DRAFT MINUTES
SUNNYVALE ARTS COMMISSION
DECEMBER 21, 2011

The Sunnyvale Arts Commission met in regular session in City Hall Council Chambers at 456 W. Olive Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94086 at 7 p.m. with Chair Hughes presiding.

CALL TO ORDER
Chair Hughes called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG
Chair Hughes led the salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present:	Chair Noelle Hughes Vice Chair Tracy Seto Commissioner Misuk Park Commissioner Shawtee Santos
Commissioners Absent:	Commissioner Vinita Karun (absence undetermined)
Staff Present:	Superintendent of Community Services Nancy Bolgard Steward Community Services Manager Diane Moglen Administrative Aide Karen Smith

Ms. Kita Greenberg, Bay Area Communication Access (BACA), provided interpretive services for Commissioner Seto.

Chair Hughes said that Commissioner Karun's absence would be addressed at the next meeting since there was no advance notice of her absence.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS
Chair Hughes stated she received a letter from Mayor Hamilton requesting that Board and Commission members make a brief statement of the rationale for their vote at the time the vote is taken. More informative minutes will be important and helpful to Council to know why the members voted the way they did.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

CONSENT CALENDAR

1.A. MOTION Approval of Draft Minutes of November 16, 2011, Arts Commission Meeting

MOTION: Commissioner Park moved and Commissioner Santos seconded to approve Consent Calendar Item 1.A. as presented.

VOTE: 2-2 motion failed. Chair Hughes abstained because she was absent from the November 16, 2011, meeting. Vice Chair Seto abstained. Commissioner Karun was absent.

Chair Hughes said Item 1.A. would be brought back to the next meeting.

Superintendent Steward requested that Vice Chair Seto state her reason for abstaining from the vote.

Vice Chair Seto said she did not wish to approve the minutes because a summary of the reasoning as to why the Commissioners voted to drop Study Issue LCS 12-01 "Consideration of a Veteran's Memorial Honoring Sunnyvale Veterans Who Gave Their lives in Service to the County in Afghanistan, Iraq and Vietnam Wars" was not included in the minutes. She also would like to make revisions to her comments regarding sign language interpreters in the Non-Agenda Items and Comments section.

Motion Restated:

MOTION: Commissioner Park moved and Commissioner Santos seconded to approve Consent Calendar Item 1.A. as presented.

VOTE: 2-2 motion failed. Chair Hughes abstained because she was absent from the November 16, 2011, meeting. Vice Chair Seto abstained because the reason for dropping Study Issue LCS 12-01 was not included in the minutes, and she wants to make revisions to her comments regarding sign language interpreters in the Non-Agenda Items and Comments section. Commissioner Karun was absent.

MOTION: Vice Chair Seto moved to approve Consent Calendar Item 1.A. as amended to include a brief comment on the rationale for why the Commission voted to drop Study Issue LCS 12-01.

Superintendent Steward said a statement of the requested amendment would be needed and should be included as part of the motion.

Superintendent Steward offered a suggestion that the recent Council request for including voting rationale is not necessarily something the Commission is required to add to past minutes. Council is asking that, moving forward, it is something that the Commission would do as a matter of course.

Vice Chair Seto withdrew her motion.

MOTION: Vice Chair Seto moved and Commissioner Park seconded to approve Item 1.A. as amended and stated on page 4, Non-Agenda Items and Comments, Commission Members Oral Comments:

"Acting Chair Seto thanked staff for ~~providing information about sign language interpreters at Sunnyvale Theatre.~~ sharing their guidelines on requesting sign language interpreters at Sunnyvale Community Theatre and California Theatre Center."

VOTE: 3-1 motion passed. Chair Hughes abstained because she was absent from the November 16, 2011, meeting. Commissioner Karun was absent.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS

2. Art in Private Development: Solstice Apartments/BRE Properties

Community Services Manager Moglen presented the staff report and described the proposed artwork for Solstice Apartments.

Superintendent Steward referenced criteria from the City's Art in Private Development Ordinance and the procedure for reviewing the artwork.

Mr. Kevin Ma, BRE Properties, Ms. Shawndra Cerritos, public art consultant, and Mr. Eric Powell, artist, introduced the project location, artwork proposal and location, artist's resume and work, lighting, safety and maintenance.

Commissioners' questions were answered including assurance that the artwork is flush with the walkway and does not protrude into the public sidewalk area, explanation on access to and from the outdoor courtyard area through the archway and around the ends of the steel railing, and clarification on the painted finish on the steel railing that mimics natural steel patina.

The Public Hearing was opened. There were no speakers. The Public Hearing was closed.

MOTION: Commissioner Santos moved and Commissioner Park seconded to approve the artwork as it is proposed.

The floor was opened for Commissioners' discussion.

Commissioner Santos spoke in favor of the artwork and said it will blend in well with the area. She likes the architectural and technological elements that draw on Sunnyvale's heritage.

Vice Chair Seto spoke in favor of the artwork and admired the design and fluidity of the artwork. It is a very organic application, attractive, and draws visual attention.

Commissioner Park spoke in favor of the artwork and said the criteria established for reviewing the artwork had been met. The artist has a readily apparent competence in metal work. The artwork is solid, will last and will be installed with no danger to the public. She found the artwork to be in tune with the history of Sunnyvale; the silicon chip look of the railing is appropriate and well integrated. She was worried about the scale of the artwork, but she checked dimensions and found it is very proportionate to the space. The artwork is visible to the public.

Chair Hughes said she appreciated the in-depth presentation. She also spoke in favor of the artwork and was impressed with the artist's background and the fact that he is a Bay Area native. She found the juxtaposition of antiquated versus clean modern lines interesting, and it will highlight the artwork to a greater degree. Her original concerns were about lighting, keeping the artwork clean, and the aging process; she was satisfied with what was presented and that the artist had addressed those items.

VOTE: 4-0 motion passed. Commissioner Karun was absent.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS

COMMISSION MEMBERS ORAL COMMENTS

Commissioner Park responded to Commissioner Santos' comments regarding promoting Sunnyvale arts through social media. Commissioner Park researched a name for the arts blog and found that the favored blog name was already taken. She will continue her research.

Superintendent Steward said the arts blog is a project that Commissioners Santos and Park could consider doing as individuals; it would not be a Commission or City sponsored blog. She said it should be clear that Commissioners Park and Santos are doing the blog as residents who are passionate about the arts and want to support the arts. In response to a question, Superintendent Steward said they can identify themselves as serving on the Commission, but it needs to be clear that they are doing it as individuals, not Commissioners. Commissioner Park confirmed that this would not be a Commission project and that they would be doing it as individuals.

STAFF ORAL COMMENTS

Superintendent Steward referenced the information only letters of completion of public art components. She said that there is an increase in private development activity; more projects will be coming forward to the Commission.

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

- Completion of Public Art Component: 975 and 995 Benecia Avenue
- Completion of Public Art Component: 112 and 150 E. El Camino Real (Pacific Design Group/Safeway)
- City of Sunnyvale 2011 Local Appointments List
- ARTS+ Winter 2012

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hughes adjourned the meeting at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Karen Smith
Recording Secretary
Community Services Division
Library and Community Services Department

Reviewed by:

Nancy Bolgard Steward
Superintendent of Community Services
Community Services Division
Library and Community Services Department