

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



**MINUTES
Regular Meeting**

Thursday, April 13, 2017
Palm Springs City Hall • 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way
Large Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 2:02 PM 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	8	1	
Mara Gladstone	x	9		
Alfonso Murray	x	9		
Ann Sheffer, Chair	x	9		
Thomas Yanni, Vice Chair	x	8	1	

ALSO PRESENT: David Ready, Esq., Ph.D., City Manager
Jennifer Henning, Arts and Special Projects Coordinator

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

MOTION: by Vice Chair Yanni, second by Commissioner Gladstone to approve Public Arts Commission Agenda for April 13, 2017; unanimously carried, 5/0

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mr. Robert Stone – Mr. Stone was previously a public arts commissioner for a term of three years; he is running for City Council in November 2017.

Chair Sheffer left the meeting at 2:04 PM

Mr. Stone has been speaking to Marcus Fuller, Assistant City Manager, regarding lighting not working properly on the Jungle Red and Red Echo sculptures for over a year. He stated that being a past commissioner he understands the glamorous side of public art, of course, is completing an installation and having a reception; the difficult part is maintaining the collection.

Chair Sheffer returned to the meeting at 2:05 PM

Mr. Fuller has advised him that the City will be seeking an outside consultant to address the electrical and repairs that are necessary for the sculptures.

Mr. Stone encouraged the commission to “go big” in their efforts – in public art that’s when you get the biggest pay-off.

Mr. Stone spoke briefly regarding public art at the airport; this was the last project he worked on as Chair of the commission; just a reminder that the airport project was always intended to have “rotating” pieces every three years or so. The Palm Springs Art Museum has a stunning collection of new sculptures from the Weiner Family; some wonderful Henry Moore pieces, they are having trouble storing them and thought this would be a wonderful opportunity for the arts commission.

Mr. Stone thanked the commission for their work.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chair Sheffer – Reported on the motion approved at the March 9th Public Arts Commission meeting wherein the arts commission did not approve the mural at Trio Restaurant, which was applied to the wall prior to receiving the appropriate approvals. Chair Sheffer attended the Planning Commission meeting of April 12, to report on the findings and action of the public arts commission; they also discussed the possibility of simplifying the mural application process for permanent and temporary installations.

MOTION: by Commissioner Brenner, second by Vice Chair Yanni, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 9, 2017; unanimously carried 5/0

MOTION: by Commissioner Gladstone, second by Vice Chair Yanni, to approve the Study Session Minutes of March 9, 2017; unanimously carried 5/0

A. PRESENTATIONS

1. Proposed Public Art Mural Project – Presentation by Jerry Keller, Owner, Lulu California Bistro
200 S. Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs



Jerry Keller, Owner, Lulu California Bistro and Curry Mendes, Artist, Presented

The proposed mural depicts Marilyn Monroe; it is entitled “Roses” from Artist Mendes’ Love & Peace series and measures 15’ x 15’. The above depiction shows that the mural would be placed on the north wall of Lulu California Bistro on Arenas Rd. The mural would be created digitally on vinyl, mounted and affixed to the wall. They are currently working on the mural application. Commissioner Gladstone would

like the artist to ensure that there are no copyright or infringement issues that need to be addressed in using the image of Marilyn Monroe.

Commissioner Brenner – appreciates this mural project coming to the commission prior to being installed.

This item will be placed on the May agenda for approval; the application should be completed prior to the May meeting.

B. NEW BUSINESS

2. 2017-18 Public Arts Budget Review
Presentation Regarding Proposed Funding Allocations
RECOMMENDATION: Receive Report from the City Manager

David Ready – noted that revenue is not what it once was. \$14,419.00 in Public Art Administrative Services will be discussed at the Council level to see if it can be reduced or eliminated and be available for the arts program. Dr. Ready also asked that the unappropriated fund balance be appropriated into the unallocated line item; those funds can then be used for programs and art to move forward.

Dr. Ready advised the commission that the downtown project (landscape) is going back to Planning Commission; the arts commission had expressed interest in being involved in this aspect of the project. Dr. Ready reiterated that a joint meeting with Council, Parks & Recreation Commission and Public Arts Commission may take place in May at the Convention Center.

Chair Sheffer – reported that Sites & Installations subcommittee, (Thomas Yanni, Melanie Brenner and Ann Sheffer) recently met with commissioners from Parks & Rec (April 12th) who are planning a scope of work for Sunrise Park; considering designing new areas in the park that will be more inviting to the community.

Commissioner Brenner – the discussion yesterday was around Measure J funds that are allocated for Sunrise Park; would like those funds to remain available for Sunrise Park.

