



AUSTIN ARTS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Monday, July 21, 2008 – 5:30pm

City Hall Council Chambers RM 1001

301 W. 2nd Street, Austin, Texas

MINUTES

The Arts Commission convened in a regular meeting on Monday, July 21, 2008 at Austin City Hall Council Chambers Room 1001, 301 W. 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Pennington called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Commissioners in Attendance: Gloria Mata Pennington, Bruce Willenzik, Brett Barnes, Pamela Cunningham, and Sue Graze

City staff in Attendance: Taja Beekley, Megan Crigger and Vincent Kitch

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 16, 2008
The minutes were approved upon consent.

B. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Donna Wetegrove provided a follow-up report on TIPS on Art's visit to Vancouver and Seattle to meet with contacts from the 2008 Creative Construct Symposium they received Special Opportunities Funding to attend. TIPS on Art is interested in developing arts facilities.

C. CHAIR'S REPORT

1. Update on Arts Activities
Chair Pennington appointed upon consent Commissioner Barnes to serve as an interviewer for applicants seeking to serve on the Art in Public Places Panel. In addition, Chair Pennington appointed upon consent Commissioner Cunningham and Willenzik to the Funding Subcommittee.

Chair Pennington recommended Commissioner Canann's artwork to Sylvia Orozco, who was curating a miniature art exhibit to send to Saltillo, Austin's International Sister City. She announced one of Commissioner Canaan's piece was selected and will be one of thirty-nine to be on exhibit for a month with an opening this Friday.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion and Action Items

- a. Approve Final Design for 2nd Street District Streetscape Improvement Project

The final design for 2nd Street District Streetscape Improvement Project was approved on first motion by Commissioner Barnes and on second by Commissioner Willenzik with a 5-0 vote.

- b. Approve Selection Process for the Northwest Recreation Center Art in Public Places Project

The selection process for the Northwest Recreation Center Art in Public Places Project was approved on first motion by Commissioner Graze and on second by Commissioner Cunningham with a 5-0 vote.

- c. Approve artists recommended for Temporary Outdoor Art in Public Places Project

The artists recommended for the Temporary Outdoor Art in Public Places Project for the 2009 Texas Biennial were approved on first motion by Commissioner Barnes and on second by Commissioner Willenzik with a 5-0 vote.

- d. Approve artist and alternate recommended for the Municipal Court / APD Substation Art in Public Places Project

The artist and alternate recommended for the Municipal Court / APD Substation Art in Public Places Project were approved on first motion by Commissioner Cunningham and on second by Commissioner Barnes with a 5-0 vote.

- e. Approve Connie Arismendi for signage and biographical marker for the Degollado Pavilion as part of the Trail of Tejano Legends Project

Artist Connie Arismendi for the development of signage and biographical marker for the Degollado Pavilion as part of the Trail of Tejano Legends Project was approved on first motion by Commissioner Willenzik and on second by Commissioner Cunningham with a 5-0 vote.

- f. Approve artist and alternate for Dittmar Recreation Art in Public Places Project

The artist and alternate for the Dittmar Recreation Center Art in Public Places Project were approved on first motion by Commissioner Graze and on second by Commissioner Barnes with a 5-0 vote.

- g. Approve additional selection panelists for Public Safety Training Facility (formerly known as Joint Public Safety Training Facility)

The additional selection panelists for the Public Safety Training Facility Project were approved on first motion by Commissioner Cunningham and on second motion by Commission Barnes with a 5-0 vote.

- h. Approve Auxiliary Program Application Recommendations
08 SO 30 SP, Serie Project/Michael Rowland
08 CI 16, HBMG Foundation

The Auxiliary Program Application recommendations were approved on first motion by Commissioner Willenzik and on second by Commissioner Barnes with a 5-0 vote.

- i. Election of Arts Commission Officers for 2008-2009
The Commissioners voted to elect Commissioner Pennington to serve another term as Chair with a 5-0 vote and Commissioner Willenzik to serve as Vice-Chair with a 3-2 vote.

E. STAFF REPORTS

1. Cultural Arts Division Update

Vincent Kitch, Cultural Arts Program Manager reported the Cultural Funding Review Panels have been completed. There were 215 individuals, who attended the panels. Cultural Arts Division staff are now working to complete the funding matrix, which the Arts Commission will adopt at next month's regular meeting. Staff are also looking at changes and modification to the Cultural Funding guidelines. This month the Cultural Arts Division launched its first e-newsletter, highlighting the series of technical and public art workshops. There has been a great response for the fundraising and grant writing workshops. Vincent Kitch commented on the variety of marketing and community outreach efforts for the workshops.

Chair Pennington praised the e-newsletter and requested a recurring section on the activities of the Arts Commission such as what items they approved.

F. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Commissioner Graze commented on the hard work of the Art in Public Places Panel and its support staff.

Chair Pennington asked for information on the appointment of new Commissioners. Vincent Kitch explained that the terms for two members of the Arts Commission will expire at the end of July. According to the adopted ordinance, Commissioners can serve up to 60 days until City Council appoints a new Commissioner or reappoints the current Commissioner.

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Commissioner Willenzik reported that while in Washington, DC he visited the Smithsonian Institute hosting a month long Folk Life Festival on the mall, which featured Texas music, predominantly Austin based. Rose Reyes with the Austin Convention and Visitor's Bureau did a wonderful job working with the Smithsonian Institute.

Commissioner Graze reported on the Art House at the Jones Center is holding their annual exhibition on New American Talent.

Commissioner Barnes announced that Conspirare embarked to Denmark this week to attend the Eighth World Symposium on Choral Music. They were the only American choir invited. A new CD will be released soon. Chair Pennington congratulated Commissioner Barnes' performance at the inauguration of Austin City Council.

G. ADJOURNMENT

Chair adjourned the regular meeting at 6:23pm.