



AUSTIN ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES
Regular Meeting – Monday, November 16, 2015, 5:30 P.M.
Austin City Hall, Executive Session Room, Rm 1027
301 W. 2nd Street, Austin, Texas

Commissioners in attendance: Jaime Castillo, Jennifer Chenoweth, Lulu Flores, Alissa McCain, Amy Wong Mok, Michelle Polgar, Liz White, Bruce Willenzik

Staff in attendance: Sylvania Holt-Rabb, Meghan Wells, Jesus Pantel, Lani Gonzalez, Anne-Marie McKaskle, Janet Seibert, Anna Bradley

CALL TO ORDER –

Chair Flores called the meeting to order at 5:37 PM

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Approve the minutes of the Special-Called Meeting on November 1, 2015
Minutes approved.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Andrew Gill, Pease Park Conservancy – Art in the Park

3. CHAIR’S REPORT

Chair Flores reported on the interviews with cultural arts program manager, the 30th Anniversary party for the Art in Public Places program, and East Austin Studio Tour including Fisterra Studios and Victory Grill.

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- a. Michelle Clemons, Economic Development Department - Report on FY2016 City budget process and how it affects cultural arts programs
- b. Janet Seibert, Economic Development Department – Building Austin’s Creative Capacity recommendations
- c. John Riedie, Austin Creative Alliance – Austin Creative Trust

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion and Action Items
 - i. Approve Community Initiatives Funding Recommendations
16 CI 18 SP, Salvage Vanguard Theatre/Jarrett King
16 CI 19 SP, Jewish Community Association of Austin /Jewish Film Festival
16 CI 20 SP, TILT Performance Group
16 CI 21 SP, Women and Their Work/Carissa Green
16 CI 22 SP, Austin Creative Alliance/Love North Austin

Motion: to divide the question and vote on 16 CI 21 SP separately

Made by: Castillo Seconded: Polgar
Vote Called: 8-0, Commissioners Stillwell and Taormina absent, Commissioner Mok off the dais

Motion: to approve the Community Initiatives Funding Recommendations for 16 CI 18 SP, 16 CI 19 SP, 16 CI 20 SP, 16 CI 22 SP

Made by: Barnes Seconded: Chenoweth

Vote Called: approved 8-0, Commissioners Stillwell and Taormina absent, Commissioner Mok off the dais

Motion: to approve the Community Initiatives Funding Recommendation for 16 CI 21 SP

Made by: Castillo Seconded: Willenzik

No vote taken.

Motion: to table the recommendation for 16 CI 21 SP until the December meeting, so that staff can talk to applicant to address concerns with the application

Made by: Willenzik Seconded: Mok

Vote Called: approved 9-0, Commissioners Stillwell and Taormina absent

ii. Approve List of Potential FY 2016 Capacity Building Program Peer Review Panelists

Motion: to approve the list of potential FY 2016 Capacity Building Program peer review panelists

Made by: Mok Seconded: Castillo

Vote Called: approved 9-0, Commissioners Stillwell and Taormina absent

iii. Approve List of Potential FY 2016 Cultural Heritage Festivals Program Round II Peer Review Panelists

Motion: to approve the list of potential FY 2016 Cultural Heritage Festivals Program Round II peer review panelists

Made by: Barnes Seconded: Polgar

Vote Called: approved 9-0, Commissioners Stillwell and Taormina absent

iv. Approve the Selection Process Recommendation for the Republic Square Park Phase II Improvements Art in Public Places Project

Motion: to approve the selection process recommendation for the Republic Square Park Phase II Improvements Art in Public Places Project

Made by: Barnes Seconded: Mok

Vote Called: approved 7-2, Commissioners Mok, Polgar, White, Barnes, McCain, Chenoweth, Castillo for; Commissioners Willenzik and Flores against; Commissioners Stillwell and Taormina absent

v. Adopt a 2016 Meeting Schedule

Motion: to adopt a 2016 Meeting Schedule

Made by: Mok Seconded: Barnes

Vote Called: approved 9-0, Commissioners Stillwell and Taormina absent

Motion: to hold two meetings per year outside District 9

Made by: Chenoweth Seconded: Barnes

Vote Called: approved 9-0, Commissioners Stillwell and Taormina absent

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS

Assistant Director Sylvania Holt-Rabb and Art in Public Places Administrator Meghan Wells gave updates on Cultural Arts Division activities.

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- a. Vice Chair Chenoweth reported that she has resigned as the Executive Director of Generous Art.
- b. Commissioner Mok reported on the Austin Asian American Film Festival.
- c. Commissioner Castillo gave information about an ongoing conversation within the community about the use of the Carver Museum and Cultural Center and whether African-American organizations should have priority access to that facility.
- d. Commissioner Willenzik gave information about Armadillo Christmas Bazaar.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Discuss co-hosting a Creative Summit with the Music Commission & Austin Creative Alliance – “Designing a Plan for a Unified Infrastructure” on Jan 20, 2016
- b. Report by the Affordability Working Group
- c. Discuss whether cultural preference is given to organizations when reserving space at City facilities.

ADJOURNMENT –

Chair Flores adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.