



Staff Liaison

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MINUTES

**MEETING OF THE
Arts and Culture Commission**

Monday, July 27, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
This meeting was held via teleconference.

This Meeting Place is Wheelchair Accessible

CONVENE REGULAR MEETING Chair Cazden called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL – Present: Chair Ruth Cazden; Members Allison Cooper, George Gager, Courtney Helion, Bill Nichols, Blake Washington. **Absent:** Ann Wiens (unexcused absence).

2. COMMISSIONERS REPORTS AND COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS

Chair Cazden noted that this is her final meeting as Chair, and thanked other commissioners and staff for their participation and support.

Council Liaison Paul Fadelli reported on budget issues that the City is facing.

Staff Liaison Maya Williams reported on the Black Lives Matter resolution passed by the City Council. ACC will meet virtually at least through 2020. City Hall remains closed to the public, with various services available by appointment.

3. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Heidi Goldstein, El Cerrito Librarian, thanked the Commissioners for what they have done for the library, and looks forward to working together in the future.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved/Second: Member (Nichols/Cooper) **Action:** Passed a motion to approve the minutes of the April 29, 2020 special meeting as submitted. **Ayes:** Chair Ruth Cazden; Members George Gager, Courtney Helion, Bill Nichols, Blake Washington. **Noes:** None. Passed unanimously.

5. REQUEST FOR SUPPORT

Bob Helliesen and Hali Hammer spoke about the El Cerrito Free Folk Festival, which will take place virtually on Saturday, October 10.

Moved/Second: Member (Cooper/Helion) **Action:** Passed a motion to provide financial support for publicity for the festival, in an amount not to exceed \$250. **Ayes:** Chair Ruth Cazden; Members George Gager, Courtney Helion, Bill Nichols, Blake Washington. **Noes:** None. Passed unanimously.

6. POET LAUREATE UPDATE

Poet Laureate Dani Gabriel gave a brief recap of their activities during their tenure as poet laureate, and thanked the Commission for the opportunity to grow as a poet.

7. POET LAUREATE CALL FOR ARTISTS

Discussion about the possibility of issuing a Call to Artists for a new Poet Laureate in the time of COVID-19. The commission directed staff to provide a draft Call to Artists at the next meeting.

8. PUBLIC ART UTILITY BOXES

Discussion about a possible Public Art on Utility Boxes program. The Commission directed staff to provide a draft Call to Artists at the next meeting.

9. UPCOMING ACC-SPONSORED EVENTS

El Cerrito Free Folk Festival, October 10, 2020, 12 pm – 9pm.

10. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

- a. Recreation Liaison subcommittee (Cazden, Helion, Cooper): requested that Staff Liaison Williams report at next meeting after contacting Rec Director regarding Rec Department interest in pursuing a joint effort to do with art signs in City parks.
- b. Community Outreach Subcommittee (Cazden, Gager, Washington): no updates.

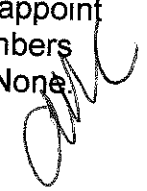
11. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- a. Staff to report on contact with Recreation Director re possible joint project.
- b. Staff to provide draft Poet Laureate Call to Artists.
- c. Staff to provide draft Utility Box Call to Artists.

12. ELECTION OF NEW CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Moved/Second: Member (Cazden/Washington) **Action:** Passed a motion to appoint Member Cooper as new Chair. **Ayes:** Chair Ruth Cazden; Members George Gager, Courtney Helion, Bill Nichols, Blake Washington. **Noes:** None. Passed unanimously.

Moved/Second: Member (Cooper/Nichols) **Action:** Passed a motion to appoint Member Washington as new Vice Chair. **Ayes:** Chair Ruth Cazden; Members George Gager, Courtney Helion, Bill Nichols, Blake Washington. **Noes:** None. Passed unanimously.




13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.


Allison Cooper, Chair

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the special Arts and Culture Commission meeting of April 9, 2020 as approved by the Arts and Culture Commission.


Maya Williams, Staff Liaison