

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



**MINUTES
Regular Meeting**

Thursday, November 10, 2016
Palm Springs City Hall · 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way
Large Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 2:11 p.m. by Chair Sheffer

ROLL CALL:

	<u>Present This Meeting</u>	<u>Present to Date</u>	<u>FY 2016/2017 Excused Absences</u>	<u>FY 2016/2017 Unexcused Absences</u>
Melanie Brenner	x	3		
Joshua Edmundson	x	2	1	
Mara Gladstone	x	3		
Alfonso Murray	x	3		
Bonnie Ruttan	x	3		
Ann Sheffer, Chair	x	3		
Thomas Yanni, Vice Chair	x	2	1	

ALSO PRESENT: Jennifer Henning, Arts and Special Projects Coordinator

At this time there was a brief discussion regarding Agenda Item D.5., (see Item D.5. below).

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

MOTION: by Vice Chair Yanni, second by Commissioner Brenner, to approve Public Arts Commission Agenda for November 10, 2016, with the exclusion of Item D.5 (Desert X proposal(s)) which will be discussed at the regular meeting in December; unanimously carried, 6/0

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS: There were no City Manager Comments

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

David Gray – Mr. Gray will be giving a lecture during Modernism Week on the bas-relief terra cotta sculptures on the Union Bank building (handout attached and made a part of the record of this meeting).

Eric Chiel, Co-chair, OnePS Communications Committee – OnePS has released a new publication dedicated to the organized neighborhoods of Palm Springs, "OnePS Guide to Palm Springs Neighborhoods – 41 Distinctive Districts" [now 43 neighborhoods]. The publication is an 80-page "coffee table" worthy magazine. The publication was designed and printed by Palm Springs Life. The magazine includes the histories and attributes of the 41 organized

neighborhoods. Each neighborhood is described in about 200 words; the publication also includes approximately 200 new and historic photographs; it is for sale on the Palm Springs Life website at \$4.95+ tax/shipping; it will also be available in December through the local neighborhood organizations.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: by Commissioner Brenner, second by Commissioner Ruttan, to approve Regular Meeting Minutes of October 13, 2016; carried unanimously, 6/0

A. PRESENTATIONS

1. None

B. NEW BUSINESS

2. Acquisition of Artwork

Discuss recommending the issuance of a Request for Proposals for a public art project recognizing fallen police officers and emergency personnel in the City of Palm Springs.

RECOMMENDATION: Discuss possible options and funding sources

Chair Sheffer – would like to discuss commissioning a new piece in honor of fallen police officers and emergency personnel; create a subcommittee to review. One possibility is to release an RFP, have artists submit ideas and pay an “honorarium”. There may be organizations that would also like to donate to the piece including the Palm Springs Police Officers Association.

Ms. Henning – an RFP could be released; could be sent out locally or nationally. Also, could work on a direct commission. The commission will need to look closely at the budget; a commissioned piece could be anywhere from \$10,000 - \$500,000.

Commissioner Gladstone arrived at 2:30 p.m.

Commissioner Brenner – the timeliness of this could not be more appropriate, when we are feeling incredibly vulnerable; to represent it with something as positive as a wonderful piece of art we can continue to remember and recognize the service of those that are first responders. Willing to work on this project

Commissioner Murray – this is an excellent idea; would like to see something interactive or thinking out of the box in terms of art, i.e., landscape, flower garden, or more importantly a labyrinth.

Commissioner Gladstone – it is of interest; agree that we should have a study session to look at what we would like to see and also some examples of what other places are doing, not so much as a model, but ways not to go; what we like and what we don’t like; would be happy to consider it with further analysis.

Commissioner Edmundson – also agrees it is a great idea; excited about it.

Commissioner Ruttan – loves the idea; want to make sure that something isn’t already being done by the Police Department or the community; there’s probably a lot of response and reaction to this tragedy so there may already be something in the works; we do not want to interfere or duplicate efforts.

Vice Chair Gianni – also agrees; the outpouring from the city was very moving; it would be nice to do something to honor that. Want to understand the ramifications of this undertaking; there are probably

many individuals that would want to be involved; just need to remind ourselves it could be a very long and difficult process.

Ms. Henning will find out if anyone is working on this type of project and report back to the commission at the December meeting.

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3. Education Outreach – 2016-17 Programming; Review and Approve

1) Prospectus for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Student Art Competition and Exhibition, January 2017

2) Review Art Demonstration at Palm Springs Art Museum, discuss dates and programming

RECOMMENDATION: Receive verbal subcommittee report and staff update

- 1) Commissioner Murray – one of the questions that came up during the last committee meeting was who is responsible for payment of the awards? Opening reception and awards presentation will be held at St. Paul of the Desert Episcopal Church on Sunday, January 15, 2017 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Artwork will then be on display at the Palm Springs Public Library from January 17 through February 11, 2017.

Ms. Henning reported that there will be some minor expenses including frames, and incidentals; currently looking for sponsor(s) to cover the award cost. Jurying will take place on Friday, January 13, 2017. Commissioners Murray and Ruttan will help jury the artwork.

MOTION: by Chair Sheffer, second by Commissioner Murray, to co-sponsor the Martin Luther King, Jr. "Excellence in Art" student art competition and exhibition with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Committee; the commission authorizes Ms. Henning to spend funds on incidental costs (approximately \$2,500); carried unanimously, 7/0

Commissioner Brenner – may be able to find a sponsor for this exhibit.

