



**MINUTES
SUNNYVALE ARTS COMMISSION
APRIL 21, 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 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Chair Robert Obrey
Vice Chair Tara Martin-Milius
Commissioner Tracy Seto
Commissioner Dennis (Jay) Shinseki

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Noelle Hughes (excused)

Staff Present: Assistant to the Director Cathy Merrill
Recreation Coordinator Kristin Dance

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

CONSIDERATION OF ABSENCE

Commissioner Shinseki believed he notified the Commission of his absence in advance of the February 17 meeting. The Commission determined by general consent that Commissioner Shinseki's absence is excused.

Commissioner Hughes' absence will be considered at the next meeting.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1.A. Approval of Draft Minutes of February 17, 2010, Arts Commission Meeting

MOTION: Commissioner Seto moved and Chair Obrey seconded to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

VOTE: Motion passed 2-0. Commissioner Martin-Milius and Commissioner Shinseki abstained. Commissioner Hughes was absent.

(Note: Approval for Draft Minutes of November 18, 2009, Arts Commission Meeting was not included on the Arts Commission Agenda for April 21, 2010. Approval will be deferred to the next meeting.)

SCHEDULED PRESENTATION - None

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

STAFF RESPONSES TO PRIOR PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS

2. Art in Private Development (AIPD) – 112 & 150 E. El Camino Real (Safeway/Pacific Development Group)

Assistant to the Director Merrill introduced Recreation Coordinator Dance who gave the staff report on this item.

Commissioner Shinseki questions on the location of the artwork in relation to the site and the medium used for the artwork.

Recreation Coordinator Dance noted Safeway's representative Deborah Karbo is present and would be better able to respond.

Chair Obrey opened the public hearing.

Ms. Karbo described the project which includes the repositioning of Safeway (formerly Pak N Save) to face El Camino Real, the addition of a 24 Hour Fitness gym, and redevelopment of the site where the former Firestone building once stood.

Ms. Karbo noted their art consultant Cathy Baum recommended artist Robert Ellison for the project. Ms. Karbo explained the overall theme of the artwork takes a look at Sunnyvale and its history in relation to food. The artwork's purpose first depicts Sunnyvale's harvest from the orchard and ends with its transformation into produce that is available for purchase for consumption by consumers.

Ms. Karbo also stated the medium used by Mr. Ellison is painted steel.

Commissioner Shinseki inquired how the artwork presents the theme of taking food from the orchard to the consumer.

Ms. Karbo requested the commissioners refer to Attachment E of their packets. The art is abstract and viewing it from right to left will move its audience from the orchards, represented by clouds outlined in green, to what appears to be a vessel containing the finished product.

Chair Obrey was unclear regarding the symbol on the left side of the artwork.

Ms. Baum explained the abstract aspects of the artwork as well as the symbolism of Phase I & II.

Vice Chair Martin-Milius appreciates the artwork and liked the presentation. She feels she is able to interpret the artwork in various ways.

The Commission had no additional questions.

Chair Obrey closed the public hearing.

MOTION: Vice Chair Martin-Milius moved and Commissioner Shinseki seconded to recommend the Commission accept staff's recommendation, Alternative No. 1.

- 1. Approve the proposed Phase II artwork as it is proposed with the following condition of approval: Final lighting plans shall be reviewed and approved by the Visual Arts Coordinator prior to the installation of the artwork.**

VOTE: Motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Hughes was absent.

3. General Plan Consolidation Advisory Committee Update

Commissioner Hughes was absent and will update the Commission at the next regular scheduled meeting.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS

Commission Members Oral Comments

Commissioner Shinseki suggested the City consider artwork which celebrates the diversity of Sunnyvale's residents when the next Art in Public Construction Projects (AIPP) opportunity presents itself.

Chair Obrey attended the Euphrat Museum's Open House event. He noted the Euphrat Museum moved from its original location and is now located near the Flint Center. He was given a tour of the artwork by the Executive Director of the museum, Jan Rindfleisch. He found the artwork interesting and handed out information regarding the museum's displays to the commission members.

Chair Obrey asked the Commission if anyone will attend the Silicon Valley Arts and Business Awards (ABBYs) presented by Arts Council Silicon Valley.

Commissioner Seto expressed interest in attending the event. She asked if there will be interpretive services available. Assistant to the Director Merrill said she will get back to her with more information.

Commissioner Seto attended the Arts Council Silicon Valley and Advocacy Leadership Forum to discuss revising California's policy with a goal to improving and gaining support for the arts. She learned that at one time California received \$38 million in grants to support the arts. Today only \$1 million is available.

The Commission discussed the selling of license plates and how the proceeds from sales would generate increased revenue for the arts.

Vice Chair Martin-Milius used to be a member of the Arts Council of Monterey County where there was always a sense that the Arts Council Silicon Valley does outstanding work.

Commissioner Obrey asked the Commission if anyone will attend the Hands on the Arts (HOTS) event on May 15, 2010. He mentioned he volunteers for the event regularly and uses this time to hand out information on the City's programs to attendees.

Staff Oral Comments – None

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

- Staff Liaison Written Report
- Approval Letter, Art in Private Development (AIPD) – Pacific Development/ECR & Sunnyvale-Saratoga Ave, 112 E. El Camino Real
- Recreation Division Quarterly Report, September – December 2009
- Recreation Leaflet, Summer Arts Camps
- Miscellaneous Items of Interest

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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

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