

Public Arts Commission
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

APPROVED



MINUTES
Regular Meeting

Thursday, February 9, 2017
Palm Springs City Hall • 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way
Large Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM by Chair Sheffer

ROLL CALL:

	Present This Meeting	Present to Date	FY 2016/2017 Excused Absences	FY 2016/2017 Unexcused Absences
Melanie Brenner	x	5	1	
Mara Gladstone	x	6		
Alfonso Murray	x	6		
Bonnie Ruttan	x	6		
Ann Sheffer, Chair	x	6		
Thomas Yanni, Vice Chair	x	5	1	

ALSO PRESENT: Robert Moon, Mayor
Jennifer Henning, Arts and Special Projects Coordinator

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

MOTION: by Vice Chair Yanni, second by Commissioner Brenner, to approve Public Arts Commission Agenda for February 9, 2017; unanimously carried, 5/0

Commissioner Gladstone Arrived at 2:02

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Robert Moon, Mayor

The Arts Commission is doing an amazing job; there are many talented people on the fifteen City of Palm Springs' Boards and Commissions; if someone has not served on a board or commission they do not know how much work and time it entails.

- The work accomplished by the Commission and Ms. Henning on the 18th Annual Juried Art Show is extraordinary; it is a wonderful show, "the devil is in the details" so I know it was a lot of work.

- Desert X will bring a lot of people to the area; it will be a new venue for art, especially in Palm Springs; they are working hard on getting the windmill blade installed at the Palm Springs Art Museum.
- Had the pleasure of serving on the Board for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration; was very impressed because I only mentioned a possible student art competition and Mr. Alfonso Murray (Public Arts Commissioner) ran with it; between Commissioner Murray and Ms. Henning it was a wonderful student art exhibition; thank you to the commission for funding the student's awards.
- The installation of the refurbished Hunt Family Totem Pole at Victoria Park looks tremendous.
- Mayor Moon thanked the commission for their \$50,000 contribution to the Palm Springs Art Museum; Free Thursdays are made possible by this funding; Thursdays are always "packed" at the museum.

Commissioner Murray – thanked Mayor Moon for his support.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: by Vice Chair Yanni, second by Commissioner Ruttan, to approve Regular Meeting Minutes of January 12, 2017;

Chair Sheffer – some of the projects discussed at the January 12, 2017 meeting turned out not to be happening (e.g., a particular project for Desert X); January 12, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes approved unanimously 6/0

A. PRESENTATIONS

1. Desert X: Desert Exhibition of Art
Public Arts Event Update Regarding Palm Springs Art Installation Sites
Presenter: Susan Davis, Founder & President, Desert Biennial/Editorial Director, The Annenberg Retreat at Sunnylands

Susan Davis, Founder & President – Did not attend today's meeting

Marianne Falk, Managing Director, Desert X, Presented

- There are five artists (including others listed) whose art will be in Palm Springs out of eighteen artists in the show; it is the largest concentration of artwork in any of the desert cities:
 - Jeffrey Gibson, Windmill Blade, Palm Springs Art Museum
 - Doug Akin, Mirage (mirrored house), Desert Palisades
 - Jennifer Bolande, series of billboards on Gene Autry Trail, between Vista Chino and I-10
 - Rob Pruitt, performance art, Flea Market, Palm Springs Art Museum
 - Juliao Sarmiento, performance art, Desert Lodge Motel
 - Gabriel Kuri, will have a piece in a storefront on North Palm Canyon
 - Norma Jean's "Shybot" – could also be in the area

Desert X "home base" will be at the Ace Hotel clubhouse during the nine week exhibition; there will be buses available to the installation sites on Saturdays and Sundays; merchandise, maps and books will be available, artists will also be there as well as docents.

Commissioner Murray – how does this benefit arts and culture as it relates to the economics of our community, diversifying, the economy, creating jobs? Where is Desert X on that beyond the end date, and, how does this connect us in terms of social connections and engaging the community?

Ms. Falk – This will fall into some of the public events that will take place; there will be symposiums with the Palm Springs Art Museum; there will be a lot of different “talks” that would potentially be community building and informative. There will also be other events outside of the lectures.

