

**Public Arts Commission
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA**



**MINUTES
Regular Meeting**

Wednesday, September 7, 2016
Palm Springs City Hall • 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way
Large Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Chair Sheffer; Introductions were made for new incoming commissioner, Melanie Brenner.

ROLL CALL:

	Present <u>This Meeting</u>	Present <u>to Date</u>	FY 2016/2017 <u>Excused Absences</u>	FY 2016/2017 <u>Unexcused Absences</u>
Melanie Brenner	x	1		
Joshua Edmundson	x	1		
Mara Gladstone	x	1		
Alfonso Murray	x	1		
Bonnie Ruttan	x	1		
Ann Sheffer, Chair	x	1		
Thomas Yann, Vice Chair			x	

ALSO PRESENT: Lauri Aylaian, Director of Community & Economic Development
Jennifer Henning, Arts and Special Projects Coordinator

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

MOTION: by Commissioner Edmundson, second by Commissioner Gladstone, to approve Public Arts Commission Agenda for September 7, 2016; unanimously carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

After a brief explanation for Commissioner Gladstone as to the order of the items in the Minutes, there was no Motion made to approve the June 9, 2016 Minutes; the June 9, 2016 Minutes will be approved at the October 13, 2016 meeting.

A. PRESENTATIONS

1. None

B. NEW BUSINESS

2. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair for 2016-17 Term
RECOMMENDATION: Direct Staff as Appropriate

Nominations for Chair: Commissioner Gladstone nominated Chair, Ann Sheffer; Second by Commissioner Brenner; there were no other nominations; unanimously carried

Nominations for Vice Chair: Commissioner Ruttan nominated Vice Chair, Thomas Yanni; Second by Chair Sheffer; there were no other nominations; unanimously carried

3. 2016-17 Public Arts Budget Review
Presentation Regarding Approved Funding Allocations
RECOMMENDATION: Receive Report from Director

Lauri Aylaian, Director, reported that the public art budget as presented to the commission today has been approved by City Council for the current fiscal year 2016-17.

Chair Sheffer – would like to hold another project priorities planning session.

Transgender Day of Remembrance Sculpture – All requirements of the Public Arts Commission have been met; as the project moves forward they will return to the arts commission if further approval(s) are needed.

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4. Public Arts Event Proposal: *Desert X: Desert Exhibition of Art*
Susan Davis, Founder & President, Desert Biennial / Editorial Director
The Annenberg Retreat at Sunnylands
RECOMMENDATION: Consider Project Partnership and Approval of Funding

Event proposal to the City of Palm Springs is attached hereto and made part of the meeting record.

Chair Sheffer – requested report and recommendation from the Desert X subcommittee.

Commissioner Gladstone – very excited about the caliber of artists that Desert X would bring to the City, including, an installation by world-renowned artist Jimmie Durham to be installed at the James O. Jessie Desert Highland Community Center. The subcommittee recommends funding the full amount requested – there are many ways this art project would be leveraged over the course of a year. This artist is exhibiting on both the east and west coasts. Good opportunity for community engagement.

Commissioner Murray – Interested in the response from the James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center to this artist; Ms. Davis advised they are interested in the project; they have just started the process of going to community meetings; they seem very enthusiastic.

Elizabeta Betinski – Jimmie Durham is an older gentleman and frail; may not be possible to engage him personally, but they will certainly try to have him come out to the Coachella Valley.

Commissioner Ruttan – since this is a Native American artist, will the Tribe be involved? Desert X has not had confirmation from the Aqua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians; Desert X believes they will engage in a very significant way.

Lauri Aylaian – reminder that the approved budget identifies \$10,000 for Desert X.

Jennifer Henning – should any part of the funding be used for construction/installation, it could trigger prevailing wage law; Ms. Aylaian explained prevailing wage law for the benefit of the commission. We will need to check with the City Attorney regarding the funding and what our obligations would be.

