



**Sacramento Metropolitan
Arts Commission**

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Commissioners

Dennis Wilkerson, Chair
Carol Borden
Judy Gordon
John Horrell
Wendy Scribner

Charles Smithers
Maggie Upton
Glenda Van de Mark
Carson Wiley
Tom Witt

A Public Agency

Director

Wendy A. Ceccherelli

THE MINUTES OF THE
SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN ARTS COMMISSION

Special Meeting of
Wednesday, February 25, 1985

Commissioners Present:

Carol Borden
Judy Gordon
John Horrell
Wendy Scribner
Charles Smithers, Vice Chair
Maggie Upton
Dennis Wilkerson, Chair
Tom Witt

- I. The special meeting of the Arts Commission was called to order by Chairman, Dennis Wilkerson at 4:25 p.m.

Commissioner Horrell asked that the Arts Commission convey its good wishes to staff person Geri McBeth who is convalescing from an accident. Chair Wilkerson also asked that SMAC send a letter of thank you to Lynette Gardner who has transferred from the staff of SMAC to the City's Solid Waste Division.

II. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approval of Artwork Proposal for Firestation 11 - A motion was made by Commissioner Horrell to approve the artwork proposal by Urban-O Bernardo for the lawn in front of Firestation 11. Commissioner Gordon seconded the motion. Commissioner Borden was concerned that the work, which would be near traffic, would attract interaction by children. This concern was based on information given to Commissioners. Dep. Fire Chief Dennis Smith, who was a member of the Advisory Committee in the selection process, feels the artwork proposal meets their concerns and is acceptable. Commissioner Gordon moved that the Commission accept the recommendation of the APP Committee and approve the proposal for Firestation 11. Commissioner Upton seconded the motion. Ayes: Gordon, Horrell, Scribner, Smithers, Upton, Wilkerson, Witt. No: Borden. Approved.

- B. Approval of Artwork Proposal for Area Adjacent to 16th Street Light Rail Station - An additional \$4,000 is available for the art budget at the 16th Street Light Rail Station due to a contractor's error in the color of a concrete wall adjacent to the station. Clayton Bailey, artist for the 16th Street Light Rail Station, has proposed a sculpture of a gold nugget to be sited in a fountain adjacent to the station. A motion was made to accept the proposed artwork. Ayes: Witt, Upton, Gordon, Wilkerson; Abstentions: Horrell, Borden, Scribner. Chair Wilkerson voted with the ayes to break the tie. Approved.
- C. Approval of Arts Plan for Fruitridge Library - Commissioner Borden commended the arts plan as an excellent direction for SMAC's APP Program because it involves artists and architects working closely together in the artistic process. She expressed reservations, however, on one aspect of the arts plan: the artists Julia Couzens and Cathy Stone have recommended the hiring of Helen Voss to work as project coordinator for the tile mural. Commissioner Borden feels that the hiring of Helen Voss goes beyond the scope of an arts plan since Julia Couzens and Cathy Stone were selected to develop the arts plan. How the arts plan is implemented is a separate issue and when these 2 artists were asked to develop an arts plan, SMAC did not approve this implementation process. Coordinator Heckes will need to speak with the artists to see if an open competition for consultant for the outdoor sculpture would not hinder the arts plan's direction. Commissioner Borden stated that because the arts plan is a new idea for SMAC, we need to move with caution on what the next step of the Arts Plan will be. Chair Wilkerson offered kudos to staff and those on the APP Committee who pioneered the Arts Plan idea. A motion was made to approve initial arts plan for Fruitridge Library and to defer on the second half of plan. SMAC recommends that the APP Committee review the implementation portion of the arts plan and later consider the artists' recommendation of hiring Helen Voss. Approved.
- D. Approval of Sites for the Hyatt Hotel Art Program - Susan Willoughby, art consultant for the developer of the Hyatt Hotel, came before the Commission to seek approval of Phase I of the Hyatt art program: approval of artwork sites. The sites available for artwork are: 1) (interior) Long barrel-vaulted area, 3 stories high, which is the main architectural feature of the interior; 2) (interior) Wrought iron gates, the main decorative feature of the interior; and 3) 2 small outdoor areas for fountains. Commissioner Borden asked if Ms. Willoughby works with the architects to look for other than obvious areas where an artist

could develop an artwork. Ms. Willoughby explained that she does not have the freedom to bring artists on board on a project in the early stages. Due to delay and changes in partners on the Hyatt project, Ms. Willoughby was brought into the art program late. A motion was made to approve the sites for artwork for the Hyatt Hotel. The motion was seconded and approved.

