

**SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN ARTS COMMISSION
MINUTES**

Meeting Date: July 19, 2000
4:00-6:30 p.m.

Central Library/WEST Meeting Room-Floor Level
828 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

For information, call (916) 264-5558

COMMISSIONERS:

Michelle Egan

Valerie Drew

Marcy Friedman

Gerry N. Kamilos

Quan Van Le

Yvonne Bonacci

John Wong

R. Burnett Miller

Kendall Person

Gloria A. Woodlock

Bernadette Chiang

I. CALLED TO ORDER at the hour of 4:13 p.m by Commissioner Drew

Present: Bonacci, Chiang, Drew, Egan, Friedman, Kamilos, Le, Miller, Person, Woodlock Absent: 0 Excused: Wong

II. APPROVED AGENDA OF JULY 19, 2000

Moved: Egan Seconded: Miller Ayes: 7 Noes: 0 Absent: 4

III. APPROVED MINUTES OF JUNE 20, 2000

Moved: Egan Seconded: Miller Ayes: 7 Noes: 0 Absent: 4

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS (10 MINUTES) - None

V. ACTION ITEMS:

A. APPROVED COMMITTEE MEMBERS (KAMILOS):

Tia Gemmell - Arts Education & Outreach Program

Ronald Ortiz - Arts Education & Outreach Program

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: APPROVE Meeting July 19, 2000 Ayes 7 Noes 0 Absent 4

COMMISSION ACTION: Moved: Miller Seconded: Chiang Ayes: 7 Noes: 0 Absent: 4

B. APPROVED "MEET THE GRANTMAKERS CONFERENCE" (HELLER):

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ACTION: APPROVE Meeting No Quorum Ayes Noes Absent

COMMISSION ACTION: Moved: Le Seconded: Miller Ayes: 8 Noes: 0 Absent: 3

Heller explained the details of the 2000 Grantmakers Conference which will be held on October 30, 2000 at the Crocker Art Museum. The conference will be co-hosted by Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, the Nonprofit Resource Center, and the Crocker Art Museum. Guest speakers will include state and national foundation and corporate funders in addition to local philanthropists who will act as hosts during a networking luncheon. The conference will focus on three main topics of discussion: Trends in Philanthropy, Building Relationships with Funders, and Excellent Examples.

C. APPROVED RFP FOR BOARD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (HELLER):

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ACTION: APPROVE Meeting No Quorum Ayes Noes Absent

COMMISSION ACTION: With recommendations Moved: Woodlock Seconded: Friedman Ayes: 9 Noes: 0 Absent: 2

Heller presented information regarding the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Board Development Project. The Commission is seeking a contractor with experience with board development to provide services to the local arts community. The contractor will be required to submit a proposal, outlining the program phases, including design, outreach, implementation and evaluation. The purpose of the project is to help develop boards in developing the infrastructure necessary to sustain themselves and provide the knowledge, flexibility and ability to perceive new opportunities that serve their mission in addition to advancing their artistic vision.

All arts non-profit organizations are invited to participate in Board Development once it is organized. Woodlock stated this would be an opportunity for networking and mentorship. Friedman asked how the program would be budgeted. Heller stated it would be funded through the Arts Stabilization Program; however, a study would be done based on the market rate of other organizations. Kamilos stated whoever submits a proposal be qualified. He suggested a study be conducted on each organization participant to see if they are capable of being in the program; demonstrates the ability to evaluate the structure of an organization, evaluate managers performance etc. Four courses have been identified but curriculum has not been specified.

D. APPROVED POET LAUREATE PROGRAM (HELLER):

AWARDS COMMITTEE ACTION: APPROVE Meeting No Quorum Ayes Noes Absent

COMMISSION ACTION: Moved: Egan Seconded: Woodlock Ayes: 9 Noes: 0 Absent: 2

Heller presented information regarding the Poet Laureate Program Plan and funding. The Poet Laureate Committee has developed three programs to be implemented: Air Poets on Capital Radio, which will air once a month for 2 minutes; Favorite Poem Reading Series at the Central Library will offer monthly readings by Laureates, guest, and public of favorite poems; and Sacramento Anthology of poems by the Sacramento community. The Laureate program will fund for guest speakers, programs, ads, public relations, press releases, mailings and brochures etc. Heller explained the anthology, a one-time project, made up of poems about Sacramento-related topics, which presents diverse views of Sacramento life by local residents. The anthology will be approximately 175 pages and 3000 will be printed. Overall, Commission expressed concerns regarding the publishing budget and suggested \$10,000 should be maximum amount for the anthology budget.

F. APPROVED MASATOYO KISHI AS ARTIST FOR EMBASSY SUITES FOUNTAIN AND APPROVE REVISED PUBLIC ART BUDGET (BLOOM/POREMSKI):

APP COMMITTEE ACTION: APPROVE Meeting July 7, 2000 Ayes 7 Noes 0 Absent 3

Poremski explained the revised arts plan and budget and approve recommendation of artist MASATOYO Kishi for the water feature proposal for Embassy Suites Hotel Project.