MOTION: by Commissioner Gladstone, second by Commissioner Edmundson, to approve funding in the amount of \$25,000 towards Desert X for their upcoming exhibition in Palm Springs; unanimously carried

Commissioner Murray – would like to know what will happen if the Desert Highland community would like to have an African American artist for the project at Desert Highland Unity Center; Ms. Davis explained that the artists for this exhibition have already been identified. The curator of the exhibit will be at the next community meeting and can answer any questions the community may have.

Jennifer Henning – this item will now go before City Council to seek approval of expenditure of funds.

5. Assignment of Subcommittees and Members

RECOMMENDATION: Direct Staff as Appropriate

MOTION: by Commissioner Brenner, second by Commissioner Murray, to approve the new list of subcommittees as submitted today with seven (7) Subcommittees and seven (7) Chairs, but also include the Bridge Subcommittee and we will leave the subcommittee members to be determined next month; unanimously carried

6. Community Outreach and Publicity – 2016-17 Programming

RECOMMENDATION: Direct Staff as Appropriate

1) 18th Annual Juried Art Show: Review 2017 Show and Theme Idea

The prospectus is currently being developed. Dr. Nash, formerly of the Palm Springs Art Museum, has been selected to jury the 2017 art show. Commissioner Ruttan explained the theme for the show, *Desert A-Z*, and gave a brief explanation for new Commissioner Brenner; the 2017 show will run concurrently with Desert X. The show will run from February 3, 2017 to February 25, 2017.

2) Photography Class Update and Scheduling

Commissioner Murray – reported that students are currently being recruited; will have more information at the next meeting; hoping to be ready by the end of October.

7. Hunt Family Totem Pole Restoration Project. Restoration Project Update

RECOMMENDATION: Receive Verbal Staff Update

Staff reported that the installation went very well; need to confirm a date for the rededication; students from Vista Del Monte Elementary School will participate in the event. At the end of this project a book will be created documenting the restoration process.

Lauri Aylaian – advised waiting until the rededication is complete to finalize the publication; should include photos from the rededication ceremony.

Chair Sheffer – would like to have a brochure available for the rededication. Commissioner Brenner volunteered to work with Commissioner Edmundson and staff. Chair Sheffer would like for the commissioners to meet with staff within a couple of weeks. Commissioner Brenner will meet with The Studio to get a quote (on brochure) and will bring this for a vote at the next meeting.

8. **Public Art Sculpture Relocation and Maintenance**
Report on Sculpture Installations and Possible Reinstallation Site at Palm Springs International Airport; Male Figure of Balzac.
RECOMMENDATION: Receive Verbal Staff Update

Ms. Henning – reported that the Hunt Family Totem Pole has been reinstalled at Victoria Park. Currently working on installing the sculpture Male Figure of Balzac at the airport (photos were shown of the installation site). Staff also reported that there is an installation pad available at the front of the building to the airport entrance.

Chair Sheffer requested that the Sites and Installations subcommittee meet to review inventory of art pieces that may be ready for reinstallation.

D. LEGISLATIVE:

9. None

E. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

10. Special Projects Report by Chair Sheffer - None

REPORTS OF DIRECTOR/STAFF: Bureau of Tourism Public Art App Update: Staff has met with the Bureau of Tourism; they have received the art inventory list and the locations of installation. The cost has still not been determined on adding this function to the Bureau's app.

Lauri Aylaian – it has been great working with the Commission. Looking forward to see how projects come to fruition.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/REPORTS/REQUESTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: The Public Arts Commission adjourned at 2:15 p.m. to a Regular Meeting, Thursday, October 13, 2016, at 2:00 p.m., Palm Springs City Hall, Large Conference Room, 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, California. Adjournment unanimously approved by a Motion of the City of Palm Springs Public Arts Commission this 7th Day of September, 2016; unanimously carried.



Paula Jean Sweat
Economic Development Program Assistant