Chair Sheffer – would like the commission to be kept “in the loop” on pieces going into Palm Springs even with PS Resorts as the sponsor. The City will look to the Public Arts Commission, should an issue come up, if the commission knew about it and the requirements that need to be met.

Commissioner Gladstone – Jeffrey Gibson is very actively engaged in the aesthetics and infrastructure of our region; his work with the windmill blade is very interesting. Rob Pruitt is a local artist, he has a residence and lives here part-time, his project is very much about community, and representing the creative community of Palm Springs. His project at the Palm Springs Art Museum is a representation of high art, pop art, popular visual and design culture.

Commissioner Brenner – this is great information to know; someone had spoken to Commissioner Brenner regarding information that Palm Springs was not going to have a Desert X installation.

Commissioner Ruttan – has a concern regarding the commission’s liability, or issue coming back to us as the commission did not approve any of the pieces; this should not reflect on the commission; very supportive of this exhibition.

Ms. Falk will create a one-page document which includes the artists, installations and performances going on in Palm Springs during the Desert X exhibition.

Commissioner Gladstone – The Palm Springs Art Museum is hosting an open event to celebrate the museum’s partnership with Desert X on Friday, February 17, 5:00-8:00 PM; the lobby area where the party will take place is free to the public; admission to the museum on Friday is \$5.00 after 5:00 PM.

B. NEW BUSINESS

2. None

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3. Community Outreach and Publicity – 2016-17 Programming
1) Update: 18th Annual Juried Art Show – February 3-25, 2017; 2) Review upcoming outreach events schedule.

RECOMMENDATION: Receive verbal subcommittee report and Staff update

Commissioner Ruttan – two pieces of artwork have been sold in the show; if anyone is interested in purchasing a piece during the exhibit, the sale is strictly between the artist and the purchaser. Information on all pieces can be found at the desk at the Desert Art Center. There is a ballot box for patrons to vote on their favorite piece, the ballots will be tallied at the end of the show and the People’s Choice award will be given to the artist with the highest number of votes. It was an honor to be juried by Dr. Nash; the opening reception was highly successful; kudos to Ms. Henning for all the work put into the exhibit.

Ms. Henning – The first “Art for Kids Day” will take place on Sunday, February 12, 1:00-4:00 PM. Desert Art Center is sponsoring this event; will raise awareness and money for the Desert Art Center’s educational outreach programs. Location: 550 N. Palm Canyon Drive.

The Art Show Staffing Schedule was finalized:

2017 PAC ARTSHOW STAFFING SCHEDULE					
155 North Palm Canyon Drive					
SHIFTS	DATE	DAY	SHIFT TIME	HOURS	VOLUNTEER
1	2/3/2017	FRI	5:00pm - 9:00pm	3	Opening Reception
2	2/4/2017	SAT	10:00am - 4:00pm	6	Bonnie Ruttan
3	2/5/2017	SUN	10:00am - 4:00pm	6	
4	2/11/2017	SAT	10:00am - 4:00pm	6	1-4 YANNI
5	2/12/2017	SUN	10:00am - 4:00pm	6	Chair Sheffer
6	2/18/2017	SAT	10:00am - 4:00pm	6	Mel B 10-12
7	2/19/2017	SUN	10:00am - 4:00pm	6	AC Murray 10-12
8	2/20/2017	MON	10:00am - 4:00pm	6	Mel B. 1 10-1
9	2/25/2017	SAT	10:00am - 4:00pm	6	
	2/25/2017	SAT	4:00pm - 8:00pm	4	Artwork Pick-up - Jen Henning
	2/26/2017	SUN	10:00am - 2:00pm	4	Artwork Pick-up - Bonnie Ruttan / Al Murray
			TOTAL HOURS	59	

Ms. Henning – the 4th Annual Family Fun Fest will be taking place on Wednesday, April 12, 2017, from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM at the Palm Springs Stadium. The event is free for the public to attend.

The Public Arts Commission has participated in this event each year; there will be a booth with art activities for all the kids, the public art map is available, as well as other collateral and educational materials.

MOTION: by Commissioner Brenner, second by Commissioner Gladstone, that we are participants in the Family Fun Fest Day on April 12; unanimously carried 6/0

Martin Luther King Jr., "Excellence In Art" – This exhibit will be on display at the Palm Springs Public Library from January 17 – February 11.