III.

Approval of Sacramento Symphony Concert Proposal- Commissioner Smithers moved to discuss the proposal. Commissioner Gordon seconded. Background: Director Ceccherelli stated that the County approved the County Cultural Awards as recommended by SMAC. The County also is considering allocating funding for a Symphony in the Parks Program. The County has asked SMAC to respond by March 3rd. This is an opportunity for SMAC to offer comments and input on the County's proposal. Commissioner Gordon feels that SMAC is being pressured to respond politically and that the Board of Supervisors is asking us to approve an idea that benefits one arts group only. We need to be concerned with the entire community. Commissioner Smithers added that it is appropriate to withdraw the motion to act on the Board's recommendation and instead make our own recommendation: We have considered the request by the County and appreciate the opportunity to comment and our response is to not recommend on this proposal. However, if the County wishes to allocate funding, then SMAC recommends the Board consider allocating money in one of the following ways: 1) fund next four top-ranked groups; 2) develop a program and send out RFP's for Symphony in the Parks Program. Chair Wilkerson added that if we approve the proposal as it came to us, then we are circumventing the County Cultural Awards (CCA) system. Commissioner Horrell stated that this is saying to us that groups are needing to go out and find funding elsewhere if CCA does not meet their needs. He admires the Symphony for doing what they have to do. It is unfortunate, however, that the CCA cannot help them sufficiently. Chair Wilkerson said that we do not want to encourage groups to circumvent the system. Commissioner Scribner added that we need to work with the Symphony and get them back into our system. This is an outcry for help. Commissioner Borden stated that no matter how CCA is designed, there will always be groups who can get enough support on the Board and will seek funding outside the system. But we can still try to design a program that will accommodate these new needs as they arrive. We may not always be successful. Commissioner Scribner suggested that if a general pot of money is available, that all the arts organizations could work together and come up with a way to

share the money. -- Chair Wilkerson commented that history shows us that organizations respond better to a program, rather than dividing a general pot of money. By going through a program, we will be perceived as serving the entire community. Commissioner Upton added that perhaps we need to fine-tune this solution in a committee. We don't need to panic when one group goes outside the system for funding. Commissioner Borden moved that we respond to the County as such: SMAC recommends that if the Board of Supervisors wishes to fund a Symphony in the Parks Program for the 1987 season, that we would recommend that SMAC design a program that would invite all eligible symphonies to apply for the funds being awarded.

We would also recommend that if this program is something that the Board wants to fund in the future, that the animation program be broadened to include other forms of the arts.

Commissioner Gordon seconded the motion. Approved.

IV.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF BUDGET AUGMENTATIONS - Director Ceccherelli asked for questions from the Commissioners regarding two budget items: 1) percentage of staff time; and 2) work plan narrative for next year. The purpose of the discussion is to decide what budget augmentations to submit for next year that might not be from NEA funding. Director Ceccherelli continued her budget review and augmentation discussion from the Arts Commission's special budget meeting of January 24, 1987. In response to specific questions from that meeting, she presented a line item breakdown of the 4643 Program Budget, a narrative outline of activities projected for FY 87-88, and a review of percent of staff time spent on various programs. She reviewed proposed budget augmentation of FY 87-88.

Commissioner Scribner moved that the Arts Commission recommendations be made to staff on budget augmentations and priorities. Commissioner Horrell seconded the motion. Approved. Arts Commission recommendations on augmentations were as follows, in priority order:

1. Arts Information Assistant (\$41,074)
2. Typist Clerk III (\$26,856)
3. Computer (\$3,500)*
4. Computer (\$3,500)**
5. Computer (\$3,500)*
6. City Regranting Program (\$100,000) **
7. NALAA Travel (\$3,500)
8. Commission-related expenses (\$2,500)

*corrected figures from Data Processing Division will be used

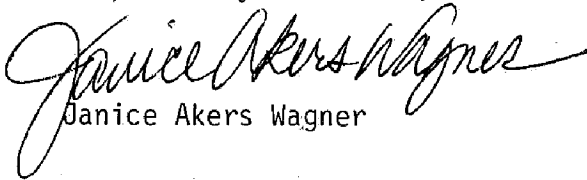
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The Arts Commission also stressed the importance of funding for outdoor cultural programming this summer as part of the Urban Plan, and of the \$30,000 City support to the Sacramento Symphony.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Janice Akers Wagner