

THE MINUTES OF THE  
SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN ARTS COMMISSION  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1984

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Carol Borden  
Judy Gordon  
John Horrell  
James G. Neagle  
David Rible  
Laurie Smith  
Gerald Treaster  
Audrey Tsuruda, Chair  
Dennis Wilkerson

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Pam Johnson  
Diana Perham

The September 4, 1984 meeting of the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission was called to order at 4:02 P.M.

CORRECTION TO THE MINUTES

Commissioner Smith stated that the August 7, 1984 minutes should be corrected to read (under Artreach): "...that the Commission uphold the panel's recommendation not to include Richard Hartenback in the Directory passed with 5 ayes, 1 opposed (Smith) and 2 abstaining (Tsuruda, Neagle)." Commissioner Neagle moved approval of the minutes as corrected, Smith seconded. The minutes were approved.

CHAIR REPORT (Tsuruda)

Chair Tsuruda welcomed the new commissioners, Judy Gordon, Carol Borden and John Horrell.

An announcement was made by Chair Tsuruda that SMAC appeared before the County Budget hearings to request an increase of \$25,000 in the Cultural Awards Program. Chair Tsuruda stated that she and Director Moskin had spoken with several Supervisors before the Board meeting. The request for the increase passed and the Cultural Awards Program will now distribute \$200,000 to local arts organizations.

Chair Tsuruda expressed SMAC's concern over the art program for the Light Rail system and how it may be effected by STDA's budget cuts. Chair Tsuruda reported that Jacqueline Springwater, Jennifer Dowley, Susan Willoughby and herself met with the STDA regarding the budget. Commissioner Tsuruda said they expressed to the STDA Board that they are sympathetic with the budget problems but wanted to emphasize the integral role of the art program for the system - that it is not a frill. The group asked the Board to consider the art program as important as any portion of the system.

At this time, Chair Tsuruda expressed her desire to chair the Advocacy Committee. The Committee will meet to assist all the program committees of SMAC. The Commission had no objections to the appointment of Chair Tsuruda as Advocacy Committee chair.

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ART IN PUBLIC PLACES (SMITH)

Commissioner Smith reported that the Art in Public Places Committee (APPC) had approved all six Light Rail proposals except John Dooley's (tree grates). The APPC feels positive about his piece but needs to see the proposal painted the color of the actual artwork.

Commissioner Smith stated that the APPC had some reservations about the proposals, but decided to accept the program as a whole. Chair Tsuruda asked what reservations the APPC had expressed. Commissioner Smith stated that even though some of the six proposals were not as strong as others, the APPC decided that they would be popular with the public and offer a balance when taken into account with all the other pavement pieces. Some of the proposals, it was thought, had "too familiar" images (flowers, lightening, etc.).

Commissioner Neagle stated that he feels there is some confusion regarding the Light Rail artists - who is doing proposals, what proposals were rejected, etc. Commissioner Neagle asked if there is any way the Commission can delay voting on the Light Rail proposals until clarification is made - and would this delay the program?

Chair Tsuruda added that she feels it would be better to defer voting until the new commissioners can get an overview of the entire program.

Coordinator Dowley asked if the Commission could vote on 2 of the proposals (Margo Humphrey and Short Center) in order that the artists might begin work with the architects immediately. Dowley passed around slides (since the projector was broken) of the proposals by Margo Humphrey (Watt/80) and Short Center (Marconi/Arcade). Ms. Humphrey proposes a series of 12 wildflowers set in the pavement of colored concrete. The veins and design in the flowers and leaves will be done in brass (\$9,000 budget). Short Center (Marconi/Arcade): Rory Nakata will be working with 4 students of the Short Center. The students will take images from the neighborhood and make them into flat tiles. The tiles will be set into a 3' piece of concrete. The proposal will be revised to eliminate rough spots. Coordinator Dowley stated the selection panel was very enthusiastic about the Short Center's proposal (with the technical revisions).

Chair Tsuruda added that she felt uncomfortable that the Commission is not seeing the entire proposal (for instance, all 12 panels of wildflowers). Commissioner Rible added that the Commission needs to see true artwork and cannot determine this from one panel (he feels favorably about concept of piece).

Commissioner Horrell made a motion that the Commission approve the concepts of the proposals of Margo Humphrey and the Short Center but would like to see 12 drawings of Ms. Humphrey's wildflowers (entire panel) and a more refined version of the Short Center's proposal before final approval is given. The motion was approved by the Commission.