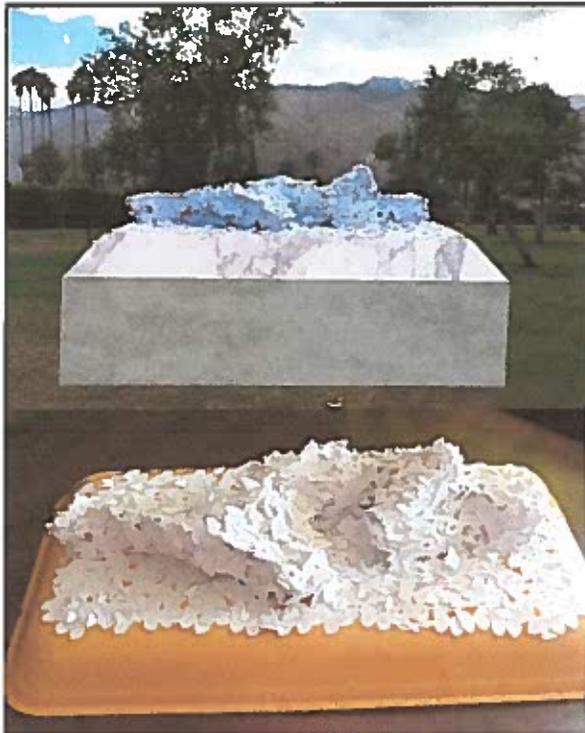
Dr. Ready – suggested that the commission continue the efforts at Sunrise Park, Marcus Fuller, Assistant City Manager, will be able to help with the design process, funding will be discussed after the design process moves forward.

Dr. Ready also reported that the RFP process has been completed for the Desert Arts Center and Palm Canyon Theatre; only received interest from the current tenants; we will be moving forward to complete Lease Agreements for Council approval; the arts commission may forward any recommendations.

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3. Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) Sculpture Project Update
Discuss possible donation of a Transgender Day of Remembrance public art sculpture and receive project Update. Presentation: Thomi Clinton, CEO Transgender Community Coalition (TCC); Jan David and Bill Gonzales, Board Members, TCC
RECOMMENDATION: Receive verbal subcommittee report and Staff update

Thomi Clinton, CEO, Transgender Community Coalition – spoke regarding the background of Transgender Day of Remembrance. The Transgender Community Coalition felt it was important to create a Cenotaph to represent those that have lost their lives for just being who they are; (See depiction of Cenotaph, the base has not yet been designed/finalized). The butterflies were sculpted by artist Heath Satow and are created in the silhouette of the burn outline from the body of Yaz'min Shancez, which was found in a Florida alley.



The inspiration comes from the silhouette burns from Yaz'min Shancer's body in a Florida alley

This piece would be a donation to the City of Palm Springs; there has been discussion to recommend to City Council to place the sculpture in front of City Hall or at Frances Stevens Park; both locations are Class 1 historic sites and would have to go before Historic Sites Preservation Board for approval.

Commissioner Gladstone would like to get recommendations from the artist on how to maintain the piece. Vice Chair Yanni recommends that the Sites & Installations subcommittee meet to discuss this item further.

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4. Sites & Installations Report

Review Possible Sites and Make Recommendation for Moving and/or Installing 4-5 Public Art Pieces

RECOMMENDATION: Receive Chair Update and Verbal Subcommittee Report

	Current location	Recommended location(s)
	North Palm Community Center Alto's + a table	Alto's + a table Clubhouse + a table + a table
	In Frances Stevens Landscape To (front of) Diego's Landscape	
	Palms Forum on Fire Street at E.S. Landscape + a table	Palms Forum on Fire Street at E.S. Landscape + a table To (front of) Diego's Landscape
	To (front of) City Hall	Alto's + a table Clubhouse + a table + a table To (front of) Diego's Landscape
	TSD	

Vice Chair Yanni – consider the following:

- Moving the John Clement sculptures, *Butch*, *Squeeze* & *Ithiel* to the Tahquitz Canyon Way median between El Cielo & Farrell
- Moving the blue *R. HERO* to the southeast corner of Victoria Park
- Moving Frank Bogert on Horseback to the northwest corner entrance to Palm Springs Air Museum or Vista Chino & Farrell
- Install Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) Sculpture – Location to be determined

Ms. Henning advised the commission that when considering installation of a piece at any school, approval from the school district will need to be granted. The location at the Palm Springs Air Museum will also need to be researched, i.e., is it owned by the air museum, privately owned, Caltrans?

Commissioner Brenner – would like to see the cenotaph be placed, at least temporarily, in front of City Hall; it is really appropriate; Palm Springs is an open community; need to get Bogert out, city councilmembers “have said to me” they want to see this happen.

Vice Chair Yanni – would like Sites & Installations to meet; have a drive around; we are not ready to move forward on this today.

