



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
Arts and Culture Commission  
Monday, April 23, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.**

**El Cerrito City Hall Council Chambers  
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito**

*Approved May 29, 2018*

**7:03 pm Roll Call**

Present: Ruth Cazden, George Gager, Heidi Rand, Christopher Sterba, Judith Tannenbaum, Christopher Walsh.

Assistant City Manager: Karen Pinkos

Staff Liaison: Maya Williams

**1. Commissioners Reports & Liaison Reports**

Tannenbaum reported that she had attended the screening of “White Sun” at the Cerrito Theater, which was well attended, and at which the Nepalese community was well represented.

Rand reported on the ACC presence at the Earth Day event on April 21; Sandy Drobny is a wonderful presenter and her activity was very popular.

Cazden attended a performance of “Vanya, Sonia, Masha and Spike” at the Contra Costa Civic Theatre; it was an excellent production, and she encourages the other Commissioners to attend if possible.

Gager reported that the Economic Development Committee did not meet last month and will meet on Wednesday.

Sterba reported that the “White Sun” event went well and is a good example of other such events that could be held. Reiterated that Drobny’s event at Earth Day was excellent; Walsh made posters displaying Drobny’s work, for that event. Sterba also said that the ACC was approached about possible support for the 2018 One City, One Book program. He feels that ACC does not currently have the bandwidth to support that program to the same extent as last year.

Pinkos introduced Maya Williams, the recently-hired Assistant to the City Manager. Pinkos also reported on recent topics discussed and actions taken by the City Council.

Williams greeted the Commissioners and said that she will work with the Poet Laureate selection panel regarding the interviews.

**2. Comments from the Public**

None.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Approval of the minutes of the meeting of March 26, 2018 was tabled until the May meeting. Possible wording re Item #4 on minutes of March 26: The Commissioners expressed dissatisfaction with the proposal and intend to address the Art in Public Places in the future.

**4. Proposal Process for Commission Support**

Discussion of draft description of process by which community groups would submit proposals to the ACC for its support. It was decided to make this an agenda item for the May meeting.

**5. Arhoolie Gallery Exhibition and Music Reception**

Sterba provided information on the budget and details of the Arhoolie exhibit in the Gallery Space and the associated reception/concert.

It was moved (Sterba/Rand) to provide support for the exhibit and concert in the amount of \$750.

Walsh will design poster/flyer for the exhibit and the concert.

**6. Poet Laureate Call for Poets**

Tannenbaum reported that the Call to Poets (for the subsequent selection of the next Poet Laureate) has been sent out.

**7. Poetry and Place Event**

Sterba reported on plans and details of the May 20 Poetry & Place event.

**8. Subcommittee Updates**

- a. ACC/EDC Subcommittee: Gager reported that the EDC did not meet last month due to not having a quorum. Gager will report to the EDC at its meeting on Wednesday that the ACC will need information by May ACC meeting in order to go forward with this project in 2018. It was decided that this will be an agenda item for the May meeting.
- b. Community Outreach Subcommittee: The item to discuss any possible support or activity in regard to Arts Month in October 2018 was moved to the May meeting.

**9. Selection of a new Chair for the Arts & Culture Commission**

Sterba will leave the country in July for 1 year, and therefore will leave the ACC mid-summer. Rand will vacate her Commission seat at about the same time. Commission decided to table item until May meeting.

**10. Items for Next Meeting**

Approval of amended March and April minutes.

Proposal Process for Commission Support (per Item #4 above)

Subcommittee reports:

ACC/EDC proposed joint project regarding musicians at restaurants during Restaurant Week (per item #8a above)

Community Outreach Subcommittee: Discussion of ACC approach to and support for Arts Month in October 2018 (per item #8b above)

Selection of new Chair and Vice Chair for the ACC (per item #9 above)

Review of Gallery Space submissions

Presentation regarding El Cerrito Free Folk Festival

***Adjourned - 8:40pm***