



**MINUTES
SUNNYVALE ARTS COMMISSION
AUGUST 18, 2010**

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.

CALL TO ORDER/SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Chair Obrey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Chair Robert Obrey
Vice Chair Tara Martin-Milius
Commissioner Noelle Hughes
Commissioner Tracy Seto

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Assistant to the Director Cathy Merrill
Superintendent of Recreation Nancy Bolgard Steward

Cheryl Anton from Bay Area Communication Access (BACA) translated for Commissioner Seto.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1.A. Approval of Draft Minutes of July 21, 2010, Arts Commission Meeting

Chair Obrey opened the Public Hearing. There were no speakers. Chair Obrey closed the Public Hearing.

MOTION: Commissioner Hughes moved and Vice Chair Martin-Milius seconded to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

VOTE: Motion passed 3-0. Commissioner Seto abstained because she was absent from the July 21, 2010, meeting.

SCHEDULED PRESENTATION - None

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

STAFF RESPONSES TO PRIOR PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS

2. Last Chance to Propose Study Issues/Budget Issues for 2011

Assistant to the Director Merrill presented an overview of what study issues and budget issues are.

She also explained that a majority vote from the Commission is needed if the proposed study issue or budget issue from a Commission is to result in staff writing up a study issue paper.

Commissioner Hughes proposed a study issue be done to look into a multidisciplinary arts center where artists can work their craft.

She is concerned with the many young artists that fall into undesirable lifestyles due to the lack of means to pursue their craft. Commissioner Hughes suggests the use of a vacant commercial building where visual and performing artists will receive support and have the opportunity to interact and learn from artists of various backgrounds and disciplines. A designated area will also be available for visual and performing artists to exhibit and perform their work.

Commissioner Hughes suggested the City include this into the budget; however, funding should come from businesses, corporate donations and grants.

Commissioner Seto supports Commissioner Hughes' idea. She inquired if this program is geared towards children moving up in the school system and if this would be considered a type of outreach program.

Commissioner Hughes responded that this program will not necessarily be limited to an age group.

Vice Chair Martin-Milius asked if this would be called an artists' incubator.

Commissioner Hughes concurred.

Vice Chair Martin-Milius commented that this concept resembles Raynor Center where artists rent out studios at a reduced cost. She also put forward the idea of combining this program with an arts mobile program that some school jurisdictions have.

Commissioner Seto mentioned the addition of this idea is comparable to Peach Club, an after school arts program in Chicago that is sponsored by a local art gallery. Each year the art gallery admits ten children, tuition free.

Commissioner Hughes expressed that she is open to adapting her idea to the underprivileged but explained that her idea is geared more towards assisting artists with supplies and a space where they are able to express themselves. Artists would have to apply and go through an approval process. She likened the program to receiving a fellowship or having an artist in residence only it would be for artists developing their artwork.

Chair Obrey questioned how this proposed study issue becomes an official study issue.

Assistant to the Director Merrill replied.

Vice Chair Martin-Milius inquired if what the local schools provide is more of an educational program.

Superintendent of Recreation Steward concurred.

Chair Obrey opened the Public Hearing. There were no speakers. Chair Obrey closed the Public Hearing.

MOTION: Commissioner Hughes moved and Commissioner Seto seconded to approve the proposed study issue.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously 4-0.

3. General Plan Consolidation Advisory Committee Update (Commissioner Hughes)

Commissioner Hughes was unable to attend the July 29, 2010, Committee meeting. She received an email from Community Development Director Hanson Hom informing her that the Committee held its last meeting on July 29, 2010, and that staff is now working on the details of the new document.

Chair Obrey inquired what the deadline is for completion of the new document.

Assistant to the Director Merrill will get back to the Commission with a response.

4. Election of Commission Officers for FY 10/11

Chair Obrey opened the floor for nominations for FY 10/11 Chair.

Commissioner Hughes nominated herself.

Chair Obrey nominated himself.

There were no other nominations and the nominations were closed.

VOTE: 1-0 in favor of Commissioner Hughes

VOTE: 3-0 in favor of Chair Obrey

Chair Obrey was declared FY 10/11 Chair.

Chair Obrey opened the floor for nominations for FY 10/11 Vice Chair.

Vice Chair Martin-Milius nominated Commissioner Hughes who accepted the nomination.

There were no other nominations and the nominations were closed.

VOTE: 4-0

Commissioner Hughes was declared FY 10/11 Vice Chair.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS

Commission Members Oral Comments

Chair Obrey will not be able to attend the September 15, 2010, Arts Commission meeting. He requested an excused absence.

Chair Obrey questioned why the ethics training is being held in Mountain View.

Assistant to the Director Merrill explained both cities can share in the cost of employing the same consultant. Also, holding the training in Mountain View provides an opportunity for training during regular business hours.

Vice Chair Martin-Milius asked for an update on the revisions to the Arts Commission Membership Requirements that the Commission made a recommendation on at the July 21, 2010, Arts Commission meeting.

Assistant to the Director Merrill will inform the Arts Commission of City Council's final decision, which is scheduled on August 31, 2010.

Staff Oral Comments

Superintendent of Receptions Steward asked the Commissioners if they would like to see a presentation on Sunnyvale's recreation program that staff has prepared for use in public presentations.

The Commission expressed interest in the presentation. Staff will schedule the presentation at a future Arts Commission meeting.

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

- Staff Liaison Written Report
- Miscellaneous Items of Interest

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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

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