

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN ARTS COMMISSION  
MINUTES

Meeting Date: April 20, 2005

1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

2030 Del Paso Blvd.  
Sacramento, CA 95815

For information, call (916) 566-3992

COMMISSIONERS:

JOHN WONG    JENNIFER TACHERA  
MARGI PARK    NEILL SOOHOO  
DON SRONCE    JOANNA DE LA CUESTA  
JAN GEIGER    NAN MAHON  
PATTI MILLER    LINDA MERKSAMER

I.    CALL TO ORDER at the hour of 1:30p.m.

Present: de la Cuesta, Geiger, Mahon, Merksamer, Miller, Sronce, SooHoo, Wong    Excused: Park, Tachera

II.    APPROVE AGENDA OF APRIL 20, 2005:

All ayes

III.    APPROVE MINUTES OF MARCH 16, 2005:

All ayes

IV:    COMMITTEE REPORTS (5 MINUTES): None.

II. ACTION ITEMS:

A. APPROVAL OF 12 PROPOSALS FOR CITY HALL ROTATING COLLECTION (CITY) (BLOOM):

COMMISSION ACTION: Moved: Wong Seconded: Merksamer Ayes: 8 Noes: 0 Absent: 2

IF THERE IS ANY CRITICISM OR COMMENTS FROM CITY COUNCIL STAFF OR ELECTEDS, BLOOM WILL REPORT BACK TO THE COMMISSION.

Bloom stated artwork were to be rotated between both buildings at City Hall. She explained that a public panel process was conducted and 12 artists were picked from 50 applicants. Bloom said artists would get paid \$1,000 for their work which must represent Scenes of Sacramento to be interpreted any way. Director Walker stated that artist fees, which are much lower then normal, should be viewed as honorariums rather than true artist fees. Bloom said APP Committee endorsed all art proposals. Gotthart explained the artists' slides were only representation of the artists' work with each creating their own piece for City Hall. She concluded all works are framed the same way and would be easily maintained.

Jim West: West's proposal was a solid picture of downtown Sacramento made up of thousands of photographs, creating the finished piece.

Anthony Montanino: Bloom said artist was going to paint scenes of McKinley Park for his proposal. He currently lives in Palo Alto but at the time he applied, he fulfilled residency requirement. Bloom said McKinley Park had special meaning for Montanino in that he raised his children around the park area.

Brenda Louie: Bloom said Louie combined personal symbolism and floral elements to her work. Her proposal was a piece on watercolor that depicts the view of downtown Sacramento from her studio. The piece would be conceptual. Bloom suggested that a plaque under each of the artworks will give a meaning to each art piece.

Janice Nakashima: Bloom stated that Nakashima worked in pastels, colored pencils and watercolors. Her proposal would be a metaphoric piece with maps and watercolor on paper.

Bloom interjected that the artwork from these artists' work would be finished by June 1<sup>st</sup>. She said all finished products would come back to the Commission to review.

Steve Vanoni: Vanoni painted "outsider" art and uses a lot of colors in his artwork. Bloom said his proposal contains a train image in cut steel painted brightly. She concluded that Vanoni's vision of the train was universal and has personal meaning to him

Kim Scott/Numan Huseinbegovic: Their collaboration proposal was a macro/micro look at agriculture in Sacramento. Scott's image would be a tomato abstract piece and Huseinbegovic's vision would be the Sacramento Valley from an aerial view.

Kathy Oliver: Oliver works in metal and glass. She was a jewelry maker and designer. Her proposal would be very abstract; steel, bronze and fused glass representing the Gold Rush in Sacramento.

Sue Anne Foster/Anne Bradley: Bloom said both like to work with metals to create abstract designs. She said Bradley and Foster's work would reflect a symbolic multi-dimensional image of government and pathways available to people.

Sandra Hoover: Hoover has artwork in Permits Center for the City of Sacramento. Bloom said her focus for a painting would be based on the first hand events of the city from the Ruhstaller Building. The painting would be oil on Masonite panel.

Vicki Asp: Asp decided to paint a picture of the two affluent rivers meeting point in Discovery Park. Bloom said the view would include both rivers giving reflection of times spent in the park.

Mary Swisher: Swisher's proposal would be a cyanotype picture using construction photos from the City Archives. Bloom said Swisher wanted to use photos in regards to the historical reference to architecture.

