

City of Santa Rosa  
Art in Public Places Committee  
April 6, 2009 – Minutes

1. Call to Order

The April 6, 2009, Art in Public Places Committee meeting was called to order by Chairperson Evans at 3:35 p.m. at the Steele Lane Community Center in Santa Rosa, CA.

2. Roll Call

Present: Allen, Anderson, Charnofsky, Curiel-Larios, Evans, LaBerge, Rabinowitsh,  
Richardson, Sawyer  
Absent: Fisher, Flock, Gorin

3. Public Comments – None

4. Approval of Minutes

The March 2, 2009, minutes accepted as written.

5. Chairperson's Comments/Announcements

Individual introductions were conducted as there were several new committee members attending this meeting.

At Evans' request, Kumpfer gave a short report on the status of the art galleries and studio space on South A Street which have been closed for a variety of safety issues. The committee requested this topic be included as a regular item on a future agenda.

6. Scheduled Items Presented for Possible Decisions at this Meeting

6.1 Street Performer Permit Program

Art Coordinator Vicky Kumpfer reported staff became aware of a petition being circulated to overturn the City's noise ordinance because of its perceived conflict with expressions of art; particularly, playing music in public. Kumpfer then presented a draft outline and forms of a proposed "Street Performer Permit Program" which staff has been working on for several weeks.

Santa Rosa Police Officer Tom Collins discussed enforcement issues regarding street performers.

The decision was made to form a subcommittee which will include staff and committee members Rabinowitsh, Charnofsky and Evans to prepare a proposal for review by the Art Committee at a future meeting.

The following issues were raised for consideration by the subcommittee in preparing the final proposal:

- o create a permit process flexible enough to deal with "appropriate music/art"
- o establish a trial period—less than 15 days—and use the time to vet the artists with a retail/commercial business committee

- establish a trial period for “busker” locations: with a similar vetting process using a retail/commercial business committee
- avoid creating conflicts with master special event permits so buskers do not claim a right to perform during Downtown Market, Rose Parade, Tour of California, etc.
- consider the need to establish a free expression area to avoid conflicts with First Amendment rights
- explore busker permit programs in other cities
- create a streamlined process with clear rules for police to follow and enforce
- avoid interfering with business operations and the rights of business owners
- continue use of Special Event Permit process until busker permit program is established

## 6.2 Nissan Public Art Project

Kumpfer distributed a draft Request for Qualifications for art sculpture to be placed in a streetscape location near the intersection of South Santa Rosa Avenue and South A Street as part of the Nissan project art in-lieu fees. The Committee agreed to extend the time line to allow time for public display of the short listed proposals.

The Committee approved staff’s request to proceed with the Call to Artists and to establish a review panel which will include representatives from Nissan.