

Public Arts Commission
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

APPROVED



MINUTES
Regular Meeting

Thursday, April 14, 2016
Palm Springs City Hall • 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way
Large Conference Room

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

Chair Sheffer welcomed new Commissioner Alfonso Murray; Commissioner Murray is a local resident (21 years), a photojournalist; excited to be here. Commissioner Murray has forwarded his "bucket list" of programs and interests to staff; looking forward to working with this team.

ROLL CALL:

	Present <u>This Meeting</u>	Present <u>to Date</u>	FY 2015/2016 <u>Excused Absences</u>	FY 2015/2016 <u>Unexcused Absences</u>
Joshua Edmundson	x	8	2	
Mara Gladstone	x	9	1	
Alfonso Murray	x	1		
Bonnie Ruttan		8	2	
Amy Sand	x	9	1	
Ann Sheffer, Chair	x	10		
Thomas Yanni, Vice Chair	x	10		

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

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

MOTION: by Commissioner Edmundson, second by Vice Chair Yanni, to approve Public Arts Commission Regular Meeting Agenda for Thursday, April 14, 2016; unanimously carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no Public Comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: by Commissioner Edmundson, second by Commissioner Gladstone, to approve Study Session Meeting Minutes of March 10, 2016 with no corrections; and to approve Regular Meeting Minutes of March 10, 2016 with the following change: Commissioner Gladstone asked to amend her statement on Item C.4 (Page 3), change to read as "every city with a similarly scaled cultural institution does support it"; unanimously carried

A. PRESENTATIONS

1. None

B. NEW BUSINESS

2. Bureau of Tourism App, Presentation by Mary Jo Ginther, Director of Tourism, and Cathedral City App Review

Mary Jo Ginther – spoke regarding their recent app launch called Visit Palm Springs; it is for visitors but it's also for residents. It works off the database of visitpalmsprings.com which is the City's visitor website.

There are about 750 businesses within the City of Palm Springs that are categorized as Stay, Play, Dine and Shop. There are tours, hotels, restaurants, and retail shops, in addition to tours and attractions that are outside of the City of Palm Springs. Policy was set many years ago that attractions outside of Palm Springs could be used on the website, i.e., Joshua Tree, Sunnyslands and The Living Desert; lodging, restaurants and retail have a focus in Palm Springs. The app that was developed uses that database. Everything that is added to our website is automatically downloaded to the app; it has been very successful.

It has a way finder; this is where it could work very well with public art. A way finder is augmented reality, if you're standing at Tahquitz and Palm Canyon and point your phone towards the Hyatt, the app sorts everything in the database from where you're standing.

Mary Jo suggested using the public art map; information is pulled into the app from the website.

Public Art would fall under the "Play" category of Stay, Play, Dine and Shop. "Play" is really a one stop shop for things for people to do.

Commissioner Murray – is there a way on the app when you click on a piece of artwork that you could "hear" the description, rather than read it? Ms. Ginther will look into this.

There would be no cost incurred by the Commission to be added to the website/app; the cost would be incurred by the bureau. Ms. Ginther will do some information gathering from the website company.

Commissioner Murray – if a bike rider tapped into the app, would there be a bike map? Mary Jo Ginther is still working with the Sustainability Commission regarding a bike path on the app.

Commissioner Gladstone clarified – two possible, and slightly different, roles in partnership with the Tourism Bureau are first, to provide information regarding art pieces that are works that the City owns and maintains; Second, we can think of the Commission as an advocate for the arts, more broadly.

Ms. Ginther – if anyone sees any apps or websites where art is integrated really well, please send me a list of them to check out.

Commissioner Gladstone – we need to gather the basic tombstone information that we have for the City's artwork to see if the photography is adequate; it should be a nice photograph, and to make sure we have all the basic information. At that point I would propose we simply start talking to Mary

Jo, because it seems like she needs to consult with her technology people to see what the best approach is to integrating this information into the website.

MOTION: by Commissioner Gladstone, second by Commissioner Edmundson, to proceed with partnering with the Bureau of Tourism for the City of Palm Springs in sharing information about our public art collection through their website and app; unanimously carried

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3. Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) Project Update. Public Art Sculpture and Transgender Day of Remembrance Vigil November 20, 2016, update. Presentation: Thomi Clinton, CEO Transgender Community Coalition (TCC); Jan David and Bill Gonzales, Board Members (TCC)
RECOMMENDATION: Receive verbal report and staff update

Ms. Henning reported that the board members were going to be at today's meeting as indicated on the Agenda, however, an emergency came up and they will not be able to attend. They would like to be on the May agenda to update the Commission on the vigil that is being planned for November 20th.

Also Ms. Henning advised the Commission that she has spoken to artist Heath Satow; the piece should be ready for display and installation prior to November 20th. The TDOR group also needs to offer the piece to the City for the public art collection and the donation will need City Council approval. TDOR project update will be on the May 2016 Agenda.