Evelyn Bryant: Bryant's proposal was an abstract piece related to the Sacramento River. Bloom said Bryant would use bronze to make piece a view of the Sacramento River underwater.

Sronce warned the City Council staff wished the artwork to be indicative of Sacramento. Gotthart commented that panel had hard time choosing artists. She said artists maybe abstract as long as an artists' statement was under art piece. SooHoo exclaimed the public art belonged to the community. Wong mentioned none of the art proposals showed the diversity of the people in Sacramento. He stated all members of the public need to be able to see themselves reflected in the works at our City Hall. Bloom said artists were given themes to work on and that artists did not choose diversity theme. Merksamer expressed concern about the lack of diversity of the artists and artworks. Miller said she appreciated abstract art pieces included in collection and that the Commission needed to see art for what it really is. Gotthart interjected that the public panel was diverse and that if collection needed diversity, the call for artists needed to reach out to more communities. Director Walker stated more needs to be done to include under represented artists and all cultural aesthetic. She stated the importance of keeping diversity in mind when new opportunities become available. Director Walker asked the Commission to invite the Council Members to view the final artwork before permanently installing in City Hall.

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B. APPROVAL OF MARKETING MINI- GRANT (ROSENBERG):

COMMISSION ACTION: Moved: Geiger      Seconded: de la Cuesta      Ayes: 8      Noes: 0      Absent: 2

Rosenberg stated mini grant this cycle were used for the creation of marketing plans, web site development and advertising campaigns. She mentioned a panel was held on March 11<sup>th</sup> to review 28 applications and 23 organizations were funded. Rosenberg said she would like to apply funding based on the art organization's scores. She suggested that Option 1 was the best consideration for funding.

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C. APPROVAL OF NEW PR & MARKETING COMMITTEE (SRONCE):

COMMISSION ACTION: Moved: Soohoo      Seconded: Mahon      Ayes: 8      Noes: 0      Absent: 2

Sronce wanted to emphasize marketing SMAC to the electeds and community. He encouraged Commissioners to wear name badges and make presence known at art events around Sacramento. Sronce suggested PR Committee to market SMAC with Commissioners as cultural ambassadors to community. He wished the Commissioners to make presentations on behalf of SMAC and the arts. Sronce nominated Geiger to chair committee. Sronce mentioned Mahon would like to work with Ken Larsen to reformat the Arts Reporter to give it a new look. Director Walker will provide training opportunities, draft up roles and responsibilities for committee. Sronce suggested soliciting clubs and organizations around Sacramento for speaking engagements. Director Walker suggested the committee meet ½ hour before Commission meeting to review and report on their work as advocates for the arts. She emphasized the idea behind committee and Commission was to be cultural ambassadors to the whole community.

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VI. PRESENTATIONS: Arts Advocacy (Caretto): Caretto announced she worked for the California Arts Advocacy lobby that tracks funding to the arts in the California legislature and nationally. She said the agency was supported financially by members who support the arts. Caretto stated that CAA were tracking several bills including AB655, a bill that would impose a 1% surcharge to entertainment venues to help pay for the California Arts Council's grants program. She said that advocates need to walk the halls and talk to legislators. Caretto expressed that she included SMAC literature in her packets to show what the arts were doing in Sacramento. She suggested that SMAC hold workshops for training potential arts advocates. Caretto said Pelosi would be more than happy to work with arts groups to bring them to California. Soohoo volunteered to talk to the Folsom City Council on SMAC's behalf.

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VII.. DISCUSSION ITEM(S): Miller said The Brickhouse Studios was hosting her artwork on May 14<sup>th</sup> and invited the Commission to attend.

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VII. CHAIR'S REPORT: None.

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IX... DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Director Walker discussed the Commission retreat for May or June 2005. The programs would talk about their roles and responsibilities. Director Walker said Commissioners and committee members are welcome. Halpern said Artscapes postcards were sent out and the hard copy of the Artscapes application was loaded onto website for people to print off.

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X. OLD OR NEW BUSINESS: Kraft announced AEO Committee had first meeting in April and had grants panel. She said 24 applications for Artists in Schools were evaluated.

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XI. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm

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THE NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2005 AT 1:30 PM.