A request has been made that the commission consider moving the MLK exhibition to Palm Springs City Hall after it closes at the Library; the exhibit would be on display in the City Hall lobby; Ms. Henning will work on details and finalizing installation of the exhibit.

MOTION: by Chair Sheffer, second by Vice Chair Yanni, to request that the Martin Luther King, Jr., "Excellence In Art" student exhibition be displayed at City Hall from about February 13 to the end of the month; get approval and have Ms. Henning complete the installation; unanimously carried 6/0

There has been a request from Cathedral City Public Arts Commissioner, Tim Parrott, to lend/give them the exhibit to display; it would be up to the school district to make that determination; Ms. Henning has met with Louisa Castrodale who approved the exhibit to be on display at Palm Springs City Hall until about March 1st. It was suggested to plan for the exhibit to move to other locations next year.

The 2016-17 Event Schedule:

ADD EVENT: March 16, 2017
Labyrinth Walk
Palm Springs Art Museum



Public Arts Commission
2016-17 Event Schedule
WORKING DRAFT

December 2016

- 25 December: Christmas Holiday Observed - City Hall closed

January 2017

- 2 January: New Year's Day Holiday Observed - City Hall closed
- 12 January: Martin Luther King, Jr. "Excellence in Art" Student Exhibition Artwork pick-up from all PSUSD High Schools
- 13 January: Martin Luther King, Jr. "Excellence in Art" Student Exhibition: Jurying of artwork and exhibition preparation
- 14 January: Martin Luther King, Jr. "Excellence in Art" Student Exhibition Exhibition installation and preparation
- 15 January: Martin Luther King, Jr. "Excellence in Art" Student Exhibition: Opening Reception and Awards Presentation
- 16 January: Martin Luther King Jr. Day - City Hall closed
- 17 January - 11 February: Martin Luther King, Jr. "Excellence in Art" Student Exhibition: Exhibition Installation at Palm Springs Library
- 30 January: 18th Annual Juried Art Show Artwork Drop Off
- 31 January: 18th Annual Juried Art Show: Artwork Jurying

February 2017

- 1 February: 18th Annual Juried Art Show: Non-accepted artwork pick up
- 1-3 February: 18th Annual Juried Art Show Installation/Set-up
- 3 February: 18th Annual Juried Art Show Reception
- 11 February: Martin Luther King, Jr. "Excellence in Art" Student Exhibition Closes at Palm Springs Library
- 12 February: Art for Kids Day - Desert Art Center
- 13 February: Martin Luther King, Jr. "Excellence in Art" Student Exhibition on Display at City Hall - (TBD)
- 20 February: Presidents Day Holiday - City Hall closed
- 16-26 February: Modernism Week
- 25 February: 18th Annual Juried Art Show Closes
- 25 February: Desert X - Exhibition Opens, ongoing thru 30 April
- 26 February: 18th Annual Juried Art Show: Artwork pick up

March 2017

- 1 March: Martin Luther King, Jr. Student Exhibition: Art Work return, at district schools PSUSD
- 2 March: Photography Workshop with PSUSD, "Portraits of a City"
- 8 March: Public Outreach for "Portraits of a City" program
- 24 March: Cesar Chavez "Excellence in Art" Student Exhibition: Artwork pick-up from all PSUSD High Schools
- 25 March: Cesar Chavez "Excellence in Art" Student Exhibition: Jurying of artwork and exhibition preparation
- 27 March: Cesar Chavez "Excellence in Art" Student Exhibition: Exhibition installation and preparation
- 31 March: "Excellence in Art" Student Exhibition: Awards Presentation location TBD

April 2017

- 5 April: Public Outreach for "Portraits of a City" program
- 12 April: Family Fun Fest Event, Palm Springs Stadium
- 30 April: Desert X - Exhibition Closes
- TBD: "Portraits of a City" Photography Workshop Exhibition / Reception

June 2017

- TBD: Continued, "Portraits of a City" Photography Workshop Exhibition

Review upcoming outreach events schedule

Commissioner Murray – requested that the Labyrinth Walk at the Palm Springs Art Museum, March 16th be placed on the event schedule.

Commissioner Gladstone – Regarding marketing of the Labyrinth event; not sure what they can do within the museum operations at this point; social media is always the best opportunity [marketing] for this kind of thing.

