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THE COSTA MESA ARTS COMMISSION

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NOVEMBER 3, 2022

6:00 P.M. – UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=macJmVuQts&t=463s>

**CALL TO ORDER** by Commissioner Ashendorf at 6:00pm

**ROLL CALL**

☒ = Present    ☐ = Absent

**Commissioners**

- ☒ Charlene Ashendorf, Chair\*
- ☒ Erica Lucia
- ☒ Alisa Ochoa
- ☒ Allison Mann
- ☒ Debora Wondercheck, Vice Chair\*
- ☒ Heidi Zuckerman
- ☐ Vacant

**City Staff**

- ☒ Jason Minter, Parks & Community Services Director
- ☒ Monique Villasenor, Recreation Manager
- ☒ Ashley Thomas, Recreation Supervisor
- ☒ Laurette Garner, Arts Specialist
- ☒ Brenda Green, City Clerk
- ☒ Kimberly Barlow Hall, City Attorney
- ☒ Laura Fautua, Executive Secretary
- ☒ Kathia Viteri, Office Specialist I

*\*Reflection of Chair and Vice Chair titles are after NEW BUSINESS: ELECTION OF A CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON motion.*

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** by Commissioner Wondercheck

**ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE** Completed by Brenda Green, City Clerk

**WELCOME** – Jason Minter, Parks & Community Services Director, provides a brief welcome to the First Arts Commission meeting and introduction to City Staff.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Mark Vukceovich (Zoom):** Would like the Arts Commission to consider bus shelters as a form of architectural public art and more murals around the City.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS**

**Commissioner Lucia:** Is a lifelong lover and supporter of the arts and had the privilege from a young age to have training and background in theater and performing arts. She studied public relations and advertising at the Dodge College of Film and Media Arts at Chapman University where she also had the opportunity to work at Musco Center for the Arts, and was able to develop a background in operations and marketing for a large scale theater facility. She is a District Director for a local state senator and public service is her passion. She is looking forward to working with her colleagues to ensure Costa Mesa residents have access to arts education.

**Commissioner Mann:** Is excited to meet everyone and be a part of the Commission. She was born and raised in Los Angeles and art has been a part of her life since she was born. Her parents owned a theater, her father was an actor and mother was a producer. New York and Los Angeles were key places in her upbringing and she has experience building theater companies from the ground up and has a lot of experience working in the acting industry, as well as working with writers directors, choreographers, producers, and in the

performing arts. As a mom of three children, she wants to make sure the youth in Costa Mesa have a lot of art exposure and she looks forward to providing input, since Costa Mesa already has a lot of great diversity in the arts.

**Commissioner Ochoa:** Is a visual artist, arts professional, and educator and a parent living here in Costa Mesa. It is an honor to serve her City as a Commissioner to help boost the arts in the community of Costa Mesa. Although her residency has only been 3 years, she has had ties with this City for 20 years. One of the first public art pieces she saw and wrote her thesis on was Noguchi's *California Scenario* and it is an experience that she introduced to her child and was formative in her relationship with her husband and the City. She is looking forward to contributing to future art aspects as a Commissioner.

**Commissioner Wondercheck:** Has a strong background within the arts and is a cellist and orchestral conductor. She has taught in the Newport Mesa School District, where she began her teaching career and was awarded the Teacher of Promise for her role in teaching orchestra, as well as general music. She then moved into teaching at the Irvine School District as a Master Teacher, Director of Orchestras, and at the same time was a professor at Vanguard University of Music. She has also taught music in the Costa Mesa Waldorf School of Orange County. She has been running, for the last 18 years, the Arts & Learning Conservatory, which is a non-profit organization in Costa Mesa that makes arts accessible and equitable. Students of the organization come from 55 schools throughout Orange County including San Bernardino County, making orchestra, band, and musical theater classes available to children who wouldn't normally have that access, and making the arts something that everyone has the right to. She is excited to be here to lend her area of expertise in the arts as a Commissioner and wants to see the City thrive and to uphold the City's motto, *City of the Arts*.

**Commissioner Zuckerman:** Is the CEO & Director of the Orange County Museum of Art (OCMA). Upon the opening of their new building, the museum has received over 20,000 visitors and has exceeded their year visitation from their previously owned building. She acknowledges that one of their museum goals is to bring art to the whole community and is honored to be a part of the Arts Commission. Although she is not a Costa Mesa resident, she works in Costa Mesa and has made it her mission to make artist's lives better.

**Commissioner Ashendorf:** Has been a 20-year resident and served on the Cultural Arts Committee for over 12 years. Today is something that so many volunteers have been working toward for years, and she believes that it is such a privilege to be part of this distinguished group of commissioners, and she thanked the staff, the city council and also the hundreds of stakeholders who put their time and interest into the Arts & Culture Master Plan. She is a grant writer and fundraiser and has had a career as a nonprofit manager. She started writing stories at the age of seven and poetry at the age of 10. She's had both of her works published in high school and a little side note, it was Paul Simon who took her first poem from her. Literature and writing is really important to her, and she hopes that will be part of the arts moving forward.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. PRESENTATION: Brown Act Training Act, Ethics, Conflict of Interest, Robert Rules of Order - City Attorney**

City Attorney Barlow Hall presented.

## **2. ELECTION OF A CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON**

Mr. Minter presented report.

**MOTION/SECOND:** Commissioner Wondercheck made a motion to elect Commissioner Ashendorf as Chair/Seconded by Commissioner Ashendorf.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Ashendorf, Commissioner Lucia, Commissioner Mann, Commissioner Ochoa, Commissioner Wondercheck, Commissioner Zuckerman

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Carried:** 6-0

Commissioner Ashendorf is now Chair of the Arts Commission.

**MOTION/SECOND:** Commissioner Ashendorf made a motion to elect Commissioner Wondercheck as Vice Chair/Seconded by Commissioner Mann.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Lucia, Commissioner Mann, Commissioner Ochoa, Commissioner Wondercheck, Commissioner Zuckerman, and Chair Ashendorf,

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Carried:** 6-0

Commissioner Wondercheck is now Vice Chair of the Arts Commission.

*No public comments were raised prior to the roll call vote for the two motions.*

## **MONTHLY REPORTS**

### **1. ARTS & CULTURE STAFF REPORT**

Ms. Garner presented.

Chair Ashendorf asked staff if we are looking beyond City facilities for exhibit spaces for public art and also inquired on the status of the *Home on the Range mural*.

Commissioner Mann found the report very interesting.

Commissioner Zuckerman inquired about the budget amount for the fiscal year and enjoys seeing the diversity in the report of the programs currently available. Looking forward to placing input as a Commissioner.

Vice Chair Wondercheck requested staff adjust the “Art” stated in the report be adjusted to “Arts” to allow more than one form of art be submitted for grant review.

Chair Ashendorf inquired about the Arts & Culture Master Plan.

## **ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER MEMBER & STAFF COMMENTS**

Chair Ashendorf praised staff on the new Spotlight publishing and inquired on an update regarding the Ponderosa mural vandalism.

Commissioner Mann inquired about the Commissioner vacancy appointment status and if current commissioners have any role with the selection.

**ADJOURNMENT** Chair Ashendorf at 7:14 P.M.

**NEXT REGULAR ARTS COMMISSION MEETING: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.**

DRAFT