

**CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, November 22, 2010
Redwood Heights Recreation Center, 3883 Aliso Avenue, Oakland (District 4)

- 1. Welcome by Councilmember Jean Quan, City of Oakland Mayor-Elect.** Councilmember Quan welcomed the Commission to District 4. She stated that she entered politics to fight the elimination of the music program in Oakland schools. She hopes to see City art in the schools grants increase as time goes on. As a Councilmember she was instrumental in passing the Transient Occupancy Tax augmentation that has kept the Cultural Funding grants level somewhat even in the face of cuts. She has also has underwritten integrated arts projects such as the Laurel Arch and would like to see more integrated art and design projects in Oakland. She invited Commissioners to attend the January 3, 2011, City Hall open house and progressive march through Oakland.
- 2. Call to Order / Determination of Quorum:** A special meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission was held at the Redwood Heights Recreation Center, 3883 Aliso Avenue, Oakland CA 94619. The meeting convened at 6:15 p.m. with a quorum. Matais Pouncil was Acting Chair.
Present: Jacinda Abcarian, Chris De Benedetti, Eric Farber, Joyce Gordon, Terry Hill, Sean Kennedy, Tatiana Larkin, Matais Pouncil, Damon Powell, Brian Vejby
Excused: Jacqueline Boggan, Stephanie Geter, Ise Lyfe
Absent:
Staff: Steven Huss, Cultural Arts Manager and Staff Liaison to the Cultural Affairs Commission
Guests: Councilmember Jean Quan; Cultural Arts & Marketing Manager Samee Roberts
Public: Desi W.O.M.E.
- 3. Open Forum:** Desi W.O.M.E. described the work of his all-volunteer organization Community Rejuvenation Project to create 24 murals on Oakland streets with the participation of Oakland youth. He objected that a mural he painted on the Parkside Cinema has been painted over, though he added that Councilmember Kernighan has offered money for a new mural. He would like to see a “street art registry” – a website where citizens can register artwork they would like to keep and somehow grandfather these sites for murals. On questioning from Commissioners, Mr. W.O.M.E. admitted that about 50% of the murals Community Rejuvenation has painted are unsanctioned – on abandoned properties – though the organization first attempted, unsuccessfully, to contact the property managers. The Commission stated that they could not help if the organization continues to paint unsanctioned murals, but invited Mr. W.O.M.E. to return with a proposal for a street art registry on legitimate sites. Cultural Arts Manager Huss will review and validate the proposal if submitted, before forwarding it to the Commission for consideration.
- 4. Action Item: Approve Minutes of September 27, 2010 Regular Meeting and October 25, 2010 Special Meeting. Commissioner Pouncil moved to accept the minutes as written. Seconded by Commissioner Benedetti. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**
- 5. Action Item: Cultural Affairs Commission Proposal to Honor Significant Contributors To Oakland’s Cultural Community Past & Present Through Mayoral Proclamation; Action on Commission Proposal to Recommend a Proclamation for the Late Bishop Walter Hawkins.** Commissioner Larkin presented a proposal for a process to issue Mayoral proclamations for Oakland cultural leaders. In discussion, the Commission determined that there is no budget for this initiative so honors will have to be non-monetary, simple proclamations only; that proclamations will be issued twice a year and the first honors will be made in spring 2011. A few Commissioners will meet as a subcommittee to flesh out the proposal and to collect nominations. That subcommittee will present to

the Commission which will vote en masse and then calendar the proclamations. Commissioner Larkin will chair the subcommittee; Commissioners Abcarian and Vejby will assist via e-mail. **MOTION: Commissioner Kennedy moved to approve the proposal to honor significant contributors to Oakland's cultural community past and present through Mayoral proclamation, and to honor the late Bishop Walter Hawkins, as well as to create a committee to nominate individuals to be honored. Commissioner De Benedetti seconded. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**

6. **Action Item: Adopt Proposed CAC 2011 Meeting Calendar.** Commissioners accepted the 2011 meetings calendar with 10 scheduled meetings, three to be held in district locations and the remainder at City Hall. Commissioner Vejby observed that district meetings are most effective when scheduled to coincide with an event such as dedication of a public artwork. **MOTION: Commissioner Pouncil moved to accept the 2011 meetings calendar, with the understanding that 1/3rd of the meetings will take place outside City Hall. Commissioner Gordon seconded. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**
7. **Discussion Item: Calendar of Events for CAC Participation/Outreach.** Commissioners Powell, Kennedy and Gordon agreed to form a subcommittee to develop a short list of events they will recommend that the Commission participate in during 2011. This subcommittee will meet at the Joyce Gordon Gallery.
8. **Public Art Program Business**
 - A. **Informational Item: Report on 11/1/10 Public Art Advisory Committee Meeting.** S. Huss provided an informational report on the business conducted at the last PAAC meeting.
 - B. **Action Item: Appoint Commissioner Damon Powell as CAC Liaison to Public Art Advisory Committee.** **MOTION: Commissioner Gordon moved to appoint Commissioner Powell as CAC liaison to the PAAC. Commissioner Vejby seconded. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.**
9. **Informational Item: Cultural Funding Program Update.** Commissioners are invited to the upcoming Funding Advisory Committee retreat on December 13, location to be determined.
10. **Informational Item: Oakland Cultural Plan Update.** A joint committee of the CAC and Oakland Cultural Trust continues to meet to develop a planning process.
11. **Agenda Building.** Next regular meeting to be held Monday, January 24, 2010, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Oakland City Hall.
12. **Announcements.** Commissioner Abcarian announced that Youth Radio now has the second of two exterior murals honoring Oscar Grant with the support of the Grant family. Commissioner Kennedy announced that the *Good News in Oakland* website will celebrate its one-year anniversary and 100th episode at a party December 18 at Z Café.
13. **Adjournment.** Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.