



**MINUTES  
SUNNYVALE ARTS COMMISSION  
OCTOBER 21, 2009**

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 Obrey presiding.

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners Present:** Chair Robert Obrey  
Commissioner Noelle Hughes  
Commissioner Tara Martin-Milius  
Commissioner Dennis (Jay) Shinseki

**Commissioners Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Assistant to the Director Cathy E. Merrill

**SCHEDULED PRESENTATION** – None

**PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS** – None

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1.A. Approval of Draft Minutes of August 19, 2009, Arts Commission Meeting

**MOTION: Commissioner Shinseki moved and Commissioner Hughes seconded to approve the Consent Calendar as amended to excuse the absence of former Arts Commissioner Lanoie-Newman based on information in staff report that Ms. Lanoie-Newman did contact Assistant to the Director Merrill in advance of the meeting.**

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously 4-0.**

**STAFF RESPONSES TO PRIOR PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None

**PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS**

2. Ranking of Study issues for 2010

Assistant to the Director Merrill gave the staff report and reviewed the background of study issue DCS 09-01 Explore Opportunities to Develop a Community Theatre Based in Downtown Sunnyvale. She noted staff's recommendation is to defer the study primarily due to its high cost and the current financial situation of the City.

Chair Obrey opened the public hearing and there being no public testimonies, closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Shinseki was struck by opportunities for partnerships and sees this as an opportunity; now is the time to promote a theater in downtown as the downtown is developed.

**MOTION: Commissioner Shinseki moved and Commissioner Martin-Milius seconded to recommend that study issue “DCS 09-01 Explore Opportunities to Develop a Community Theatre Based in Downtown Sunnyvale” be given priority to go forward to Council.**

Commissioner Hughes noted now is the best time to do this study. Sunnyvale construction is at a halt now, but people want destination points. The theater could be the heart of the new downtown. Currently, shopping is becoming less of a recreational activity.

Commissioner Martin-Milius also supports this study issue going forward. Now is a unique time to bring this forward before all the concrete and buildings are in place.

Chair Obrey also supports the study issue.

Commissioner Shinseki notes increased use of parks as folks recreate closer to home which is more reason to consider this study.

Commissioner Martin-Milius would like to see a new facility be the heart of downtown but also would like to see issues resolved at the Community Center Theatre with current and similar uses. Issues regarding sets, storage and rehearsal space could be helped with two local theaters.

Chair Obrey agrees.

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously 4-0.**

### 3. Calendar Work Plan Review

Assistant to the Director Merrill reminded Commissioners to inform her of any issues they would like to discuss so the topics can be added to the calendar work plan and agenda. She also noted if there are no agenda items for public action, she will check with the Chairperson prior to canceling a meeting.

There were no questions or comments from the Arts Commissioners.

### **NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS**

#### Commission Members Oral Comments

Chair Obrey will be leaving for Palm Springs on November 12, 2009, and will return on November 16, 2009. He will be meeting with the Public Arts Coordinator in Palm Springs on November 13, 2009, as he is interested in finding out what they do there.

Staff Oral Comments – None

### **INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS**

- Staff Liaison Report
- 2009 Local Appointments List
- Recreation Division Quarterly Report, April – June 2009
- Miscellaneous Items of Interest

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Cathy E. Merrill, Assistant to the Director  
Department of Community Services

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