- 2) Commissioner Murray – The Inglewood Guys and Dolls Square Dance – Free "Pop-up" Performance is being held tonight from 6:00-7:00 p.m. at the Annenberg Theater. Commissioner Murray would like public arts maps to be available at the museum.

Commissioner Murray – how does publicity and press releases work with the commission?

Commissioner Gladstone – recommends that the commission continue to work with the partners that we are working with at the time to do the bulk of our promotions. If we can get events on a calendar (as an employee of the museum) would be happy to make sure that the commission gets the promotion we need through the museum; would like to think about using social media a little more to get the word out.

4. Hunt Family Totem Pole Restoration Project

Rededication and Unveiling Project Updates

RECOMMENDATION: Receive verbal staff update

The re-dedication of the Hunt Family Totem Pole will take place on Saturday, December 10th at 10:00 a.m. – Victoria Park, 2744 N. Via Miraleste. A "draft" invitation was provided for commission review.

There will be an educational event with students from Via Miraleste on Friday, December 9th between 1:00-2:00 – approximately seventy second grade students will attend (at the site); various materials will be available for the students. Refreshments will be served.

The new publication will be available for Saturday's event. Staff and Commissioner Edmundson will meet to review the preliminary copy and make final revisions. Staff asked for any feedback from the commission prior to going to print.

It was briefly discussed to invite Native American dancers; or possibly teach the students traditional games children played; involve the students and keep their attention. Commissioner Gladstone suggested "stamping"; could get stamps with various animals, or shapes such as circles, squares and triangles; the students could create a piece of artwork. The coloring book will also be available.

D. LEGISLATIVE

5. MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVING THE "DESERT X" PROPOSAL FOR A TEMPORARY SCULPTURE INSTALLATION BY HANK WILLIS THOMAS AT JAMES O. JESSIE DESERT HIGHLAND UNITY CENTER AS PART OF THE 2017 DESERT BIENNIAL ART EXHIBITION; AND APPROVE FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000 FOR THE SCULPTURE INSTALLATION AND EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH IN PALM SPRINGS.

RECOMMENDATION: Review Desert X sculpture presentation and adopt a resolution of the Public Arts Commission making a recommendation to City Council for consideration.

Ms. Henning – reported that Desert X has proposed a new artist for the James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center installation site. A full presentation will need to come before the commission. There is also the potential for a second installation; both proposals will need to be approved by the commission before going to City Council for approval.

This item will be placed on the December agenda for further review.

E. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

6. Community Outreach and Publicity – 2016-17 Programming
 - 1) 18th Annual Juried Art Show Update
 - 2) All Valley Public Arts Meeting; Next Event Date and Agenda Topics

- 1) The final draft of the prospectus was provided; Staff will be posting it on the website tonight; it has also gone out for printing and should be mailed out next week. Distribution via social media was briefly discussed.

- 2) The All Valley Public Arts Meeting will take place next Thursday, November 17 from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m., La Quinta Museum. Attendees are encouraged to bring materials to share at the meeting.

There was a brief discussion regarding hosting the All Valley Public Arts meeting next year; February 9, 2017; the commission will discuss holding the regularly scheduled Public Arts meeting at the Desert Arts Center to accommodate both meetings.

7. Special Projects
 - 1) Discuss Possible Temporary Public Art Projects as a Memorial to Fallen Police Officers
 - 2) Relocation of "R. HERO" From Fire Station No. 3 to Vista Del Monte Elementary School
 - 1) Chair Sheffer spoke briefly about a temporary blue line that was painted down a City street in honor of fallen officers.

- 2) During the tragedy of October 8th, Vista Del Monte Elementary School was used as a staging area for emergency responders. The commission discussed relocating the "R. HERO" (Blue) from Fire Station No. 3 to Vista Del Monte Elementary school.

Commissioner Ruttan – Artists Karen and Tony Barone now have an educational book/program that is tied-in to the "R. HERO" sculpture project; having the installation site at the school would be very relevant; that site is also adjacent to a fire station. The piece would also get more visibility at a site in front of the school.

Staff will contact the Principal at Vista Del Monte and agendaize this item for the next meeting. Staff will also contact Artists Karen and Tony Barone regarding relocation of the sculpture

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/REPORTS/REQUESTS:

Commissioner Brenner – some of our projects are very exciting. At a time when we are looking at things on pins and needles, to have the focus of art and bring people together in a positive way reaffirms the importance of what we do.

Commissioner Murray – would like for the Education subcommittee to meet for a few minutes after the meeting. Commissioner Murray also advised the commission that the Girl Scouts have a patch for public art and he would like to report on this at the December meeting.

Commissioner Ruttan – getting excited about the upcoming art show.

Vice Chair Yanni – happy that we are creating programs, executing them, and following through; thrilled that the Totem is going to be re-dedicated. Thank you to all the commissioners that worked so hard. Vice Chair Yanni would still like to talk about moving the meeting time to 4:00 p.m. – Staff advised Vice Chair Yanni that moving the meeting time has a lot to do with City staffing, including the schedule of Ms. Finerman, who is responsible for recording meetings.

Chair Sheffer – suggested having a Study Session in January. Also, Ms. Henning will be able to work some additional hours to help on the abundance of projects that the commission is currently working on.

Chair Sheffer also reported that Commissioner Edmundson will be leaving the Commission after the December meeting.

REPORTS OF DIRECTOR/STAFF: No reports of Director/Staff

ADJOURNMENT: The Public Arts Commission adjourned at 3:39 p.m. to a Regular Meeting, Thursday, December 8, 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 10th Day of November, 2016; unanimously carried.


Paula Jean Sweat
Economic Development Program Assistant