



# Minutes City of Sacramento Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission

## COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Jan Geiger, Chair  
Linda Merksamer, Vice-Chair

Joanna de la Cuesta  
Daniel Gorfain  
Patti Miller  
Charles Barr

Nan Mahon  
Daniel Pane  
Jennifer Tachera  
Margaret Park-Landau

May 14, 2007

**Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission  
2030 Del Paso Blvd. Sacramento, Ca 95815**

All items listed are heard and acted upon by the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission unless otherwise noted.

### Call to Order – 02:02 p.m.

**Roll Call -** Present: Barr, Geiger, Gorfain, Merksamer, Miller, Pane, Tachera  
Late: Park, de la Cuesta  
Absent: Mahon

### Consent Calendar

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered and acted upon by one motion. Anyone may request an item to be removed for separate consideration.

1. **Approval of Minutes for April 9, 2007**  
**Location:** 2030 Del Paso Boulevard  
Sacramento, CA 95815  
**Recommendation:** Approve Commission minutes.  
**Contact:** Jeanie Louis, Office Manager 566-3992.

**Action:** Correction of Minutes: Under **Public Comments – Matters Not on the Agenda**, Barr corrected theatre receiving \$10,000 from the Irvine Foundation as **Magic Circle**, not B Street. Following this correction, minutes were approved.

### Staff Reports

Staff reports include oral presentations including those recommending receive and file.

2. **Artists for County Juvenile Hall Administration Building Public Entry Plaza RFQ (\$197,000). County) PN: G464**  
**Recommendation:** Staff recommends approval of the arts plan for the revised County Juvenile Hall project providing for a limited competition with artists Topher Delaney, Andy Cao, and the team of Jennifer Madden/Jeff Reed.  
**Contact:** Diana Walker-Smith, Project Consultant, Art in Public Places, 566-3992.

Diana Walker-Smith presented works of Andy Cao, Jennifer Madden/Jeff Reed and Topher Delaney, chosen for the limited competition for the revised plaza project at Juvenile Hall. Walker stated that all three are "environmental artists, familiar with the manipulation of landscape, moving of earth and the inclusion of art."

Motion: Park. Accept the selected Artists for County Juvenile Hall Administration Building Public Entry Plaza, and later awarding one \$5,000 design contract.

Second: Miller.

Vote: 9 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

Motion Carries.

**3. Art in Public Places Arts Plans for Libraries**

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends approval of the arts plan for new City Libraries at North Natomas, Valley Hi-North Laguna, and the Pocket. Staff recommends dividing the total budgets for each library project into smaller commission amounts of \$50,000 or less in order to provide multiple artist opportunities and expedite the artist selection process using Art in Public Places' Public Art Resource Registry.

**Contact:** Cari LaZansky, Assistant, Art in Public Places, 566-3977.

LaZansky asked approval of arts plan for three city library projects at North Natomas Library, Valley Hi-North Laguna Library and the Pocket Library with a budget of \$476,096. The Art in Public Places Committee recommends breaking the original budgets into projects not to exceed \$50,000 each and using the Public Arts Registry source. By using the registry with 45 qualified artists, selection will be shortened and there may be opportunities for making the project fast-track. The Art in Public Places Committee is requesting right to reserve option to re-configure the budget allocations, in event that an opportunity for a monumental artwork/s becomes available.

Motion: Park. Approve the aggregate amount of \$476,096 project dollars for three library art plans, while allowing for flexibility within the budget for reasons stated above.

Second: Barr.

Vote: 9 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

Motion Carries.

**4. Arts Plans for Parks**

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends approval of the arts plan for several City Park Projects. Staff supports an arts plan calling for a limited competition with artists selected from the recent Public Art Resource Registry call for artists.

**Contact:** Cari LaZansky, Assistant, Art in Public Places, 566-3977.

Art in Public Places Committee recommended approval of limited arts plan, utilizing the Public Arts Resource Registry for 13 Park Projects and overall budget totaling \$576,000.

Motion: Park. Approve the recommendation for limited arts plan for 13 parks projects totaling \$576,000.

Second: de la Cuesta.

Vote: 9 Ayes, 0 Noes 0, 1 Absent

Motion Carries.

**5. Merger of Arts Stabilization and Grants and Cultural Programs Recommendation:** Approve the merger of the Arts Stabilization Program into the Grants and Cultural Program area; expand the Arts Stabilization Program to include individual artists; expand the Committee and meet monthly.

**Contact:** Anja Aulenbacher, Interim Coordinator, Grants and Cultural Programs, 566-3986. Rhyena Halpern, Executive Director, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, 566-3992.

