
THE COSTA MESA ARTS COMMISSION

MARCH 7, 2024
6:00 P.M. – UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE by Commissioner Ashendorf.

ROLL CALL

= Present = Absent

Commissioners

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

City Staff

- Monique Villasenor, Recreation Manager
- Ashley Thomas, Sr. Recreation Supervisor
- Laurette Garner, Arts Specialist
- Laura Fautua, Executive Assistant
- Kathia Viteri, Office Specialist II

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Fitzpatrick: Inquired about the Cannabis tax funding.

Angel Correa: Costa Mesa resident and Costa Mesa Playhouse board member invites the public and Commission to the upcoming production of Tony Award winning play *Art*, which goes very well with the “City of the Arts” motto. The show runs from March 22, through April 14, Fridays, and Saturdays at 8pm. And Sundays at 2pm. There are two (2) pay what you will performances: Friday, March 22 and Thursday, April 4.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Commissioner Ashendorf: Acknowledged the city is spending some time and energy with *Costa Mesa Encore*, a designated one (1) page in the Costa Mesa Senior Center and newsletter. There's everything from candle painting to some theater and symphony. Recommended there be an artist exchange between the sister City program. Spoke with resident Emilia Painter, who was inquiring about the process of some kind of network for artists. Emilia will be launching the Costa Mesa artists guild to provide a platform for artists to network and to provide education for them with their home base being at the Costa Mesa, Women's Clubs. Shared “Trail of Art”, where a couple of local coffee shops and artist sketch artwork and put it on the bulletin boards at the coffee shops, and invite people who are there to take a piece of artwork or leave one. Acknowledged Mr. Fitzpatrick’s public comment.

Commissioner Ochoa: Recently saw a retrospective of pioneering performance artists, Barbara T. Smith at the Institute of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles and noticed in some of her archival material that was exhibited a letter and it included her address, which at the time was on 17th Street in Costa Mesa and excited to discover this information about an artist she admires. Spoke about an art history record in our city would be pretty cool.

Commissioner Derderian: Mentioned he and Commissioner Ashendorf are looking at utilizing resources that were fundraised from the Cultural Arts Committee in the hopes to discuss it more formally before the Arts Commission. Mentioned he purchased the domain name cityofthearts.org and would like to hear more about the cannabis tax at the next commission meeting.

Chair Wondercheck: No Comments.

OLD BUSINESS

1. MINUTES

02/01/2024 Arts Commission Draft Minutes

MOTION/SECOND: Commissioner Ashendorf made a motion to approve the February 1, 2024 minutes /Seconded by Commissioner Ochoa.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Ashendorf, Commissioner Derderian, Commissioner Ochoa, Chair Wondercheck

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Commissioner Lucia, Commissioner Mann, Vice Chair Zuckerman

Motion Carried: 4-0

2. APPROVAL OF UTILITY BOX ART PROGRAM

Ms. Laurette Garner, Arts Specialist, presented.

Discussion ensued regarding the two (2) utility box art redesigns.

Chair Wondercheck inquired to the commission if there is anyone who wants to entertain a motion.

Public Comments: None.

MOTION/SECOND: Commissioner Ashendorf moved to approve utility box art design one (1) and box number two (2) be returned for a mock-up review at the next Arts Commission / Seconded by Commissioner Derderian.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Ashendorf, Commissioner Derderian, Commissioner Ochoa, Chair Wondercheck

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Commissioner Lucia, Commissioner Mann, Vice Chair Zuckerman

Motion Carried: 4-0

NEW BUSINESS:

1. PUBLIC ART DONATION POLICY

Ms. Laurette Garner, Arts Specialist, presented.

Commissioner Ochoa inquired if there should be a \$50,000 donation limit due to insurance maintenance concerns.

Commissioner Ashendorf inquired who bears the cost of the appraisal from page nine (9).

Commissioner Derderian asked if a donated art piece be tax deductible from the City.

Commissioner Derderian: emphasized the importance of maintaining a strict definition of aesthetic, focusing solely on the artistic merit of a work of art without considering other factors or significances. Additionally, inquired about the goals of the art collection, referencing a previous meeting's approval of a permanent public art policy and seeking clarification on whether these goals are outlined within it or if they are expected to be addressed in the future.

Commissioner Ochoa requested on page seven (7), to include details regarding fabricators, especially in relation to contemporary art practices. Recommends additional documentation for art history.

Public Comments: None.

MOTION/SECOND: Chair Wondercheck moved for staff to make further revisions and bring the item back at the next Arts Commission meeting/ Seconded by Ochoa.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Ashendorf, Commissioner Derderian, Commissioner Ochoa, Chair Wondercheck

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Commissioner Lucia, Commissioner Mann, Vice Chair Zuckerman

Motion Carried: 4-0

2. ARTVENTURE GUIDELINES

Ms. Laurette Garner, Arts Specialist, presented.

Commissioner Ashendorf highlighted the stipulation display and location are determined by City staff should help alleviate art placement questions. Spoke about Youth Art category submission deadlines and school notification.

Chair Wondercheck asked if it is possible to add the award amounts next to each item.

Public Comments: None.

MOTION/SECOND: Chair Wondercheck moved to approve staff recommendations to ARTventure Guidelines / Seconded by Commissioner Ochoa.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Ashendorf, Commissioner Derderian, Commissioner Ochoa, Chair Wondercheck

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Commissioner Lucia, Commissioner Mann, Vice Chair Zuckerman

Motion Carried: 4-0

MONTHLY REPORTS

1. ARTS & CULTURE STAFF REPORT

Ms. Laurette Garner, Arts Specialist, presented.

ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER MEMBER & STAFF COMMENTS.

ADJOURNMENT Chair Wondercheck adjourned at 6:58 P.M.

NEXT REGULAR ARTS COMMISSION MEETING: Thursday, April 4, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.