

MINUTES OF THE  
SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN ARTS COMMISSION

August 11, 1977

7:30 P.M.

Housing & Redevelopment Conference Room

Commission Members  
Present:

Edward Beimfohr  
Gloria Flores  
John F. King  
Doreen Mauk  
Maurice Read  
Ken Waterstreet  
Jane S. Watkins  
Judith Weintraub  
Susan J. Willoughby

Commission Members  
Absent: (Excused)

Muriel P. Johnson  
Emily Strand

Guest Speaker:

Ted Kobey

The second meeting of the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission was called to order by Chairman Edward Beimfohr at 7:30 P.M. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted with one correction - Gloria Flores name was added to the Architecture Committee.

Copies of the Brown Act were made available by Mr. Ted Kobey, Assistant City Attorney, who spoke on this legislation. Its purpose is to make sure that public business is deliberated and conducted in public. The technicalities involved can be worked out by parties complying in good faith. It was felt it might be worthwhile to have the City Attorney's office represented at

the next meeting to elaborate on Proposition 9 "Conflict of Interest" provisions that apply to the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission.

Chairman Beimfohr requested committee reports, and Mr. Read of the Personnel Committee referred to copies of the job announcement and job specification for the position of Executive Director. After they are approved, it is expected that the earliest possible date of appointment would be November 1. The documents were discussed at length, with comments from Susan Davidson of City Personnel, the people who worked on the drafts. It was moved by Mr. King to offer the maximum salary suggested, \$1255 to \$1525 per month, since he felt the capital city of California should have the services of the finest possible person for the position. Motion carried. Several changes of wording in the job specification were suggested: "May represent" instead of "Represents" in the ninth item under EXAMPLES OF DUTIES; "The arts" instead of "Arts groups", the third item under KNOWLEDGES, ABILITIES, AND SKILLS; and "Develops, in conjunction with the Commission, a five-year master plan", instead of "Develops a five-year master plan", the first item under EXAMPLES OF DUTIES. The last change in wording was moved by Mr. Read, seconded by Ms. Willoughby, and carried. Ms. Willoughby moved to adopt the draft as amended. Motion carried.

It was decided to defer a decision on how far away to recruit until the next meeting, since the personnel announcement and job specification would have to be approved by the City Council, which would not be meeting until August 23, 1977.

Ms. Willoughby presented the report of the Architecture Committee, regretfully acknowledging that the Holiday Inn plans are too far advanced for the Commission to make a meaningful input concerning the proposed art work. However, the new Parking Garage to be constructed by the City of Sacramento across from Macy's presents an exciting opportunity to consider proposals for using the 2% of cost mandated by the Redevelopment Agency for art work, in this case \$150,000. She presented a draft approved the day before by the Architecture Committee inviting competition from as many artists as possible. The art work could cover the solid wall area on each side of the Garage, a smaller "wing" wall on the Mall side of the building, plus free-standing sculpture in the adjacent Mall area. Some possible proposals from artists who may enter this competition include blown-up Mexican tile, enamel on foil, and hand-done ceramic tile. Ms. Willoughby urged approval of the competition rules at this meeting so the Committee could go before the Housing & Redevelopment Commission Monday night and put out an announcement of the competition by the middle of next week. She mentioned a change by Housing & Redevelopment

which would permit painted murals in addition to mosaic, enamel, and ceramic art work. The panel to judge the competition would consist of:

- (1) The building architect;
- (2) One or two members of the Arts Commission (Ken Waterstreet and Judith Weintraub);
- (3) One member of the public using that building (Joe Serna, Chairman, Housing & Redevelopment);
- (4) Artist Phil Hitchcock, Chairman of the Art Department at California State University, Sacramento.

A major change on Page 5 allows more time for submitting entries to the competition; and on Page 2, deleting the sentence beginning "First priority will be given" will prevent fine sculpture from being eliminated in favor of art work primarily on the walls of the Garage. Moreover, to display local talent, applications will be limited to residents of Sacramento County. Ms. Mauk moved to accept the revised draft of the invitation to compete, and it was so adopted.

After Ms. Willoughby was applauded for her presentation, she continued: D. R. Wagner of Open Ring Gallery has agreed to help with television and radio coverage. City Public Information Officer will handle the written press. Permission was requested for a member of the Architecture Committee to appear on a talk show. Ms. Flores entered a motion authorizing an appearance by

a Commission member on a public affairs forum. Motion carried. Ms. Willoughby suggested renaming the Architecture Committee to Art in Public Places Committee. This will be acted on at a later date. Mr. King volunteered to serve with the Committee.

Regarding the CETA Committee report, Ms. Willoughby referred to the motion passed at the last meeting to investigate the possibility of assuming responsibility for City and County programs. However, transferring these programs would require an office staff, accounting procedures, and an Affirmative Action Plan - so nothing can be done right now. Technically the Committee didn't meet, but Mr. Waterstreet and Ms. Willoughby worked at California State University, Sacramento, screening applicants for ten new CETA positions. Permission was requested to direct a letter to various people at the University, thanking them for handling this program until the Commission can take over, and so authorized by the Chairman.

Moving to old business, Mr. Read and Ms. Willoughby commented on budget cuts by the County in other agencies; hopefully this new Commission will not be affected. Ms. Willoughby described what may be a good opportunity to participate in a "City Spirit" program which sends a facilitator from the National Endowment for the Arts to a community to offer assistance and make recommendations. Mr. King moved that we apply for such a grant. Motion carried.

Election of officers, deferred from the first meeting, resulted in Mr. Beimfohr becoming Permanent Chairman and Ms. Willoughby, Vice Chairman. Terms are for one year.

The next order of business was selecting a permanent meeting place and time. It was moved to have meetings on the first Wednesday of the month from 3:00 to 5:00 P.M., and the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 P.M., in the Housing & Redevelopment Conference Room. Motion carried. However, since the room will not be available until September, the next meeting must be August 23, which is a Tuesday, at 3:00 P.M. Appropriate notices will go to members of the Commission and the press.

Chairman Beimfohr announced as an item of new business that the Alliance of California Arts Councils is planning a convention in San Francisco on September 24 and 25. He said he felt the Commission could reasonably send two Commissioners to this convention and cover their expenses. Interested persons should let him know. Mayor Phillip Isenberg of Sacramento and Mayor George Moscone of San Francisco are to be speakers.

A mailer from the National Endowment for the Arts states public service messages have been sent out to television stations. Ms. Willoughby explained that the Commission may conclude such "Classy Commercials" with a slide of its own, saying, "This announcement

has been brought to you by the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission." It was felt this would be good publicity, and designing the slide would pose no difficulty for an artist in the advertising field.

Ms. Mauk has noticed that the performing arts seem neglected at the Commission meetings in favor of the visual arts. Mr. King agreed and suggested that in future competitions performing artists be allowed to submit proposals in competitions. Ms. Mauk would like to make the environment more conducive to symphony, dance, and opera performances.

After the meeting was open to the floor, Mr. Fabela, of the Centro de Artistas Chicanos expressed his pleasure with removal of the restriction on mural painting in the Parking Garage competition. With him was John Carrillo, also of the Centro. Others recognized were Susan Davidson, who spoke earlier in the evening; Bertha King, wife of Commissioner John King; D. R. Wagner and David Onstad of the Open Ring Gallery; and Charles Watkins, husband of Commissioner Jane Watkins.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

Ruth Holt  
Acting Secretary