Hyatt Regency will change; Mr. Burns believes the relationship will stay strong. He also noted that the Hyatt is one of the most profitable hotels in the City.

Commissioner Breit noted that some cities having been utilizing the arts to help poorer parts of the area. Sacramento is a magnet for artists because of the low rent and good opportunities, and we should not lose sight of this factor. Mr. Burns noted the need for an arts center in Sacramento - it is an ideal location. He also wants to see the neighborhoods flourish and Sacramento has great future potential.

Mr. Burns commented on his "open door" policy and that the Commission members are free to call him if there are any questions. He thanked the Commissioners for the time they have committed to the work by the Arts Commission at large.

(Commissioners Yee, Kamilos, and Marquez departed at 5:10 pm.)

B. "Convention Center Update" - Kathy Gee, Art in Public Places Program Assistant.

This presentation was tabled until next month.

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT - No report.

VIII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Committee chairs and representatives, please encourage your committee members to attend the October 7 retreat.

IX. PUBLIC TESTIMONY - None.

X. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED - None.

XI. INFORMATION REPORTS - None.