

Art in Public Places Committee
Minutes – June 1, 2009

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Evans called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. at the Steele Lane Community Center in Santa Rosa, California.

2. Roll Call

Present: Allen, Anderson, Charnofsky, Evans, Flock, LaBerge, Rabinowitsh, Richardson

Absent: Curiel-Larios, Fisher, Gorin, Jang-Poulsen, Sawyer

3. Public Comments – None

4. Approval of Minutes

The April 6, 2009, minutes were accepted as written.

5. Chairperson's Comments/Announcements – None

6. Scheduled Items Presented for Possible Decisions at this Meeting

6.1 Mural Proposal for the Burbank Gardens Neighborhood

Judy Kennedy from the Burbank Gardens Neighborhood group explained their desire to attach an art mural on fences along Maple Avenue. She distributed a preliminary written proposal. She requested funding from the art committee as well as assistance when the time comes to issue a call for artists and putting together a selection panel. The committee noted several steps to moving the project forward including: obtaining necessary releases from the ten property owners involved; approaching funding sources indicated on the proposal, such as CAB; liability and maintenance planning, better defining the scope and design of the project; determining final ownership of the panels/work; and the possibility of starting on a smaller scale to break the project into phases. The committee explained public art funds are committed for this funding cycle. They also stated they support the beginning concept and may be willing to assist in other ways later as the project develops.

6.2 Modification of Water Features at City Hall

Marc Richardson reported the two water features located at City Hall are aging, requiring increased maintenance costs as well as being features which require electricity and water to operate. One of the features has developed a large underground water leak and the other has a pump which needs replacement or removal. Both areas require modifications to meet the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility requirements.

Richardson introduced Ed Buonaccorsi, General Services Administrator, who distributed design drawings of proposed replacement materials for the area. Mr. Buonaccorsi explained this plan raises the area to be level with surrounding surfaces. It replaces the fountains with low or no water landscaping, reduces energy consumption and addresses a component of the needed ADA upgrades at City Hall.

Richardson noted that the fountain art sculpture would be removed and stored with the thought of possible future repair and relocation. According to State law, the artist will be notified of the decommissioning.

The committee noted the large wall at the back of the fountain is especially conducive to placement of a future art piece. They requested that if there is existing electrical connections they be preserved.

6.3 Staff Updates

- A. Art District Business Plan – going to Council on June 2, 2009
- B. Public Art Policy Revision Status – going to Council on June 2, 2009
- C. Street Performer Program
Kumpfer reported the subcommittee met and began work on a detailed application, approval and monitoring process. Their approach was to make this as flexible and unrestrictive as possible. Upon review of existing City ordinances, including the noise ordinance and permit process, the subcommittee was of the opinion everything is in place to allow for street musicians to play. Upon further committee discussion, staff was encouraged to meet with the Police Department to clarify past problematic issues and how they should be addressed in order to allow for appropriate music in public areas.
- D. Phantom Gallery
The first location has become unavailable but the gallery has moved to Suite “C” in the same building. A new show is scheduled to open in conjunction with First Friday on June 5th. The hope is to have a member show in August. Additional locations are still being sought.
- E. First Fridays
Artists are being more centrally located in the downtown and railroad square areas. The consensus was that the footprint was spread too large to be as effective as desired for the artists.
- F. Ellison Sculptures
Kumpfer reported Robert Ellison is not well and would like to sell some of his sculptures. He has made a sixty day limited offer to reduce the price on his Renaissance piece from \$67,000 to \$40,000. The committee reiterated current funding is committed, as well as the emphasis to place pieces at City entry ways.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the committee is on Monday, July 6, 2009, 3:30 p.m., at the Steele Lane Community Center in Santa Rosa, California.