

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



**MINUTES
Regular Meeting**

Thursday, February 12, 2015
Palm Springs City Hall • 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way
Large Conference Room

ROLL CALL:

	<u>Present This Meeting</u>	<u>Present to Date</u>	<u>FY 2014/2015 Excused Absences</u>	<u>FY 2014/2015 Unexcused Absences</u>
Joshua Edmundson	x	6		
Anne Rowe, Chair	x	5	1	
Bonnie Ruttan	x	6		
Amy Sand		4	2	
Buddy West, Vice Chair	x	6		

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Rowe called the meeting to order at 2:01p.m.

ALSO PRESENT: John S. Raymond, Director, Community & Economic Development
Jennifer Henning, Arts and Special Projects Coordinator

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

MOTION: by Commissioner Edmundson, second by Commissioner Ruttan, to approve Public Arts Commission Agenda for Thursday, February 12, 2015; unanimously carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No Public Comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: by Commissioner West, second by Commissioner Edmundson, to approve meeting Minutes of January 8, 2015; unanimously carried

A. PRESENTATIONS

1. None.

B. NEW BUSINESS

2. 1103 North Palm Canyon Drive, Sculpture Pad
Discuss Temporary Sculpture Installation at City Owned Site, 1103 N. Palm Canyon Dr.
Review Submittal by Archangel Gallery for the Temporary Placement of the Sculpture
"Great Scott" by Karen and Tony Barone
RECOMMENDATION: Direct Staff as Appropriate

Commissioner Edmundson – Asked if the piece was for sale; Staff did not know; however, Archangel does represent the Barones. Commissioner Edmundson wants to make sure that there is no violation of ethics; should it be a City piece for that pad. Staff will follow-up.

Commissioner Ruttan – based on this information it seems like a conflict of interest. Feels these artists are already well represented in the City (4 pieces); feels there would be a question as to how this would be perceived. Because this City pad is in front of a gallery does not mean they should take unfair advantage of it. We have art in storage that we would like to rotate and have displayed also.

Staff explained that if the piece were displayed and sold a percentage of the sales would be donated to the Public Arts Commission. Commissioner Ruttan would like to revisit this precedent.

Chair Rowe – agrees with fellow commissioners; feels a piece should be brought out of storage to represent an artist that may not be represented at this time.

Commissioner Edmundson – would like to see if Archangel could rotate artwork on this pad. May also want to consider doing a Call for Artists to see what other types of art could be displayed there. Also thought the commission could consider *Male Figure of Balzac* since it is currently in storage.

Staff advised that the John Clement piece *Butch* is also in storage and would fit at that site.

MOTION: by Commissioner Edmundson, second by Commissioner West, to decline the request to display the Barone sculpture ("*Great Scott*") in front of Archangel Gallery pending further discussion as to the future use of that site; unanimously carried

MOTION: by Chair Rowe, second by Commissioner Ruttan, to propose to take the John Clement sculpture entitled "*Butch*" out of storage and place it on the pad in front of the current Archangel Gallery on Palm Canyon Drive for up to a year and then reevaluate its disposition at that time; unanimously carried

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3. Artist Designed Bicycle Rack Project
Staff Update; Review and Discuss Proposed Locations and the Acquisition of Additional Bicycle Racks from the Selection of Chosen Award Submissions.
RECOMMENDATION: Discuss project update

John Raymond, Director, Community & Economic Development reported on funding for the additional bike racks. After discussing funding with the City Manager, they have proposed for the Public Arts Commission to purchase one (1) artist designed bike rack, and the City, through Sustainability, will fund two (2) additional racks for a total of three (3) new bike racks; not five (5).

Commissioner Ruttan – would like to reconsider these three bike racks; feels there is a recent proliferation of bike racks in the City; could possibly redirect funds for use elsewhere since our funds are so limited.

Mr. Raymond suggested agendizing this item for next month to further discuss other options; explained that the goal of the City is to install dozens, if not hundreds of bike racks; there are funds earmarked from sustainability for the bike rack program.

This item will be on next month's Agenda; will review the artistic renderings and installation sites.

(Comments from the Gallery on this item were not included in meeting Minutes)

4. City of Palm Springs 2016 Juried Art Show
Discuss Potential Dates, Logistics and Implementation Procedures
RECOMMENDATION: Direct Staff as Appropriate

Staff provided a tentative schedule to the commission; the prospectus should go out in October 2015, however, this should probably be done around the end of summer/September. Staff will meet with Desert Arts Center to ensure they are willing to provide some assistance and host us for that month; will also need commissioners to volunteer as in past years.

Commissioner Edmundson – More recently we have had the show in conjunction with Modernism Week; Modernism has now created The Camp, which is across the street from the Desert Arts Center (art show venue), would like to propose that we combine/create a show that would draw in Modernists; possibly create a theme that would tie-in. It is a huge audience of people that are big art and design lovers.

This item will be added to the Agenda next month to select a theme and work on additional details;

MOTION: by Commissioner Edmundson, second by Chair Rowe, to select a theme for the Public Arts Commission's Annual Juried Art Show for 2016; unanimously carried

There was a brief discussion regarding the Judging a Book by Its Cover exhibition (held at the Library), that normally coincides with the Annual Juried Art Show. This will continue to be discussed; possibly to be held at a different time. Staff time may not permit this exhibition to coincide with the annual art show. This will be agendized (next month) separately from the Annual Juried Art Show. Staff will contact Louisa Castrodale at the school district. Staff will follow-up on Commissioner Edmundson's request to see if Measure J funds would be available to fund any portion of these exhibits.

