



**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL
MEETING OF THE
Arts and Culture Commission
Wednesday, June 11, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall – Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito**

Minutes adopted July 28, 2014

Roll Call

7:04 pm

Commissioners present: Ruth Cazden, Deb Danziger, George Gager, Heidi Rand

Commissioners absent: Michele Jawad (excused), Christopher Sterba (excused), Luis Zavala.

Chair Cazden welcomed new member George Gager and all the commissioners introduced themselves.

1. Selection of Commission Officers for 2014

Commissioner Danziger nominated Ruth Cazden to serve as Chair, and Cazden said she would accept the position if selected.

It was moved (Danziger/Rand) to elect Ruth Cazden to serve as Chair through February 2015.

Unanimous.

Staff Liaison Iarla reported that Christopher Sterba expressed that he would be willing to serve as vice Chair if nominated. Heidi Rand would also be willing to serve as vice Chair if nominated.

Commissioner Danziger nominated Chris Sterba to serve as Vice Chair.

It was moved (Danziger/Rand) to elect Chris Sterba to serve as Vice Chair through February 2015.

Unanimous.

2. Commissioners Reports & Liaison Reports

Staff Liaison Iarla distributed a draft roster of commissioners; reminded commissioners to RSVP for the annual Commissioners Dinner in June, provided an update on the Gallery Space; reported that the art activity at Earth Day went well- the activity was to make paper tissue flowers with the option to attach them to a pen; reported the Lucas Valley Chamber Orchestra concert in April also went well, and raised \$302 for the City Recreation Department's scholarship fund; briefly covered some recent City Council actions, including the proposed development on Elm Street and the budget process.

Iarla also reported that the Commission will need to re-schedule their regular meeting of June 23rd as there is a special City Council meeting that night.

3. Comments from the Public

none

4. Approval of Minutes

It was moved (Danziger/Rand) to approve minutes of the March 24, 2014 meeting as edited and approve the minutes of the special meeting of May 1, 2014. Unanimous.

5. Request for Co-Sponsorship of the San Francisco Folk Music Club's

2014 “El Cerrito Free Folk Festival”

Bob Helliesen and Ken Hayes with the San Francisco Folk Music Club presented information and requested the Commission support the El Cerrito Free Folk Festival with a \$500 contribution towards janitorial costs, assist with publicity and securing WCCUSD approval for use of the El Cerrito High school campus for the El Cerrito Free Folk Festival on Saturday, October 11, 2014. Bob Helliesen and Ken Hayes answered questions from the Commissioners and there was discussion.

It was moved (Rand/ Danziger) to co-sponsor the event including the request for \$500, support with publicity and assistance with seeking approval for use of the High School campus. Unanimous.

6. Discussion on Adopted Arts and Culture Master Plan

Staff liaison Iarla led a discussion to clarify the intent of the use of the Arts and Culture Master Plan as either guideline for the Commission or possible Council policy or possible future General Plan Element, including a discussion about the differences between these levels of policy.

Iarla assured the Commission that the Council views the ACC as the authority on providing input on arts and culture in the City and that future city staff will consider this Master Plan and other input from the ACC when the General Plan is next revised, even if the Plan is commission policy. There was discussion and it was generally agreed that the Arts and Culture Master Plan is intended to serve as Commission policy, not Council or General Plan policy.

It was also agreed that the motion made in November should be amended to properly reflect the intentions of the Commission. (The motion to adopt in November included a recommendation that the City Council “regard this master plan as the basis of any Arts and Culture element when the General Plan is revised.”

It was moved (Cazden/ Danziger) to amend the November motion adopting the Master Plan to state the commission is adopting the Master Plan as guidelines for the Commission. Unanimous.

7. Development of 2014 Annual Work Plan

There was discussion about how to approach the development of the ACC’s Annual Work Plan.

Staff liaison Iarla provided a list of the goals and strategies from the Arts and Culture Master Plan.

It was requested that Iarla share the work plan of other advisory bodies.

There was discussion and it was generally agreed that Iarla should provide a list of items discussed at previous ACC meetings for Commissioners to review before the next meeting.

8. Consideration of ACC booth at the City’s July 4 Festival

There was discussion regarding an ACC booth at the July 4 Festival in Cerrito Vista Park on Friday, July 4, 2014, including what should be at the booth.

Gager offered to take photos and create a slideshow of public art in El Cerrito.

Danziger agreed to help create a sign/banner for the Commission.

Rand is available to be at the booth for a few hours.

Danziger and Cazden are not available on July 4.

There will not be a survey, but there should be a sign-up/keep informed sheet.

If possible, there should be information on the Free Folk Festival.

It was moved (Danziger/Rand) to share a booth at the July 4 Festival, preferably close to the El Cerrito Art Association booths, and for Iarla to spend up to \$150 for expenditures. Unanimous.

Gager, Danziger and Rand agreed to serve as a subcommittee for the ACC's booth at the July 4 Festival.

9. Items for Next Meeting/Future Meetings:

Iarla reported that the Commission will need to re-schedule their regular meeting of June 23rd as there is a special City Council meeting that night.

After discussion, there was agreement that there was not another date to move the meeting, and the June regular meeting should be cancelled.

There was also discussion about including the following items on the agenda for July:

Annual work plan

Lucas Valley Chamber Orchestra concerts

Possible Recycling and Environmental Resource Center Artist-in-Residency program

Adjourned at 8:52.