

**City of Oakland  
Cultural Arts & Marketing Division  
Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC)  
Minutes  
August 5, 2013**

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**Members Present:** Judy Moran (co-chair), Kevin Chen, Allison Cummings, Jennifer Easton, Joyce Hsu, Andrew Woodd (co-chair)

**Excused:** Nick Dong

**Absent:**

**Staff Present:** Steven Huss, Cultural Arts Manager; Kristen Zaremba, Senior Public Art Project Manager

**Guests:** Sara Biel, Karla Brundage, Caroline Stern

**Meeting Chair: A. Woodd**

1. Meeting called to order at 5:35 p.m.
2. **Open Forum:** No speakers.
3. **Minutes: J. Easton moved to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2013 PAAC meeting. J. Moran seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
4. **Action Item: *Temescal In Situ – Creek Song: Temporary Installation Proposal by Sara Biel for the Rockridge Temescal Greenbelt at Clifton Street.*** Senior Public Art Project Manager Kristen Zaremba introduced Oakland resident artist Sara Biel and provided an overview of the community/artist initiated project, *Temescal In Situ*, by Ms. Biel and Karla Brundage for the Temescal district. The installation will run from September 14 through October 31, 2013. Project funding derives from monies raised by the crowd-sourcing competition called Open Stock, and will include various interventions around the neighborhood ranging from performances to visual art installations in storefronts. Biel's public art intervention will be sited along the greenbelt, and consist of string web and a poem transcribed on small pieces of paper. Maps and signage for the project will be displayed in the neighborhood and at the Temescal Branch Library. Ms. Biel will be responsible for maintenance of the temporary installation. PAAC members and staff suggested that additional signage at the project site would be very valuable and would provide a deeper experience of the work and encourage respect for the work. Ms. Biel noted that students from Oakland Technical / Emerson High School are also involved in creating a project. **J. Moran moved to approve the *Temescal In Situ – Creek Song* temporary project by Sarah Biel. A. Cummings seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
5. **Action Item: Cultural Funding Program 2012-13 Grantee Caroline Stern Project.** Cultural Arts Manager Steven Huss introduced Oakland artist and Cultural Funding grant recipient Caroline Stern and summarized her Artists in the Schools grant-funded project for Kaiser Elementary. Ms. Stern described the school, noting that it is distinguished as a highly diverse campus, and is in need of visual enhancement for the chain-link fence surrounding the playground. The project consists of a series of fifteen 4'x 4' paintings on exterior grade MDF panels hung on the fence. The paintings were created by the students with instruction from Ms. Stern and muralist Dan Fontes, and depict California natural habitats and endangered species. Ms. Stern stated that the paintings, made with Nova Color paints and an anti-graffiti varnish, are intended to last 10 years. Ms. Stern is the parent of a student at the school and has committed to being responsible for maintenance of the work. **J. Easton moved to approve the Kaiser Elementary painting project by CFP recipient Caroline Stern. J. Hsu seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

- 6. Informational: Public Art Advisory Committee Vacancies.** Committee members and staff discussed potential new PAAC members. K. Zaremba reported that local muralist Joaquin Newman was honored to be invited to join, but does not have time in his current schedule to commit to serving. Mr. Newman’s business partner and spouse Evelyn Orantes, a local artist and arts administrator at the Oakland Museum, is available and interested. Ms. Orantes’ credentials were discussed and her nomination will be voted on at the next PAAC meeting. Committee members discussed other potential nominees. Staff will solicit resumes to bring to the next meeting.
- 7. Informational: Staff updates on pending and completed projects.**

  - A. Prop. 84: Cesar Chavez Park:** S. Huss presented images and reported that the \$60,000 mosaic tile project was successfully installed by artists Collette Crutcher and Aileen Barr in time for the park opening in September. Huss commended the artists on their work and professionalism.
  - B. Prop. 84: West Oakland Youth Center:** S. Huss reported that the artist team was making progress but had struggled with some of the challenges of ongoing changes made by the project architect, and with the intensive community engagement process. The \$75,000 tile mural project, consisting of approximately 500 square feet of 6”x6”-square tiles to be painted in a hyper-realistic style, must now be installed by the artist team with Public Art Program support in approximately six months, rather than by the general contractor’s tile installer. J. Easton noted she could provide some recommendations for installers.
  - C. New Prop. 84 Projects: Durant Mini Park and Golden Gate Recreation Center:** K. Zaremba reported that two new Proposition 84-funded projects are getting underway. The smaller project is a mural opportunity (pre-defined in the Prop. 84 grant application) with a budget of \$16,000 for a small park on 29<sup>th</sup> Street off Martin Luther King Jr. Way. The second project is a larger opportunity for a multi-faceted art project – including an interior teen mural and exterior opportunities on the façade, performance stage, and play areas – in conjunction with the Golden Gate Recreation Center replacement at 62<sup>nd</sup> Street off San Pablo Avenue in North Oakland. The existing facility, which will be demolished, includes a mural which is not part of the city’s collection and must have been commissioned through Parks and Recreation.
  - D. Uptown Art Park:** S. Huss reported that a number of exciting live performances are being planned for the Uptown Art Park in October to meet the National Endowment for the Arts’ “Our Town” grant commitments. Additional details will be provided at the next PAAC meeting. Committee members and staff discussed the merits of the ‘yarn bomb’ intervention by local yarn bomber “Ishknits” enveloping Randy Colosky’s sculpture *The Pressure to hold together that which held things back – Part 2*. Staff and committee members agreed to leave the work up for a month, as Colosky is supportive of the intervention and it has created dialogue about the park.
  - E. BART 17<sup>th</sup> Street Gateway:** K. Zaremba reported that the construction contract has officially been awarded and final negotiations for the easement agreement with the new owner of 1733 Broadway are underway. Project completion is estimated for the first six months of 2014.
  - F. Measure DD Project Updates:** K. Zaremba reported that the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge artist’s contract is now fully amended and work will commence Fall 2013; the 10<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Improvement project is underway; the Lakeside Green Streets artist team are prepared to commence carving the sculpture model this fall; the Lake Merritt Garden Gates project is estimated to be completed Summer 2014 in conjunction with the adjacent new Garden Center entryway improvements.
- 8. Other Business: AC Transit BRT Public Art Program:** S. Huss reported that two AC Transit BRT project art enrichment request for qualifications (RFQs) for lead artists and artisans will be ready to review shortly. Due to their timeline the review turnaround may be limited and conducted at the staff level, with input from Councilmember Kaplan’s office, as they are very interested in the project. K. Zaremba reported that the Zarouhie Abdalian – SFMOMA project will be installed the

week of August 26, with an invitation to PAAC members to attend a sound test on Friday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. The project officially launches September 14.

**9. Announcements:** None.

**10. Agenda Building:** (A) Review CFP recipient Brett Cook project. (B) Vote on committee nominees. (B) Ongoing current and new project updates.

**11. Adjournment: J. Moran moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50. K. Chen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**