5. Community Outreach and Publicity – 2014/15 Programming
 - 1) Spring Community Art Gallery Exhibition, Palm Springs Public Library
 - 2) Family Fun Fest, Community Event, Wednesday, March 25, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
 - 3) Inaugural Juried Exhibition, Spring 2015

RECOMMENDATION: Discuss Programming Updates

- 1) Staff reported that the Spring Community Art Gallery Exhibition (photography) entitled "Earth Matters" is being held at the Palm Springs Library. Three artists have been invited to participate, Dennis Johnson, Gary Dorothy and Chari Godakanda; Staff handed out packets to the commissioners which included timeline; exhibition will open March 19 and run through May 12; Staff will need to confirm the opening reception with the Library.

Commissioner Ruttan – the theme is on point; the three artists are fresh, unexpected and underrepresented.

- 2) The Family Fun Fest (Library/Palm Springs Stadium); a variety of activities will be taking place; once again the Public Arts Commission will have a booth with several art activities to engage children and their parents. If any commissioners are available to volunteer to help out, it would be appreciated, the booth is very active.
- 3) Inaugural Juried Exhibition, Spring 2015 – John Raymond presented – City Manager, David Ready, asked Mr. Raymond to address and request from the Commission to try and fit in a juried art show in the spring; not on the same scale as the Annual Juried Art Show. Since the scale of the exhibit would be smaller the suggestion is to have the exhibit downtown in a retail space as use to be done a few years ago; one of the spaces for consideration is on Tahquitz Canyon Way in the same building as Ruben and Ozzy's.

Staff advised that several logistics would have to be in place just to be able to begin the process of a juried exhibition. Mr. Raymond advised that he will work with staff to procure the venue.

Commissioner Ruttan suggested having this exhibition during the doldrums of summer and incorporate a summer theme, which would also give the commission a bit more time to put the exhibition together.

Commissioner West – will need to discuss the days/hours the show will be open.

There was a brief discussion as to whether this exhibition will now be an annual show; a complement to the Annual Juried Art Show, etc. – the commission will need to work on the dynamics; could be a yearly pop-up gallery/show; could possibly be held at a business rather than a vacant store.

Commissioner Edmundson suggested an “Artists in Action” type of show – a number of artists could put together a show, curate it, man it, etc. Commissioner Ruttan suggested that maybe with the development going on downtown that a small area could be designated to a small gallery for public art exhibits.

(Comments from the Gallery on this item were not included in meeting Minutes)

6. Public Art Sculpture Restoration and Conservation
Discuss Restoration and Funding Options for Victoria Park Totem Project by
First Nation Hunt Family Located at Victoria Park, 2744 N. Via Miraleste
RECOMMENDATION: Discuss Updates and Conservation Options

Commissioner Edmundson reported that progress is coming along very slowly; continue to work with an entity at Cal State working with students that will help to raise awareness and possibly funding; still in the midst of developing a program; may have more to report in a month.

Commissioner Ruttan reported she is trying to get publicity for it in the Victoria British Columbia community; has spoken to a journalist that has given Ms. Ruttan some leads; Ms. Ruttan is making inquiries. Thought she would speak to the Director of the Agua Caliente Cultural Museum; he may be a good resource to approach. May look at the Desert Sun to do a local piece on the totem pole; nothing concrete at this time.

D. LEGISLATIVE

7. None.

E. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

8. None.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/REPORTS/REQUESTS:

Commissioner Edmundson – would like to discuss the funding that is given annually to the Palm Springs Art Museum; does it remain something that we can afford as a commission or should we approach Council for guidance or advice.

Commissioner Ruttan – would like to talk about Artist Philip K. Smith; would like to explore the possibility of obtaining something from him; recently had a very successful installation at Coachella. Would hate to miss a chance to have a piece of his work while we are redeveloping our downtown.

Commissioner West – Excited that we are having a juried art show next year.

Chair Rowe – excited that the annual art show is back and we now have another new show to work on. Feels the energy is back.

REPORTS OF STAFF:

1. East Palm Canyon Drive Bridge Widening Project – would like to schedule a meeting with the Bridge Subcommittee next week to discuss some of the bridge projects that are coming up.

The Vista Chino project – artist selected is Heath Satow

The Ramon Road project – artist selected is Philip K. Smith

The item will be on the March Agenda

2. Installation and Dedication of the Sculpture Donation “Young Basketmaker” in the Median at Sunrise Way and Tahquitz Canyon Way

Currently working with the Tribe for an unveiling date; the piece is complete and in storage.

ADJOURNMENT: The Public Arts Commission adjourned at 3:23 p.m. to its Regular Meeting on Thursday, March 12, 2015, 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 12th Day of February; unanimously carried.

Approved by a Motion of the Public Arts Commission this 12th Day of February 2015.

APPROVED 3-12-15 - ORIGINAL SIGNED DOCUMENT ON FILE IN CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Paula J. Sweat

Economic Development Program Assistant