



MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE
Arts and Culture Commission
Monday, July 25, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall – Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

Approved 8/22/16

Roll Call

Present: Ruth Cazden, Paul Fadelli, George Gager, Mollie Hazen, Heidi Rand, Christopher Sterba, Nga Trinh.

1. Commissioners Reports & Liaison Reports

- Council Liaison Jan Bridges provided an update on various Council actions over the past quarter. She also offered to announce the Arts Day event at an upcoming Council meeting.
- Hazen announced she is serving another term on the KSO board and also that KSO is preparing for their next season.
- Iarla provided an update on the gallery space and the progress of the contract for Maw Shein Win to serve as Poet Laureate.

2. Comments from the Public

Georgina Edwards, Contra Costa Civic Theatre introduced herself and said that CCCT would like to work more closely with the ACC in the future and announced a number of upcoming events.

Nick Arzio, Crime Prevention Committee member inquired about the status and progress of the BART pylon mural idea.

3. Approval of Minutes

It was moved (Cazden/Rand) to approve the minutes of the special meeting of June 30, 2016, with edits provided to Iarla. Unanimous.

4. October's Arts Day Festival

Chair Sterba reported on the progress of the subcommittee and led a discussion on the 2016 Arts Day Celebration event on Saturday, Oct 1, 2016 including ideas for musical performers, a bring-your-own picnic lunch, El Cerrito High School Performing Arts Center versus the Community Center venues, the importance of publicity and continuing to use the flyer template previously created.

It was moved (Rand/Fadelli) to hold the Arts Month Kickoff on Oct. 1st from 1pm to 4pm at the Community Center. Unanimous.

It was also moved (Rand/Fadelli) to engage Precision Design to update the flyer for 2017 and allocate a budget not to exceed \$3,000 for the entire event. Unanimous.

Trinh offered to do an origami demonstration at the event.

Georgina Edwards offered to promote the Arts Month Kickoff event at Contra Costa Civic Theatre's Cinema in the Park on 8/12.

5. Centennial Celebration Planning Update

Cazden reported on the efforts of the Centennial Celebration Task Force, including their idea for a "big bash" weekend event in Sept 2017 plus smaller events each month in 2017. There was discussion about whether or not to suggest a concert as part of the Centennial "big bash" or if that is too close to Arts Month. There was agreement for the ACC not to host a concert as part of the Centennial "big bash" as focus their time and resources on planning the 2017 Arts Month event and including a local and/or historical theme on the Galley Space calls in 2017.

It was moved (Rand/Fadelli) to consider partial financial sponsorship of an arts related event as part of the main Centennial celebration in 2017. Motion Passed 6-0-1 (Hazen absent.)

Meeting places are wheelchair accessible. *To request a meeting agenda in large print, Braille, or MP3 file, or to request a sign language interpreter for the meeting, call Suzanne Iarla, Staff Liaison at 215-4318 at least FIVE (5) working days notice prior to the meeting to ensure availability.*

It was agreed not to form a subcommittee to work on arts-related Centennial Celebration ideas at this time.

6. ECCRU Update

Iarla informed the Commission that no work was done towards establishing the ECCRU program since last month; Chair Sterba suggested revising the membership of the ECCRU subcommittee.

It was moved (Gager/Rand) to update the members of the ECCRU subcommittee to be Sterba, Rand & Trinh. Motion Passed 6-0-1 (Hazen absent.)

Chair Sterba re-iterated that ECCRU is a priority for the ACC this year.

7. Discussion on Exhibit Spaces in El Cerrito

Commissioner Gager led discussion on possible exhibit spaces including schools, vacant commercial properties, City facilities as well as outdoor public spaces and street art. Gager will compile a list of possible venues and the types of work the ACC might sponsor there; there was discussion on the types of public art desired, and the group looked at Hartford, CT's public art online. Gager said some other cities including artist lofts or studios in their housing program or offer tax breaks to property owners who lease to artists, etc. There was discussion on creating a new subcommittee.

It was moved (Sterba/Rand) to form a subcommittee of Gager, Sterba & Trinh to examine possible exhibit spaces. Motion Passed 6-0-1 (Hazen absent.)

8. Reflections on ACC Booth at July 4 Festival

Rand said the activity at the booth was well received, especially making magnets and thanked everyone who helped. The wind was a bit challenging.

Sterba reported the concert on the 3rd was well attended, with a larger crowd compared to last year.

9. Items for Next Meeting

There was discussion regarding re-scheduling the regular meeting of August 22 to a different date so Iarla could attend; Iarla will poll commissioners to try to find an alternate date; also discuss items for the August meeting.

Items for Next month include: Art Month Kickoff, Centennial subcommittee, exhibit spaces, BART pylons and possible theme for next Gallery Space call.

Adjourned 9:08 pm