The revised Arts Plan will include two commissions: 1) Water Feature in the main lobby atrium; and 2) Metalwork and gates in the main public lobby and atrium stair cases. The developer has decided to utilize pre-manufacture light fixtures throughout the hotel, therefore, revising the art plan to eliminate artist designed lighting fixtures in public areas. The portion of the art fixture budget will be divided between the water feature element and the metalwork. All artists who submitted for lighting fixtures were redirected to another glass commission for the South Natomas Library and Community Center. If the contingency fund is not used for fabrication or installation of the artwork, it will be used to commission additional artwork throughout the hotel.

COMMISSION ACTION: Moved: Chiang Secounded: Friedman Ayes: 9 Noes: 0 Absent: 2

Artist, MASATOYO Kishi, in collaboration with the design team, designed three fountains each with bronze sculptures. He gave a presentation of his work to the commission.

COMMISSION ACTION: Moved: Egan Secounded: Bonacci Ayes: 9 Noes: 0 Absent: 2

E. DENY ARTIST DAN DYKES FOR MIDTOWN PARKING GARAGE (BLOOM):

APP COMMITTEE ACTION: APPROVE Meeting _____ Ayes 8 Noes 0 Absent 1

COMMISSION ACTION: Moved: Woodlock Secounded: Miller Ayes: 9 Noes: 1 Absent: 1

Bloom gave background information on the current process of the panel selection for the Midtown Parking Garage Project. Thirty-two artists submitted application materials. A public panel was held in which five finalists were selected to submit proposals and maquettes. During the public meeting, the community provided feedback to the artists. Artist, Dan Dykes, who scored the highest on the criteria sheet, submitted artwork for a freestanding stainless steel sculpture, approximately 24' in height. The proposal was unanimously denied by the APP committee under the grounds that: 1) it is out of scale for the space; and 2) it has no sense of place. However, the committee expressed strong support for the qualifications and professional artwork of the artist. In addition, the APP Committee reviewed the remaining 4 proposals and supported Donna Billick's ceramic relief sculpture proposal. The community provided general support for the glass artwork proposal by Arthur Stern with Billick's proposal as second consideration. Bloom discussed the policy consideration in resolving this issue. According to the APP Policy and Standard of Operating Procedures, page five outlines the recourse for action by the Arts Commission, following the denial of an art proposal by the committee. Staff recommends option number three: "Request a new panel from the APP Committee. The APP staff is requesting approval to invite the five artist finalist to resubmit proposals which take into consideration issues and desires of the community". The artist will have approximately four weeks to redesign.

Friedman ask for clarification regarding Dykes artwork being out of scale. Miller explained that the artwork did not reflect the theater district and also conflicted with other sculptures/towers. Bloom stated the size competed too heavily with surrounding towers and suggested the artwork would be best suited for a more open area. Also, she stated proper information was not given from the project manager in terms of specific artwork. Egan ask if the project manager was given specific information. Miller stated the issue was not a free standing sculpture but the appropriateness of the sculpture for the district. Woodlock questioned if the sculpture was the best or reflect competitiveness among other finalists as an issue. Friedman questioned the ranking process for the selection. Bloom stated she had concerns with the panel process. Kamilos stated that the APP committee should be reconvened and a new panel be selected. Kamilos suggested the five finalists be able to resubmit and be given an additional \$200.00 for their efforts. Le express concerns regarding the entire selection process. He stated the artist competed fairly and if anyone had foreseen a problem, then the process should have been stopped earlier instead of continuing to proceed. He stated he had concerns regarding ethical issues and the recommended recourse. Miller expressed concern regarding the score sheet. Woodlock stated there were some policy issues that needed to be addressed. Bloom stated the panel was not adequately represented by the community. Egan stated the panel was corrupt, should not be considered a valid outcome, and the process should start over. Friedman expressed that there was a strong sense of unfairness and agreed that a new panel should be selected and start the process over. Drew agreed and suggested the situation be corrected so that the problem would not occur in the future.

The Commission listened to public testimony (see comments regarding public testimony).

Director, Walker, stated that there were several problematic issues regarding this process which escalated into the current situation. Walker praised the general panel process, but agreed that this specific project was marred from inception. Walker added the new direction to the artists would result in new design proposals and asked everyone to come to the process with an open mind.

Le stated that the public should be a participant in panel reviews; however, they, along with other participants can not dictate the outcome.

Commission voted to approve staff's recommendation on proposal to resubmit with a new panel: Moved: Kamilos Seconded: Drew

VI. PRESENTATION(S): None

VII. DISCUSSION ITEM(S) - None

VIII. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

T. Souder, lives in midtown, stated there was no community input, requested a new panel, took offense to some of the commission's comments regarding their expertise on public art; however, supports staffs recommendation; A. Wenbourne, stated she was also offended by some of commission's comments regarding their expertise on public art, supports staffs recommendation, agreed with having the five finalist resubmit, and also express the inconvenience of a public art commission meeting being held at 4:00 p.m during work hours; L Boudier, also supports staff's recommendation, stated a new panel should be reconvened; G. Fullmer, represented artist A. Stern, who is out of state, stated the artist is sensitive to design with regards to the neighborhood. He stated the artist placed second and would like to present design; and Ann, panelist, stated she was misinformed of meeting date and also supports staff's recommendation.

IX. CHAIR'S REPORT - None

X. DIRECTOR'S REPORT - None

XI. OLD OR NEW BUSINESS - None

XII. ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Kamilos at the hour of 6:45 p.m.