
THE COSTA MESA ARTS COMMISSION

MAY 4, 2023
6:00 P.M. – UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER by Chair Ashendorf at 6:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE by Commissioner Ochoa.

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
☒ Monique Villasenor, Recreation Manager
☒ Ashley Thomas, Senior Recreation Supervisor
☒ Laurette Garner, Arts Specialist
☒ Kathia Viteri, Office Specialist I

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Skeith Dewine: Introduced himself as an artist in the City, one of the founding members of the Santa Ana Arts District, and the creator of the Santa Ana arts walk. Shared LGBTQ issues around the world and advocated incorporating a mural project of LGBTQ athletes in the City and take a leadership role in support of humanitarian rights.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Commissioner Ochoa: Shared that Segerstrom would be hosting a series of events (music, dance, and film) in honor of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Shared an interview line from Isamu Noguchi.

Commissioner Zuckerman: Acknowledged public commenter and agreed that actions have butterfly effect and that people are looking at Costa Mesa. Brought attention to the Otis College survey relating the impact of the creative economy in California. Shared the arts are important for all the reasons the commission talks about but also for the soul and living. Will be reaching out to the mayor and an additional council members to advocate for the budget that was proposed by the department, so that the Arts Commission can have an impact in Costa Mesa moving forward.

Commissioner Zuckerman: Thanked public commenter and reiterated that the commission is greatly interested in hearing community feedback and ideas.

Chair Ashendorf: Highlighted Newport Mesa Unified School District Senior Art Show. Shared the Register's Orange County Artists of the Year segment where 721 students were nominated for the prestigious award. From then, seven (7) students were chosen, representing six (6) high schools throughout the county and Costa Mesa Costa Mesa High School student, Alexandra Hernandez, was selected on her ceramics. Thanked Commissioner Zuckerman for filling in as Chair last month . Excited to have the symphony come to the Costa Mesa Senior Center shared details regarding the reception for the artist

display at the Senior Center exhibit.

OLD BUSINESS

1. MINUTES

04/06/2023 Arts Commission Draft Minutes

MOTION/SECOND: Chair Ashendorf made a motion to approve the April 6, 2023 minutes/Seconded by Commissioner Lucia.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Lucia, Commissioner Ochoa, Commissioner Zuckerman, Chair Ashendorf

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioner Derderian, Commissioner Mann, Vice Chair Wondercheck

Motion Carried: 4-0

NEW BUSINESS:

1. APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 ARTS GRANTS

Ms. Garner presented.

Chair Ashendorf: Expressed excitement of grant program and diversity within grant recipients.

Zuckerman: Expressed honor of serving on interview panel and enjoyed all of the applications. Was struck by diversity of applicants and the ways people are interested in spreading art and culture in Costa Mesa.

MOTION/SECOND: Commissioner Zuckerman made a motion to approve Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Arts Grants/Seconded by Commissioner Ochoa.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Lucia, Commissioner Ochoa, Commissioner Zuckerman, Chair Ashendorf

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioner Derderian, Commissioner Mann, Vice Chair Wondercheck

Motion Carried: 4-0

2. PUBLIC ART CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES REVIEW

Ms. Garner presented.

Commissioner Zuckerman inquired about review guidelines.

Commissioner Lucia: Added to number 12, on site location ideas, such as incorporating public art into bus shelters.

Chair Ashendorf: Wants to ensure artist names are recognized with piece of artwork. Addressed including lighting in public places. Questioned whether there would be any sort of categorizing or keeping track of artworks as a means to notify the public so they may know which buildings spaces have accessible artworks.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Skeith Dewine: Spoke about potentially implementing QVC codes to provide a historical element relating the artwork, artist, and other aspects pertaining to the artwork or area.

MOTION/SECOND: Chair Ashendorf made a motion to receive and file/Seconded by Commissioner Zuckerman.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Lucia, Commissioner Ochoa, Commissioner Zuckerman, Chair Ashendorf

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioner Derderian, Commissioner Mann, Vice Chair Wondercheck

Motion Carried: 4-0

MONTHLY REPORTS

1. ARTS & CULTURE STAFF REPORT

Ms. Garner presented.

Commissioner Zuckerman requested an email of proposed reductions by the Governor.

Chair Ashendorf inquired is staff need help on finding youth sources for the Youth Art wall for the lobby at City Hall.

ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER MEMBER & STAFF COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT Chair Ashendorf adjourned at 6:33 P.M.

NEXT REGULAR ARTS COMMISSION MEETING: Thursday, June 1, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.