Commissioner Wilkerson asked how the proposals have gotten this far in approval process without being more complete representations of what the actual artwork will be. Coordinator Dowley stated that Jacqueline Springwater (former Commissioner)

was a member of that selection panel and the panel felt that proposals in rough form are not a problem. Commissioner Rible feels more comfortable seeing more complete proposals before giving final approval.

#### Work Release Facility

Peter VandenBerge is the artist at this facility. The site for the artwork is behind the facility (site is 150' long and 50' deep). The artwork is a 20' x 7' high ceramic piece - sheriff on a horse. The relief is 18". The artist is realigning the landscape to form a berm behind the figure. The architect will add living plants in keeping with the desert feeling of the sculpture. The panel had interviewed 5 artists and then selected Mr. VandenBerge. His first proposal was redesigned at the request of the sheriff. Commissioner Rible asked if the piece will be a blending of glazes (as in other of VandenBerge's works). Coordinator Dowley said it would be. A motion was made to accept the proposal as presented and was passed by unanimous vote.

#### Capitol Bank of Commerce (CBC)

Coordinator Dowley gave a brief background on the CBC art program. Private developers came to SMAC with an overall plan, then hired Susan Willoughby as the art consultant. David von Schlegell's work has been approved and will soon be installed. Two other sites and artists were approved: Richard Smith for the lobby and Fletcher Benton or Michael Riegel for the roof garden. Ms. Willoughby gave a presentation of Smith's and Benton's proposals. The glass around the front of the lobby is clear. Richard Smith will be doing a series of colorful hanging painted canvas which can be seen from the outside. Fletcher Benton is proposing a painted steel sculpture, from his "Balanced/Unbalance" series, and will place the artwork on the axis of the garden. The piece is interactive and the artist reserves the right to determine the angle the artwork will be placed.

Commissioner Neagle asked about the artist Michael Riegel who had been originally considered for the roof garden. Ms. Willoughby stated that the Commission had asked that one of the other (Riegel or Benton) be commissioned and not put their work together - not compatible. Ms. Willoughby stated that the developers felt Michael Riegel's work was not colorful enough and the site needs color, thus they chose Fletcher Benton. Ms. Willoughby added that the APPC had expressed concern over the density of Richard Smith's piece. She will relay those concerns to the artist. Commissioner Smith moved approval of the artworks, with a statement of concern regarding the density of the hanging canvases. Commissioner Rible seconded the motion. Motion approved.

#### 13th & I Building

\$4,000 budget for artwork - \$500 for curator/hanging materials/lighting.  
Program: Ask Pam Maddock to view Sacramento County artists in the slide bank and also visit their studios and select artist to treat the four walls outside elevators on four floors of building. Coordinator Dowley stated that special attention would be given to considering minority artists. Chair Tsuruda asked how this can be done. Coordinator Dowley stated that active soliciting of slides of minority artists can help. Commissioner Rible added that this is a means of expanding slide bank so these artists can be considered for other projects.

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Chair Tsuruda added that we would have to move quickly to contact artists since the deadline is October 31st. Coordinator Dowley stated that the next step is to contact Pam Maddock to begin her review of artists. The building architects are open to this idea and have given approval.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith to approve Pam Maddock as curator and to set aside \$4,000 for art budget and \$500 contingency for curator fee, hanging and lighting materials; also to approve art program. Commissioner Treaster seconded the motion. Motion approved.

CROCKER ART MUSEUM PRESENTATION

Muriel Johnson  
Susan Willoughby  
Bob McCabe  
Charles Roberts  
Barbara Gibbs

Muriel Johnson stated that a project to expand/improve and restore the Crocker Art Museum has been on the boards for 10 years. Museum staff came before SMAC five years ago with expansion ideas and now they are moving ahead. CAMA is committed to raising \$600,000 for the budget for their Centennial celebration in Spring of 1985. The whole expansion/restoration project will cost \$6.5 million. Ms. Johnson said that CAMA feels it is time for the Museum to grow with Sacramento. Their staff has increased, they have a very dedicated Board and now have 3,500 members.

Barbara Gibbs, Museum Director, gave a presentation of drawings outlining the restoration. They are getting input for more sophistication and are working hard to change.