4. Community Outreach and Publicity – 2016 Programming
 - 1) 18th Annual Juried Art Show: Review Dates for 2017 Show and Possible Theme Ideas**RECOMMENDATION:** Receive Verbal Subcommittee Report and Staff Update

Vice Chair Yanni gave a subcommittee report; the February art show was very well attended. The student field trip to Joshua Tree to see the assemblage sculptures of Noah Purifoy (died 2004) was very successful and a lot of fun for the kids. Pictures from the art show and field trip were shown.

The Commission also had a booth at the Family Fun Fest (Library Event) – Staff created a “Color Sunrise Park” coloring book that was available for the kids to color public art pieces that are found in Sunrise Park; designed to teach kids about public art. Pictures of the event were shown.

Chalk Art Festival was held Saturday, March 12; the event was a lot of fun, Commissioner Ruttan, Vice Chair Yanni and Jennifer Henning helped to judge; there was an amazing range of artistic works from artists ranging from K-12, and professional artist category. Mayor Moon was present to give out some of the awards, he has been a long-time fan of the Chalk Art Festival.

2017 Annual Juried Art Show: there was discussion regarding next year's theme and possibly tying the art show into the Desert X Exhibition. Some ideas include: “Desert A-Z” – different interpretations of the desert. Ms. Henning advised the Commission that if they have an idea for a theme to be sure to email it to her. Director Lauri Aylaian asked to get the show themes for the last 5-10 years; might help to inspire some ideas. Commissioner Sand suggested contacting Desert X to let them know what we are tentatively discussing regarding the theme; they may have some suggestions or information they may want to share. Staff advised that Commissioner Ruttan has been in contact with Susan Davis at Desert X.

Commissioner Gladstone would like the subcommittee to discuss the question of the format of this show and who actually participates; I would ask that we consider possibly different models that may open things up to students (the museum has a very large student exhibition so there may be some redundancy); maybe think about waiving fees for graduate students or college students. Feels the demographic of artists reached is kind of specific; interested in broadening out that reach; feels it is cost prohibitive for some.

Ms. Henning – up until two years ago we did have a specific student art show (high schools) *Judging a Book by its Cover*; once we lost resources we were unable to have the second exhibition.

Commissioner Gladstone – maybe not working with high schools; again, there is already a model that exists, the museum, and it's very complicated, there are a lot of students; maybe simply offering a fee waiver for students might be enough of a change just to measure if we have more interest from younger artists.

Commissioner Sand – maybe we can get the local schools; college and junior colleges on the prospectus mailing list. Also, should get in touch with some of the local art programs ahead of the prospectus coming out.

Vice Chair Yanni – would like to see the prospectus come out earlier; give artists more time to create original works of art.

Director Lauri Aylaian – the downtown merchants have a wonderful program with schools and the creation of the downtown holiday banners. They reach out to all the schools in the Palm Springs Unified School District (includes Desert Hot Springs and those that are not in our city limits); we might be able to do a flyer in advance that would reach students a couple of months earlier than when the prospectus is released.

2017 art show schedule:

P.S. Annual Juried Art Show 2017	
Show Runs	Friday, February 3-25
Entries Due	Monday, January 30
Judging	Tuesday, January 31
Declined Artwork Pick-up	Wednesday, February 1
Hang Show	Wednesday-Thursday, February 1-2
Show Begins / Reception	Friday, February 3
Show ends	Saturday, February 25
Artwork Pick-up	Sunday, February 26 – 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

The prospectus will be out the last week of October 2016; show preparation week of January 30 – February 3.

Chair Sheffer – reported on an email regarding another opportunity to meet with all the commissioners throughout the valley...it is May 5th in Cathedral City; there will be discussion regarding public arts, tourism and also there will be a California Desert Arts Council; but since the school district overlaps with other communities we can still play our part in it, but there are a lot of things that go past just the borders of Palm Springs; hope you can come.

5. **Public Art Collection Inventory and Assessment**
Discuss and Review the Current Collection and Inventory Status; Maintenance Report
RECOMMENDATION: Receive Verbal Report and Staff Update

Ms. Henning reported:

- Jungle Red is completely repaired and repainted; a facilities request is in to have the lights replaced.
- John Clement sculptures; the sculpture "Ithiel" (front of Regal Cinema) and "Squeeze" (Front of Palm Canyon Theater) have both been painted.
- "Red Echo" (corner of Gene Autry and Ramon) currently needs painting, beginning to fade; Ms. Henning is working with our conservator.
- Plaques are being ordered for new art pieces and those that need replacing.
- Has met with Josh Edmundson to discuss pieces currently needing to be reinstalled; Commission received a list of six pieces that need placement; Commissioner Gladstone would like to see photos of the artwork needing reinstallation.

Commissioner Sand would like an agenda item added to talk about relocating "Frank Bogert on Horseback" and other bronze pieces, there has been discussion about installing some sculptures at the same location.

6. **Public Art Sculpture Restoration and Conservation**
Discuss Reinstallation of the Victoria Park Totem Pole by First Nation Hunt Family located at Victoria Park, 2744 N. Via Miraleste
RECOMMENDATION: Motion to approve the reinstallation of the Hunt Family Totem Pole at its original site in Victoria Park and prevent water overspray on the sculpture; and, work with Park Staff to design and install desert landscaping in the area immediately adjacent to the site.