Goal of merger is to increase program efficiencies, enabling SMAC to provide more streamlined services. Grants and Stabilization program areas have typically worked together over the past years, since most of the organizations are funded and supported by both program areas. Stabilization for individuals allows staff to work closely with individual artists in the area of professional development. Stabilization would be run by Grants and Cultural Programs Coordinator and Assistant in proposed merger. While there will be some extra burden on the Grants and Cultural Programs area, the work will now be combined with enhanced consistency. Many marketing and cultural tourism initiatives are no longer run by Grants and Cultural Programs staff which has freed them to take on the Stabilization program. The GCP Committee will have approval on Stabilization matters; in order to compensate for the extra work, staff recommends moving to monthly meetings.

Motion: Park. Accept proposed merger of Arts Stabilization into Grants and Cultural Programs, expanding Stabilization to individual artists.

Second: Miller.

Vote: 9 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

Motion Carries.

6. **DISCUSSION: Proposed Mission Statements and Business Plan Update**

**Recommendation:** Receive and file.

**Contact:** Ruth Rosenberg, Stabilization Consultant and Rhyena Halpern, Executive Director, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission. 566-3992.

Rosenberg stated the work on mission and values for the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission are unfinished. Ideally, a shorter mission statement and supporting values need to be finalized in next month for inclusion in new agency brochure and 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary materials. Mission and values must be resolved before the Business Plan Process can move forward with consultant, Morrie Warshawski, in September, 2007. When completed, these statements will be tied to marketing efforts, through creation of a tag line. Halpern asked Park to work with Merksamer to tighten up the wording for the next meeting of the commission.

General Public Internet Survey deadline is extended to May 21, 2007. So far there are over 500 general public and over 100 artists' responses. Halpern said the response is a compliment to the relationships staff have with our artists and community at large.

7. **CONSIDERATION OF CANDIDATES: for 2007-2008 Commission Chairperson**

**Recommendation:** Receive and discuss candidates with selection on June 11.

**Contact:** Jan Geiger, Chair, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, 566-3992.

Geiger asked for nominations from the floor for 2007 Commission Chair.

Receiving none, Geiger nominated Linda Merksamer, who is currently the Vice-Chair for the Commission and an active commission member.

Second: Barr.

Linda Merksamer was nominated as new Commission Chair, effective July, 2007. The election will take place at the Commission Meeting on June 11, 2007. Following the election, the Chair will nominate a Vice-Chair and a commission vote will follow.

8. **DISCUSSION: Game Show Questions**

**Recommendation:** Receive and file.

**Contact:** Linda Merksamer, Vice Chair, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, 566-3992.

Linda suggested that the top ten or twelve things about SMAC be put onto an informational card.

Discussion on information-grouping resulted in the following:

- Mission, SMAC funding and governance,
- Art in Public Places
- Grants and Cultural Programs, Arts Education, Stabilization, Regranting, Poet Laureate and
- Information on Arts and Culture in the region.

This will be incorporated in forthcoming agency brochure.

9. **DISCUSSION: Involving younger people on and in Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission.**

**Recommendation:** Receive and file.

**Contact:** Margi Park, Commissioner, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, 566-3992.

This item was tabled until the next commission meeting on July, 2007.

10. **Chair's Report: River Park and Oak Park events**

**Recommendation:** Receive and file.

**Contact:** Jan Geiger, Chair, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, 566-3992.

Geiger reported that Halpern, Merksamer, Kraft, and Gorfain attended the Music of the Holocaust – Survival and Triumph concert with her. The near sell-out presentation was emotionally moving and well done. Arts Commission 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary is in planning stages and will include honoring artists, staff, electeds, and commissioners. Multiple events are in the works with committee input, by Roberta McClellan, including a possible event on Second Saturday, October 13, 2007 and an event at City Hall. River Park event was successful. Commissioners assisted in the outreach. Community outreach at Oak Park 40 Acres drew 16 participants, competing with a holiday weekend and another event at Oak Park. 40 Acres may be used again for future events.

11. **Director's Report:** Report –Agency report update, Art in Public Places Administrator and Personnel updates, California Arts Council and National Arts Advocacy.

**Recommendation:** Receive and file.

**Contact:** Rhyena Halpern, Executive Director, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, 566-3989. Halpern referred everyone to the Agency Report, rich with programmatic information. She included several articles from recent publications on regional art news.

There are three employment opportunities available as follows:

- Art in Public Places Administrator,
- Limited Term Art in Public Places Coordinator and
- Grants and Cultural Programs Coordinator

The Art in Public Places Administrator position will be posted for 10 weeks including recruiting in the following: on the web, through organizations and in printed ads in major United States cities. The other two positions will be posted for a period of 5 weeks. All of the recruiting information is up on the agency website.

**Comments – Matters Not on the Agenda**

To be announced

**Questions, Ideas, and Announcements of Commission Members**

Tachera asked that the June item on Art in Public Places (APP) Infrastructure and Survey be moved to July agenda. She will be away in June.

**The next Commission meeting will be held on June 11, 2007 will take place at 915 I Street – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Hearing Room of City Hall at 2:00 p.m.**

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 3:48 p.m.