

CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 27, 2010
City Council Chambers, Oakland City Hall

1. **Welcome.**
2. **Call to Order / Determination of Quorum:** A regular meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission was held in Hearing Room 1, first floor of Oakland City Hall, 1 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Oakland, CA 94612. The meeting convened at 6:05 p.m. with a quorum. Matais Pouncil was Acting Chair.
Present: Jacinda Abcarian, Jacqueline Boggan, Chris De Benedetti, Stephanie Geter, Joyce Gordon, Terry Hill, Sean Kennedy, Tatiana Larkin, Matais Pouncil, Damon Powell, Brian Vejby
Excused: Eric Farber
Absent: Ise Lyfe
Staff: Steven Huss, Cultural Arts Manager and Department Liaison to the CAC; Nicole Neditch, Acting Cultural Funding Coordinator
Public: Sanjiv Handa
3. **Open Forum:** One speaker, Sanjiv Handa.
4. **Action Item: Approve Minutes of July 26, 2010 Regular Meeting. MOTION: Commissioner Vejby moved to accept the minutes. Commissioner Gordon seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.**
5. **Cultural Funding Program Business.**
 - A. **Informational Item: Resignation of Kathy Littles as Cultural Funding Coordinator; Temporary Hire of Nicole Neditch as Acting Coordinator; City Recruitment Process for Permanent Hire.** Ms. Littles left City employment to accept a teaching opportunity. Ms. Neditch has been hired on a temporary basis to carry out the duties of the Coordinator position while the City conducts an open recruitment to fill the position permanently.
 - B. **Informational Item: Status of Fiscal Year 2010-11 Cultural Funding Grant Recommendations.** The grant recommendations passed by the Cultural Affairs Commission are scheduled to be reviewed by the Life Enrichment Committee on October 26 and passed by City Council in early November.
 - C. **Action Item: Second Review and Approval of Proposed Change to 2011-2012 Application Calendar to Reflect City Budget Cycle.** On July 14, 2010, the Funding Advisory Committee voted to revise the grants program calendar to push all dates back by approximately four months. This would have the one-time-only effect that no funded programming could take place in the summer of 2011. At their July meeting, Commissioners would not vote on the recommendation out of concern that organizations with summer programs for youth would suffer. Staff has contacted all funded organizations and received no objections; the few organizations with summer programming, including the Museum of Children's Art, have stated that they will simply shift Cultural Funding Program funds to support activities taking place from fall 2011 through summer 2012 with no net loss of funding. However, some Commissioners objected that staff had not prepared a new written report on this item. **MOTION: Commissioner Powell moved to approve the revised grants program calendar. Commissioner Abcarian seconded. Commissioners Abacarian, Boggan, De Benedetti, Kennedy, Larkin, Pouncil, Powell, and Vejby voted in favor of the motion; Commissioner Hill voted against; Commissioners Geter and Gordon abstained. Motion carried.**

6. **Public Art Program Business: Informational Item: Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) Report.** On July 12, 2010, the PAAC reviewed two design directions developed by commissioned artist Dan Corson in collaboration with Sasaki Architects. These concepts are in the design development process and are being reviewed by the Public Art Program, the Community & Economic Development Agency, and BART. Also, three Open Proposals projects awarded funding in October, 2009, have been completed, with five more in the works. On August 13, 2010, the PAAC reviewed several mural proposals generated by community groups. When visual/public art is proposed for public property and/or is supported with City funds, PAAC review is required.
7. **Discussion Item: Proposal for Cultural Affairs Commission /Oakland Arts Activities Booth at Art & Soul Festival 2011.** Commissioners Kennedy and Geter sought a booth at Art & Soul in August and were told no space was available. Commissioners would like to have an information booth at future Art & Soul festivals. Commissioners agreed that they should attend more events throughout the year and have a visible presence in promoting the Cultural Arts Programs and the activities of the Commission. For a future action item, the Commission agreed to develop a list of events they could participate in annually.
8. **Discussion Item: Development of Commissioner Tools and Information for Effective Community Outreach.** Commissioner Larkin continued on the theme of outreach. A calendar of events is important. There are various ways to be in touch with the public about CAC activities, including creating a Facebook fan page, creating a Twitter account, and making videos of Commissioners talking about specific arts organizations or artworks.
9. **Informational Item: Mayoral Candidate Forum on Community & Cultural Development; October 7, 2010, 6-8 pm in Oakland City Hall.** This is a public event, developed by the Oakland Cultural Trust and to be moderated by the League of Women Voters. It will be held in City Hall Hearing Room 1 with a spillover space in Hearing Room 2. Commissioners are encouraged to attend.
10. **Informational Item: 510Arts.com Online Art Competition, Intersection: World Culture in the East Bay.** Over 150 submissions were received for this competition. A community advisory panel will select the top awards and honorable mentions by genre. Each of the four participating cities (Oakland, Berkeley, Emeryville and Richmond) will select a “Best of” award from among the submissions from artists in their cities. Visitors to the site will select one submission for a “People’s Choice” award. All awards carry cash prizes.
11. **Agenda Building.** (1) Appoint two new Commissioner liaisons to the Public Art Advisory Committee. (2) Vote on calendar of events at which CAC would participate. (3) Proposal from Commissioner Hill to honor the late Bishop Walter Hawkins with a memorial.
12. **Announcements.** Commissioner Kennedy announced that video coverage of the four Oakland Mayoral candidates’ forums held to date is posted on the Good News in Oakland website.
13. **Adjournment.** Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.