Donna Chaban, Board Member, Racquet Club Estates Neighborhood Association – thanked the Commission for their decision to reinstall the Hunt Family Totem Pole at its original location in Victoria Park; very pleased.

Scott Workman, Board Member, Racquet Club Estates Neighborhood Association – Two concerns as discussed at their neighborhood association meeting; children climbing on the totem and possibly breaking the beak; also sun damage.

Chair Sheffer advised that the Commission will be discussing Commission and neighborhood concerns prior to the reinstallation.

Commissioner Sand – may have art on file that was designed as shade protection; discussed for possible installation at Demuth Park project.

Sylvie Tiesher – asked how the Totem pole at Sunnylands was maintained; Commissioner Edmundson, who works at Sunnylands, explained that it is touched up with house paint; there is full time staff on the property in maintenance. It is cantilevered so water does not hit it; it does have significant cracking...it may be returning to the earth.

Commissioner Edmundson – it's been exciting watching this project progress and that the pole is going to be reinstalled in its original home. It's going to be important to spend the time talking and having an awareness of its fragility; we need to remain concerned and diligent about the Totem Pole's care. Good to know the community is also watching out for their artwork. Commissioner

Edmundson reiterated the concern of kids getting on the beak; Commissioner Gladstone suggested to strategically place cactus, this method was used to stop skateboarders from riding down a piece in Palm Desert.

Vice Chair Yanni – happy and supportive that it is being reinstalled at Victoria Park; would like to look at shade possibilities; should consider the generous offer from the neighborhood association to possibly contribute towards the protection of the totem pole.

MOTION: By Vice Chair Yanni, second by Commissioner Gladstone to approve the reinstallation of the Hunt Family Totem Pole at its original site in Victoria Park and prevent water overspray on the sculpture; and, work with Park Staff and the Racquet Club Neighborhood Organization to install desert landscaping in the area and promote future care of the object; unanimously carried

Commissioner Sand – would like to discuss shade structures at next month’s meeting.

7. Public Art Sculpture Relocation

Discuss reinstallation of the John Clement sculptures Butch, Ithiel and Squeeze to the vacant pads located in the median on Tahquitz Canyon Way between Farrell Drive and El Cielo Way.

RECOMMENDATION: Motion to recommend the reinstallation of the John Clement sculptures Butch, Ithiel and Squeeze on the vacant sculpture pads located in the Tahquitz Canyon Way median between Farrell Drive and El Cielo Way.

MOTION: by Commissioner Sand, second by Commissioner Edmundson, to recommend to City Council the reinstallation of the John Clement sculptures Butch, Ithiel and Squeeze to the vacant sculpture pads located in the Tahquitz Canyon Way median between Farrell Drive and El Cielo Way; unanimously carried

D. LEGISLATIVE:

8. **ADOPT A RESOLUTION OF THE PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALM SPIRNGS, CALIFORNIA, REVISING THE CURRENT MISSION STATEMENT.**

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt a resolution of the Public Arts Commission to accept revisions to the current Mission Statement.

Commissioner Gladstone would like to discuss an addition to the mission statement regarding the role the Commission plays as an advocate to the arts in the City.

This item will be discussed at next month’s meeting.

E. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

9. Special Projects Report by Chair Sheffer – no report

Commissioner Gladstone – reported that there was a Bridge Subcommittee meeting last month; met with Artist Sean Lockyear and various City staff members to discuss the Tahquitz Creek Bridge project; the meeting was a preliminary conversation; will meet next week on the 20th to see design proposals; will present to the Arts Commission at the May meeting.

REPORTS OF DIRECTOR/STAFF: No Report.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/REPORTS/REQUESTS:

Commissioner Murray – survived his first meeting; had the pleasure of attending Family Fun Fest, was a lot of fun. Attended the Desert Highland Community meeting; they are very thankful to the Public Arts Commission for engaging the youth; a lot of excitement about the Purifoy exhibit. They are talking about creating an arts advisory council as it relates to the mural at the James O. Jessie Desert Highland Community Center; also, attended OnePS meeting today.

Vice Chair Yanni – welcome to new Commissioner Murray; pleased that outreach efforts have gone very well; thanked other commissioners for supporting all these efforts; would like artistic bike racks on the May agenda.

Commissioner Gladstone – welcomed new Commissioner Murray to the Commission.

Commissioner Sand – also welcomed new Commissioner Murray to the Commission; thanks to all commissioners for working so hard this past month.

Commissioner Edmundson -- welcomed new Commissioner Murray to the commission.

Chair Sheffer – hoping that Commissioner Murray will bring his camera to some of these wonderful events; the more we can show what we do, the better.

ADJOURNMENT: The Public Arts Commission adjourned at 3:00 p.m. to a Regular Meeting, Thursday, May 12, 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 14th Day of April, 2016; unanimously carried.



Paula Jean Sweat
Economic Development Program Assistant