
THE COSTA MESA ARTS COMMISSION

FEBRUARY 2, 2023
6:00 P.M. – UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER by Commissioner Ashendorf at 6:00pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE by Commissioner Mann

ROLL CALL

☒ = Present ☐ = Absent

Commissioners

☒ Charlene Ashendorf, Chair
☒ Fisher Derderian
☒ Erica Lucia
☒ Alisa Ochoa
☒ Allison Mann
☒ Debora Wondercheck, Vice Chair
☒ Heidi Zuckerman

City Staff

☒ Jason Minter, Parks & Community Services Director
☒ Ashley Thomas, Recreation Supervisor
☒ Laurette Garner, Arts Specialist
☒ Laura Fautua, Executive Assistant
☒ Kathia Viteri, Office Specialist I

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Commissioner Derderian: Gave the Commission career background and is excited, honored, and grateful to be the seventh member of the Arts Commission.

Commissioner Zuckerman: Provided Orange County Museum of Art (OCMA) attendance statistics and expressed the current amount of visitors within a 90-day timeframe has been equivalent to four years of attendance as a whole when the museum was in Newport Beach. Provided information about upcoming exhibitions at the museum. Encouraged attendees to RSVP to the free exhibits online. Would like to see a collaboration between OCMA and the City, for Costa Mesa Day on September 26, 2026, to launch a major commissioned sculpture exhibition all across the City of Costa Mesa.

Commissioner Ashendorf: Gave kudos to staff on the spot on *Spotlight*. Attended the artist reception for Marion Vail at the Costa Mesa Senior Center. Gave updates regarding Music Department funding for the Newport Mesa Unified School District received from Orange County Supervisor, Katrina Foley, and is looking forward to more policies, procedures coming to the Arts Commission for review.

OLD BUSINESS

1. MINUTES

120122 Arts Commission Draft Minutes

MOTION/SECOND: Chair Ashendorf made a motion to approve the minutes with the amended section on page 6/Seconded by Vice Chair Wondercheck.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Derderian, Commissioner Lucia, Commissioner Mann, Commissioner Ochoa, Commissioner Zuckerman, Vice Chair Wondercheck, Chair Ashendorf

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried: 7-0

NEW BUSINESS

1. ARTS GRANT REVIEW OF GUIDELINES

Ms. Garner presented.

Vice Chair Wondercheck asked staff questions regarding funding.

Commissioner Mann asked questions on the Commissioner and staff role for the funding aspect.

Commissioner Ochoa requested adjustments to “successful projects” to “criteria” and inquired if there should be a word submission limit.

Commissioner Zuckerman praised staff on the draft outline and highlighted the sections she liked. Asked staff on the scoring rubric origin and commented on including a passion vote to the rubric.

Chair Ashendorf asked staff on panel timelines and processes on the review. Happy to see improvement on grant amounts from when this program originated and looks forward to continue on the increase. Thanked staff for their hard work.

Commissioner Zuckerman would like to see grant recipients come forward and speak during the Arts Commission and provide updates to help broaden the public access.

MOTION/SECOND: Commissioner Zuckerman motion to approve the changes that were recommended by the Commission/Seconded by Commissioner Ochoa.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Derderian, Commissioner Lucia, Commissioner Mann, Commissioner Ochoa, Commissioner Zuckerman, Vice Chair Wondercheck, Chair Ashendorf

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried: 7-0

2. APPROVAL OF UTILITY ART BOX PROGRAM APPLICATIONS REPORT

Ms. Garner presented report.

Commissioner Ochoa inquired about the history of multiple boxes for artists and had a question regarding Craig Baker’s artwork style.

Commissioner Mann commented on the Sponsorship box thoughts for OC Fair submissions and the timeline for Sponsorship boxes.

MOTION/SECOND: Commissioner Lucia made a motion to approve all utility box art submissions/Seconded by Commissioner Mann.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Derderian, Commissioner Lucia, Commissioner Mann, Commissioner Ochoa, Commissioner Zuckerman, Vice Chair Wondercheck, Chair Ashendorf

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried: 7-0

MONTHLY REPORTS

1. ARTS & CULTURE STAFF REPORT

Ms. Garner presented.

Commissioner Zuckerman had a question regarding collection criteria and that comes to the Commission for consideration for the City and considers that there is a gift acceptance policy.

Commissioner Ochoa inquired how the Art Crawl artists have been selected.

Chair Ashendorf looks forward to a week duration of ARTventure at the Norma Hertzog Community Center.

2. NEWPORT MESA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT ARTS UPDATE

Commissioner Ochoa acknowledged Ms. Fairbanks, Newport Mesa School District staff, for a thorough newsletter. Let City staff know if additional Commissioners are needed for Newport Mesa meetings, she is happy to attend.

ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER MEMBER & STAFF COMMENTS

Commissioner Lucia commented on the great work for the wrappings already installed in just a month.

Vice Chair Wondercheck provided free events within Orange County that are honoring Black History month.

Commissioner Mann informed the public on a Banksy exhibit and believes the owners of the exhibit space also own the Boathouse Collective restaurant. Enjoyed the hole in the wall, underground vibe it gave and hopes to continue to see similar exhibits vibes in the City.

ADJOURNMENT Chair Ashendorf at 6:55P.M.

NEXT REGULAR ARTS COMMISSION MEETING: THURSDAY, March 2, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.