Chair Sheffer – would like to commission, and pay for, a permanent sign at the museum stating that Thursday nights are free due to funding from the City of Palm Springs Public Arts Commission; the sign could indicate what event is taking place on any Thursday evening.

Commissioner Gladstone – would like to find out if we can get something placed on the admissions monitor inside the museum.

4. Education Outreach – 2017 Programming

1) Discuss Spring Student Art Competition and Exhibition: jurying dates, show location and reception; 2) Review dates and program topic for the next art demonstration at Palm Springs Art Museum.

RECOMMENDATION: Receive verbal subcommittee report and Staff update



*Cesar Chavez
"Excellence In Art" Student Art Competition
Student Art Competition and Exhibition*

City of Palm Springs Public Arts Commission
High School Arts Competition
March 27-April 28, 2017

"Excellence In Art" Student Art Competition
The Palm Springs Public Arts Commission is partnered with the Palm Springs Unified School District in asking High School students to participate in the first Annual Cesar Chavez "Excellence In Art" Student Art Competition.

"Excellence In Art" is a special exhibition providing an opportunity for area High School students to reflect upon Cesar Chavez's life, philosophy and impact on the Civil Rights and Labor movements in present day America. The contest is designed to challenge students to think about civil rights and democracy, and how they can overcome the work of Mr. Chavez in their own way.

Students in grades 9-12 are invited to create and submit one (1) original artwork per student, in a medium of their choosing.

Excellence In Art projects include: further the conversation, through art which responds to the words and philosophy used by Mr. Chavez's work. Through creative expression, the logistical relationships that emerge from the constructive dialogue will affirm the role of art in engaging and realizing a more equitable society and the positive impact that Mr. Chavez's life has had on present day America.

All student entries are required to be accompanied by an artist's statement and official completed entry form.

AWARDS PRESENTATION
Opening reception and awards presentation
Friday, March 31, 2017
3:05-5:15 PM
TBD

Palm Springs, CA 92262

All students, families, friends, teachers and school administrators are invited. The awards presentation will begin at 3:45.

Ms. Henning – there was an overwhelming response to the Martin Luther King, Jr., "Excellence In Art" Student Art Competition, not only from the school district, but throughout the community and other arts commissions.

Because of the success of the show there will be a new competition in celebration of Cesar Chavez; the prospectus will be going out to the Palm Springs Unified School District tomorrow, February 10. Have not heard back from the Library if space will be available for this exhibit; awards may be held at the Palm Springs High School Auditorium.

Chair Sheffer – would like to check the possibility of the exhibit being on display at the Palm Springs High School Auditorium.

Commissioner Ruttan – the Library may be the best space for the exhibit due to hours of operation and accessibility to the public.

Commissioner Gladstone – should create a model for this art competition for future exhibits.

MOTION: by Commissioner Brenner, second by Commissioner Murray, that the Commission move forward with the Cesar Chavez "Excellence In Art" Student Art Competition with Ms. Henning continuing to work with the school district on the best place for exhibition and the event; unanimously carried, 6/0

MOTION: by Commissioner Gladstone, second by Vice Chair Yanni, to support the Palm Springs Public Arts Commission's partnership with the Palm Springs Unified School District for the First Annual Cesar Chavez "Excellence In Art" Student Art Competition and to support the logistical set-up as well as the monetary awards; unanimously carried, 6/0

Commissioner Murray – is still in planning stage for the Labyrinth Walk at the Palm Springs Art Museum on Thursday, March 16.

Ms. Henning – met with Louisa Castrodale today to work on details for the upcoming photography program at Palm Springs High School "Portraits of the City":

A photography artist-in-residency that aims to capture the humanity of the people of the City of Palm Springs. Advanced art students will be taught the basics of quality photography, specifically black and white portraiture. They will also learn about the conceptual nature of this project and how they can shape their images to tell the story...that in a dark time in place in our country's history, we are going to see people clearly and in all their glory...and we are going to love and embrace all, thereby celebrating both diversity and unity. The artistic team will seek to photograph people of all ages, sizes, color and walks of life...not just the "beautiful" ones...we will seek to find beauty in all of our subjects.

