

**City of Oakland
Cultural Arts & Marketing Division
Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) Meeting
Minutes
October 4, 2010**

Members Present: Jennifer Easton, Joyce Hsu, Carole Jeung, Deborah Lozier (co-chair), Julie Troser, Andrew Woodd (co-chair)*

Excused: Judy Moran

Absent:

Staff Present: Steven Huss, Cultural Arts Manager; Kristen Zaremba, Assistant Public Art Coordinator

Guests: Richard Cowan, Kristi Holohan

* indicates partial attendance

Meeting Chair: Deborah Lozier

1. Meeting called to order at 5:35 p.m.
2. **Open Forum:** No speakers.
3. **Minutes: D. Lozier noted that she was the chair at the September meeting. C. Jeung moved to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2010 PAAC Meeting. J. Troser seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
4. **Action: Review and Approve Proposal for Artwork at Courtland Creek Park Renovation by Artist Kristi Holohan, funded with Councilmember Quan's Pay Go Funds.** Artist Kristi Holohan presented design concepts for an art project to be sited at Courtland Creek Park. Richard Cowan, Chief of Staff to Councilmember Quan, noted that the contribution of Councilmember Quan's PayGo discretionary funds (that must be encumbered and expended before the end of the calendar year) to this project was already approved by Council, but that the proposal was inadvertently not brought to PAAC for design review as it should have been. The budget for the project is \$9,904.50. Ms. Holohan has worked with the Courtland Creek Park Improvement Committee to identify the locations and theme for the project. PAAC members expressed concern that the budget is not sufficient to accomplish what Ms. Holohan has proposed, and discussed how to encourage artists to seek sufficient funding for their work. Additionally, there no maintenance funding is budgeted for the project. The artist will work with the community to develop a plan of responsibility for maintenance of the work for five years, after which time the condition will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Ms. Holohan noted that she does not have any permissions documentation in hand yet, but that Jim Ryugo, Public Works staff, is supportive of the project. Ms. Holohan promised to return in December with final designs. **Motion: J. Easton moved to support the proposed project by Kristi Holohan for Courtland Creek. J. Troser seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
5. **Informational: BART 17th St. Gateway Project - Discussion of New Preliminary Schematic Design Concept by Artist Dan Corson.** Assistant Public Art Coordinator Kristen Zaremba presented the artist's preliminary concepts for a revised proposal in response to BART's

objections to the artist's previous concepts. Mr. Corson's new concept, loosely titled "Heliotrope," would juxtapose an undulating, tactile wall surface painted with a color-shifting paint, with the opposing brick wall. A series of robotic mirrors would be programmed to reflect natural and artificial light to create an ephemeral 'canopy' of light over the space and projected onto the brick wall, and possibly present opportunities for interactivity with passersby. PAAC members expressed interest in the new concept, but noted some concern about the use of mirrors and controlling light reflection appropriately in a public space. They encouraged the use of the light/color shifting paint. Some noted that they appreciated the forms Mr. Corson was exploring, but could not fully understand how they related to the robotic mirror components and encouraged the artist to further develop the two elements as one concept or focus on one element. They also stated that the artist should develop some type of mock-up simulations to demonstrate how the work would function in daylight vs. evening. PAAC members discussed the importance of this site and their hesitation to support a compromised project if Mr. Corson cannot develop a compelling alternative concept. They further asserted that the artist must be fully behind any new proposal for it to succeed. The committee members agreed that they would continue to support working with Mr. Corson to develop a project for this site, if appropriate, or another in the Uptown, with the possibility of allowing the artist to continue working with Sasaki Architects as part of the design team for the BART site. Staff noted that they would be inviting Mr. Corson to do another site visit of the entire Uptown area prior to the meeting with BART and would be bringing an update with a request for action to the next PAAC meeting.

6. Staff Updates:

- a. **CAC – PAAC liaisons.** Both liaisons, Chris de Benedetti and Jacqueline Boggan, will be stepping off the PAAC due to scheduling conflicts. CAC will be discussing and nominating new liaisons at their next meeting.
- b. **Public Art Academy:** The first regional Public Art Academy webinar was offered on September 29. Cultural Arts Programs Coordinator Steven Huss presented and K. Zaremba attended a free convening of more than 30 artists at the Alameda County Arts Commission to answer questions after the webinar concluded. Attendees' feedback was very positive.
- c. **510 Arts Website Competition:** S. Huss requested volunteers to sit on the selection panel for the Oakland "Best of City" review of the 510 Arts website competition submittals. D. Lozier, C. Jeung and J. Easton volunteered to participate.

7. Other Business: None.

8. Announcements: Oakland Mayoral candidates will be speaking at an arts and culture forum on October 7th from 6:00 – 8:00 PM in Hearing Room 1 of City Hall. All committee members are encouraged to attend.

9. Agenda Building: Staff will return with revised 17th Street BART Gateway concepts for review and action, and provide the first draft of the 2011 Public Art Annual Plan.

10. Adjournment: J. Easton moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. C. Jeung seconded. Motion passed unanimously.