Ms. Henning – the commission has already made a motion to move the John Clement sculptures to the Tahquitz Canyon Way median; a staff report would need to go to City Council; Ms. Henning will follow up with the Assistant City Manager.

There was additional discussion regarding various steps that will need to take place prior to relocating the sculptures, i.e., going before Parks & Recreation for pieces placed within a city park; finding out who owns the property near the Palm Springs Air Museum; and, TDOR sculpture has not yet been received as a donation to the City. Any artwork being considered for installation at a Class I Historic Site must go before the Historic Sites Preservation Board; Staff will report at the next Regular meeting;

Chair Sheffer would like a report from the Sites & Installations subcommittee of “what the pieces are to do in the transgender sculpture”. Chair Sheffer asked that this be placed on the next agenda.

5. Artist Designed Bicycle Rack Project

Review and Discuss the Acquisition of an Additional Bicycle Rack from the Selection of Chosen Award Submissions.

RECOMMENDATION: Direct Staff as Appropriate

Commissioner Gladstone had asked that this item be agendaized; staff has provided all prior actions that the commission has taken, including images of five designs for commission consideration of an additional bike rack.

MOTION: by Commissioner Brenner, second by Vice Chair Yanni, that we purchase an additional David Dixon, *Cantilevered* bicycle rack to be installed at 622 N. Palm Canyon; unanimously carried 5/0

Staff will begin preparing an agreement for the purchase.

Chair Sheffer – requested this item be placed on next month’s Agenda.

6. Education Outreach – 2017 Programming

Discuss Student Photography Class: "Portraits of A City" Review Class Dates, Exhibition and Field Trip

RECOMMENDATION: Receive Verbal Subcommittee Report and Staff Update

Chair Sheffer – Did we miss Caesar Chavez? Staff advised that the Cesar Chavez "Excellence in Art" student exhibition has been installed and is on display at the Palm Springs Public Library until the end of the month.

Ms. Henning – the photography class is moving along very well; there was a great turn out last week, approximately 40 people were photographed; class will continue after spring break; currently working on details for an exhibition.

Chair Sheffer – would like to think of some way to have them around the city; possibly at the museum on Free Thursday and the gallery at the high school.

Commissioner Gladstone – suggested using billboards/digital billboards; billboards can sometimes be offered at a lower cost.

Commissioner Brenner – The galleries at Back Street Art District also have said they would be willing to do something.

7. Study Session Date and Agenda Topics

Discuss Scheduling of Next Study Session and Review Agenda Topics.

RECOMMENDATION: Direct Staff as Appropriate

Chair Sheffer – would like to schedule a study session immediately following the June meeting.

Ms. Henning – suggested having the study session in May – since no action can be taken at a study session (discussion only) should any item need action taken it can then be done at the June meeting.

A study session will be held on: Thursday, May 25, 2017, 1:00-3:00 PM

D. LEGISLATIVE

8. None

E. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

9. None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/REPORTS/REQUESTS:

Commissioner Gladstone – Dr. Ready had stated the contract for the space for Desert Arts Center is happening, would like to request possibly including some additional time for the arts commission to have a shorter term event. Staff responded – the Desert Arts Center is a paying tenant; there is a section in the agreement that gives the City space for one month; will look into the possibility of additional time. Staff suggested partnering in events that are held at the arts center.

Commissioner Brenner – commented on the subcommittee meeting that was held yesterday with Parks & Recreation Commission; at this time would like for the commission to move forward in supporting Parks & Rec in their design (shade, security & usage); will not seek a conversation regarding \$2.M in Measure J funds.

Commissioner Murray – reported that the Labyrinth Walk on March 16th at the Palm Springs Art Museum was very successful; over 300 people walked the labyrinth. Was told that the museum appreciated the event and would like to do it again. Seeking clarification: was advised that the commission did not vote on having this event. Chair Sheffer responded – we voted on having up to four programs a year at the museum; the commission is in agreement that this event was approved.

Commissioner Murray – on April 29 (9:00 AM-5:00 PM) at the James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center they will be celebrating Unity Day; Building Resilience in African American Families has commissioned an artist who submitted a portrait of James O. Jessie; the Mayor will be presenting a Proclamation; would like to see some commissioners present.

REPORTS OF DIRECTOR/STAFF: None

ADJOURNMENT: The Public Arts Commission adjourned at 4:00 PM to a Regular Meeting, Thursday, May 11, 2017, at 2:00 p.m., Palm Springs Convention Center, 277 N. Avenida Caballeros, Primrose C, Palm Springs, California. Adjournment unanimously approved by a Motion of the City of Palm Springs Public Arts Commission this 13th Day of April, 2017; unanimously carried.



Paula Jean Sweat
Economic Development Program Assistant