The program will take place over seven sessions at Palm Springs High School; at the end of the class there will be an exhibition of the photography; possible venues for the exhibition include a city location, Palm Springs High School Auditorium, UCR/Palm Desert. Each student will have one photo that will be selected and presented as part of the exhibit and the students will jury the exhibit. A field trip for the students will be scheduled in May.

5. Assignment of Subcommittees and Members
RECOMMENDATION: Direct Staff as Appropriate

Chair Sheffer – the subcommittee positions that past commissioner Edmundson filled are now vacant. They include the Fund-raising/Partnerships and Sites & Installations subcommittees.

MOTION: by Chair Sheffer, second by Commissioner Brenner to appoint:

- Commissioner Yanni – volunteered to Chair the Sites & Installations subcommittee.
- Commissioner Brenner – volunteered to fill the vacancy on Fund-raising/Partnerships.
- Chair Sheffer – volunteered to fill the vacancy on the Sites & Installations subcommittee.

Unanimously carried; 6/0

D. LEGISLATIVE

6. None

E. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

7. Bridge Projects
Update on Informational Open House for the South Palm Canyon Bridge at Tahquitz Creek Channel.

Commissioner Ruttan – reported that the scheduled community meeting to be held February 13 was cancelled due to a CVAG scheduled meeting on the CV Link.

8. Budget/Grants Committee
Update on 2016-17 Public Arts Fund Budget Expenditures

Budget/Grants Subcommittee – Commissioner Yanni reported on various commission expenses to-date; the commission received a hardcopy of the breakdown of accounts/expenditures. There was a brief discussion; no legislative action was taken.

Commissioner Yanni – would like the Sites & Installations subcommittee to report at the next meeting.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/REPORTS/REQUESTS:

Commissioner Ruttan – my term as a commissioner will be ending with this fiscal year, however, I will be leaving the commission sooner, my last meeting will be March 9, 2017.

Vice Chair Yanni – Thanked Commissioner Ruttan for doing such a wonderful job on the Juried Art Show; great job on helping pull it all together and working so hard. Also, likes the idea of having a “continuing schedule” of projects to do each year.

Chair Sheffer – we need to be aware of the time that Ms. Henning has; the art show falls heavily on Ms. Henning; we have not been successful in the past in having her position restored to full-time; would like to ask that Ms. Henning can work one more day per week.

Commissioner Gladstone – would like to see a budget that makes sense and is very clear on actual expenses; while thrilled about all these exciting new programs, I’m very surprise about how many are popping up that we did not discuss last year. It is very funny how some things happen very quickly and some do not. During the next Study Session, would like for us to set a schedule for the projects we want to do and set aside a little money that anticipates pop-up projects.

There was a discussion between Chair Sheffer and Commissioner Gladstone as to whether or not a Study Session should be held after the regularly scheduled meeting of March 9. Commissioner Gladstone is not in favor of having a Study Session March 9; it is a very busy season, would like for it to be in April and would like a budget previous to a Study Session. Chair Sheffer – I will have a budget; let’s take one hour after the meeting March 9.

Commissioner Gladstone Left at 4:02

Chair Sheffer – Requested Ms. Henning to post a Study Session on March 9 from 3:00-4:30 PM to talk about the budget; this year’s budget and going forward.

Commissioner Brenner – in support of Chair Sheffer, just because we do this Study Session doesn’t mean we can’t do others. As the newest commissioner it has taken this amount of time to “understand what is going on” and it will be that way with new commissioners. There are two people that Commissioner Brenner will reach out to about applying for the commission.

REPORTS OF DIRECTOR/STAFF: Ms. Henning – Thanked everyone for all their help in the preparation for the Juried Art Show; everyone’s help was tremendous.

Ms. Henning and Commissioner Murray will meet prior to the next meeting to review photographs to incorporate onto the website.

Thanked everyone for the fabulous ideas and all of the shows have been a tremendous success. Congratulations to everyone!

ADJOURNMENT: The Public Arts Commission adjourned at 4:07 PM to a Regular Meeting, Thursday, March 9, 2017, at 2:00 PM, to be followed by a Study Session at 3:00 PM, 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 9th Day of February, 2017; unanimously carried.



Paula Jean Sweat
Economic Development Program Assistant