



**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
Arts and Culture Commission**

Tuesday, May 29, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

**El Cerrito City Hall – Hillside Conference Room (2nd Floor)
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito**

Approved June 25, 2018

7:00 pm Roll Call

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

Staff Liaison: Maya Williams

1. Commissioners Reports & Liaison Reports

Commissioner Rand reported that the Poetry & Place event on May 20 and the Arhoolie event on May 26 were both wonderful events. There were estimated to be 120 attendees at the poetry event and 100 at the Arhoolie concert.

Commissioner Tannenbaum also enjoyed both events. She reported that she has talked to Heidi Goldstein (El Cerrito Library) in regard to the One City, One Book (OCOB) event, and the designated book for the 2018 program. Commissioner Sterba reported that Al Miller (of the El Cerrito Library Foundation) may present a proposal in June to the ACC for support for the OCOB program.

Commissioner Cazden gave kudos to both the Poetry and the Arhoolie events. There followed a discussion of the poor acoustics in the Community Center (particularly for music) and whether ACC might look at possible ways to improve them.

Commissioner Sterba mentioned ECCRU Artist in Residence Sandy Drobny's weaving event at the Recycling Center on June 23.

Staff Liaison Williams welcomed new Commissioner Cooper and reminded Commissioners Sterba and Rand to provide the City Clerk with official, written notice of their resignation.

2. Comments from the Public

None.

3. Approval of Minutes

Amended minutes of March 26, 2018 meeting: Motion (Cazden/Rand) to approve minutes as amended. Passed 6-0 (Cooper abstained)

Minutes of April 23, 2018 meeting: Motion (Tannenbaum/Walsh) to approve minutes. Passed 6-0 (Cooper abstained)

4. Request for Support

Bob Helliesen, Hali Hammer and Ken Hayes, of the San Francisco Folks Music Club, made a presentation regarding the 2018 El Cerrito Free Folk Festival, and requesting support from the ACC in the amount of \$1,000. The date for the event is October 13, 2018.

Motion (Rand/Tannenbaum) to support the 2018 El Cerrito Free Folk Festival in the amount of \$1,000.

5. Proposal Process for Commission Support

There was a discussion of the proposal process for entities wishing to request Commission support, and to stream line the process to the benefit of the Commission and potential proposers. Staff will create a second draft of the guidelines document and will create a draft fillable application form.

6. Review of Gallery Space Proposals

After review of all the submissions, the following artists were selected to have an exhibition in the Gallery Space in 2018 or 2019.

- o Amei Pappito
- o Daniel Lippincott
- o Ari Tarigownik
- o Joy Cai
- o Dean Hunsaker

The Commissioner directed staff to request further information from Jody Gillerman, Reggie Davis, and J.M. Golding. The Commission declined a proposal from Olga Guse.

7. Subcommittee Updates

- a. ACC/EDC Subcommittee: Gager provided a draft form for use in collecting information as to restaurants requesting musicians during Restaurant Week 2018. Commissioners expect that EDC will collect this information. Williams will work with the EDC Staff Liaison to facilitate this joint project.
- b. Community Outreach Subcommittee: Sterba does not feel that ACC has the capacity presently to put on a big event during October (Arts Month). This is suggested as an agenda item for next meeting.
- c. Poet Laureate Subcommittee: Williams reported that there have been no submissions for Poet Laureate.

8. Selection of a new Chair and Vice Chair for the Arts & Culture Commission

Motion (Cooper/Rand) to approve Cazden as new Chair and Tannenbaum as new Vice Chair of the Commission. Unanimous.

9. Items for Next Meeting

Presentation by Assistant City Manager Karen Pinkos on the El Cerrito Art in Public Places program

Discussion of ACC approach to and support for Arts Month in October 2018 (per Item #7c above)

Review of re-submitted proposals for Gallery Space

Adjourned - 8:56pm