Restoration would include:

- restoration of facade of home with wing and glass elevator
- restore pink stucco annex - condemned - not earthquake safe
- sculpture garden, restaurant

Ground Floor:

- bookshop will become a library; Forum divided into 2 spaces (moveable wall)
- cafe
- 120-seat seminar room
- additional space for volunteers, staff meetings.

Main Floor:

- Ballroom - remain the same
- bookstore - full service
- Period Room - recreating Crocker home as it was
- Gallery for decorative arts

Top Floor :

- Gallery for objects - African & Asian collection
- Permanent collection of contemporary art - focusing on N. California artists.  
(both floors free on Herrold Wing for rotating exhibitions)

Will be adding approximately 17,000 square feet total. Double staircase - \$350,000 item.

Commissioner Wilkerson mentioned that Crocker has done a good job on making the Musuem handicapped accessible and hopes this will continue in the restoration.

Charles Roberts reported that over \$3 million will be secured before applying for public funds: NEA, Parks and Recreation, and they are working with SHRA. Mr. Roberts feels some funds will come from San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Ms. Johnson asked commissioners for their help by speaking to legislators. Ms. Johnson also requested that SMAC put together a calendar of building campaigns and thus fill the need for a clearinghouse.

#### CULTURAL AWARDS (RIBLE)

Commissioner Rible reported that the Committee will come back to the Commission with a list of recommended changes and procedures and a timeline at the October meeting. Meeting is at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, September 6.

#### PROGRAM COMMITTEE (NEAGLE)

Commissioner Neagle ~~reported on a meeting last week which no one attended.~~ *stated that no one attended the last Program Committee meeting.*

#### DISCOVER SACRAMENTO HOTLINE (KIM HECKES)

Kim Heckes gave a report on the Hotline. 47,000 Directories are in circulation now and have been reprinted in several publications, for a total of 220,000. Statistics: 65 calls per day in June; 45 calls per day in July. Pacific Telephone is tracking how often people are calling and when. Good press coverage: Sacramento Bee, Sunset Magazine, Channel 40. Sacramento Society for the Blind has a braille version of directory available and is working on a large print version. Chair: Tsuruda: How do you take care of outdated information? Ms. Heckes has been calling sponsors. She is working on guidelines for 1985 and it could be stated in these guidelines that outdated information will be pulled by staff. Commissioner Borden asked if a greater variety of groups could be involved. Staff responded that as soon as guidelines are established, broad solicitation of them is planned.

#### ARTREACH (PIPER)

Laurie Piper reported that the Cultural Resources Directory is at the printers and will be ready at the end of the month. On October 15th, from noon - 5:00, the Arts Preview will present artists in the Directory - 15 minute performances and presentations; and slideshows by visual artists in other rooms. Ms. Piper is now working on press and developing an audience for October 15th. Commissioner Borden asked if all the artists have been selected. Ms. Piper stated they have.

John King asked the cost of the Directory and who does it cover and who uses the artists? Ms. Piper responded that the Directory cost is \$5,000 (from a pending grant). It contains information on Sacramento artists and is used by schools but it is open to any organization.

CAMMY COMMITTEE

Commissioner Neagle reported that the Cammy Committee met to work on fundraising campaign. Letterhead has been designed by Gwen Amos. Chair Tsuruda requested that the Cammy description be sent to all Commissioners. A Friends brochure describing the Commission is in design phase.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT (MOSKIN)

Director Moskin has revised his response to the California Arts Council's State Local Partnership Program regarding the arts plan update. Moskin feels that this will be accepted without any problems.

Arts Program Assistant positions are now open; Arts Program Coordinator positions will be publicized nationally. Job descriptions are available through City Personnel.

Blake, Moffett & Towne has donated paper for entire next year for the Artsletter. Mervyns has donated \$5,000 to underwrite the Arts Preview Day.

Director Moskin announced that the KFBK auction is this weekend and Commissioners are invited to help. The reception and wine auction is tomorrow night at 1st Nationwide Savings at Country Club Centre.

OLD BUSINESS

Chair Tsuruda hopes that Commissioners actively participate in Committees where all the Commissioners' work is really done. Committee assignments are:

Cultural Awards: Rible (Chair), Perham, Treaster, Wilkerson, Gordon;  
APP: Johnson (Chair), Horrell, Rible, Smith, Borden; Program: Neagle (Chair), Wilkerson, Smith, Gordon, Treaster; Advocacy: Tsuruda (Chair), Horrell, Perham, Gordon, Borden

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 P.M.

  
Janice Akers Wagner  
Secretary