



MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION
Wednesday, December 15, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall
Hillside Room
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

Roll Call

Commissioners Bhandari, Donovan, Franco, Halasz and Hawley were present. Commissioners Lupinsky and Preto were absent.

1. Council / Staff Liaison / Commissioners Reports

Staff Liaison Suzanne Iarla reported there was no significant update on the Historical/Cultural Pavers Project.

2. Comments from the Public

None

6. Friends of the Library Request (Taken out of Order)

Grace McNeill and Tom Panas with Friends of the El Cerrito Library spoke about their proposal to sponsor a mural on the exterior of the library building. It was requested that the ACC support the idea, judge the entries and possibly provide input on holding the competition. After some input and discussion, the ACC requested that the Friends keep the Commission informed of the progress and that the ACC might consider becoming involved in the future.

3. Minutes

Moved & carried (Donovan/Hawley) to approve the November minutes. Unanimous.

4. San Pablo Avenue Icons

Commissioner Hawley gave a report on the Sub-Committee meetings held on November 17 and December 7, 2010. The Subcommittee provided the following direction to the artists:

- Content: Refined the list to about 48 images
- Style: "Style A" which is direct/simple lines/bold colors
- Approach: Use a combination of specific and abstract images
- Timeline: ACC consider approval of the project in March, 2011

There was discussion regarding the relevance of the content to El Cerrito/what the artwork should reflect; the number of icons; the use of banners and icons; the desire for an artistic style that is distinguished/recognizable; artwork that helps create a unique sense of place for El Cerrito; possibility of considering new direction or new materials, etc. Many Commissioners felt they had not yet seen a coherent proposal from the Artists yet.

It was moved by Franco and Donovan to not concur with the subcommittee's selection of the content or use of "style A" which is direct/simple lines/bold colors using a combination of specific and abstract images and instead that the Commission may want to re-visit content and style once again. The motion passed 5-0.

After further discussion, it was moved by Hawley and Donovan that there should be a special meeting of the full ACC during the first week in January with the Artists to review just a few stylized icons that

would show a distinguishable and stylized artistic design and imagery reflective of El Cerrito. The motion passed 5-0.

Iarla said she would contact the artists to provide this feedback to the Artists and schedule the special meeting in early January. Commissioner Donovan and Chair Bhandari agreed to develop a list regarding the feedback staff should share with the Artists.

5. City Hall Gallery Space Exhibits for 2011

The Review of submissions for the Gallery Space was postponed to the next meeting.

7. Liaison Assignments

None.

Items for Next Meeting/Future Meetings: Request from Friends of Library, Arts and Culture Master Plan Next Steps, 510Arts.com, 2011 Folk Festival, Proposal for Dance Event (Shannon Preto), Proposal to sponsor Eve Ma Film Screening of "Two Streets and Adela" (Dyana Bhandari)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned slightly approx. 9:15 p.m.