



**MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE
Arts and Culture Commission
Monday, October 23, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito**

Approved December 4, 2017

7:01pm Roll Call

Present: Ruth Cazden, Christopher Sterba, Judith Tannenbaum, Nga Trinh, Christopher Walsh.

Absent: George Gager (unexcused), Heidi Rand (excused)

1. Commissioners Reports & Liaison Reports

Regarding the County Library system's writing program at Juvenile Hall, Tannenbaum reported that she visited one of the classes in the series of three and found it great. She reports that Juvenile Hall will pursue funding for further classes.

Sterba reported that the second event in the One City, One Book program will be tomorrow, October 24, and encourages Commissioners to attend. He also reported that the El Cerrito Free Folk Festival will occur on Saturday, October 28, 2017.

2. Comments from the Public

None.

3. Approval of Minutes

It was moved (Walsh/Trinh) to approve the minutes of the meeting on September 25, 2017 as presented. Motion passed (3-0; Cazden and Tannenbaum abstained).

4. Presentation by Keith Johnson, High School Band Director, requesting support for 2018 Jazz Festival

Keith Johnson gave a presentation in which he described the 2017 El Cerrito High Jazz Festival, which he deemed a huge success and well-received by students, parents and the public. He also said that the format of the Festival will not change in the upcoming year. He requested ACC sponsorship of the 2018 Jazz Festival in the amount of \$1500.

It was moved (Sterba/Tannenbaum) to support the 2018 El Cerrito High Jazz Festival in the amount of \$1500. Motion passed 5-0.

The 2018 Jazz Festival will take place on February 10, 2018; Johnson can provide the Commissioners with comp tickets if he is provided with the correct protocol for doing so.

5. Economic Development Committee Partnership – possible action to create a subcommittee to work with EDC

There was discussion as to ACC goals and EDC goals and whether they overlap. The Commissioners noted the Commission's fiduciary duty and the need to ensure the artistic merit of any project it undertakes.

It was moved (Tannenbaum/Walsh) for Walsh to create a statement regarding arts and economic development for ACC review at next meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

6. Consider supporting Debra Pughe’s Children’s Writing Workshop Series Idea

Tannenbaum reported that Pughe’s proposed series of writing classes for children in 2018 cannot take place at the El Cerrito Library. Sterba has contacted El Cerrito Recreation department about having these writing classes offered as a Park & Rec summer offering. Taylor Melton, of the Rec department, has indicated that the format of these proposed classes matches well with the standard Park & Rec format. Rec can provide the facility, the enrollment procedure, and advertising. The standard split is 60% goes to Rec and 40% goes to the instructor. There was discussion about making sure that Pughe is compensated adequately.

It was decided to delay any action and make this an agenda item for the next meeting.

7. ACC Acquisition of Art Work

It was moved (Cazden/Tannenbaum) to allocate fund to purchase Sylvia Mori’s Centennial-themes mosaic artwork for an amount up to \$450. Motion passed 5-0.

There was a walk-around of City Hall and discussion regarding the recommended placement of Trinh’s donated artwork “In the Dinosaur Forest.” It was moved (Tannenbaum/Walsh) to recommend that Trinh’s donated artwork be hung near the south entrance to City Hall, per a diagram to be provided by Sterba. Motion passed 4-0 (Trinh abstained).

8. Discuss November/December meeting date (taken out of order)

It was moved to cancel the regular meetings of November 27 and December 25 and hold a special meeting on Monday, December 4, 2016.

9. Arts Month Discussion

The Commissioners who attended the Arts Month celebration event on October 21 reported that it was a great success and well received. There was discussion of possible efforts to improve the acoustics of the Community Center. Tannenbaum suggested that the subcommittee meet to document the lessons learned, for future use and implementation

Sterba will contact Gager and Rand regarding one of them setting up and breaking down the ACC table at the El Cerrito Free Folk Festival on October 28.

10. Items for Next Meeting

Debra Pughe’s proposed writing workshops

Adjourned – 8:59pm