

City of Santa Rosa  
Art in Public Places Committee Meeting  
March 7, 2011 - Minutes

1. Call to Order  
Evans called the meeting to order at 3:32 pm at the Steele Lane Community Center in Santa Rosa, California.

2. Roll Call  
Present: Anderson, Bartley, Curiel-Larios, Duggan, Evans, Flock, Kaufman, Kennedy, Lott, Rabinowitsh, Richardson, Vas Dupre  
Absent: Charnofsky

3. Public Comments- Nancy Wang and Judy Hardin Cheung spoke to encourage the committee to reconsider the implementation of a Poet Laureate Program, and would like the item to be added to a future agenda. They presented a packet promoting Ms. Hardin Cheung as the inaugural Poet Laureate for Santa Rosa, and indicated that if financial constraints were the concern, that this could be implemented with no budget impact.

To remind the committee of previous action taken by the committee on this topic, Arts Coordinator Tara Matheny-Schuster provided a brief recap of how the item was originally brought to the committee, and the findings of the staff report provided at the December 2010 meeting. Given the committees prior action on this issue, the committee directed staff to prepare a packet for city council including a memo on the item, as well as the packet presented to the committee by Ms. Hardin Cheung.

4. Approval of Minutes- December 6, 2010. Minutes were approved as written.
5. Comments and Announcements by Chair and Board members- Evans announced that his term as committee chair may be coming to an end. The future of the Redevelopment Agency is uncertain, and it is unclear if the agency still exists, who the committee representative will be in April. Vas Dupre announced the Santa Rosa Symphony's Summer Music Academy, happening for three weeks this July. Scholarships and financial aid are available.
6. Scheduled Items Presented for Possible Decisions at this Meeting

- 6.1 Bruce Johnson Sculpture at the Sonoma County Museum

Diane Evans, Executive Director and Jennifer Bethke, Education Curator from the Sonoma County Museum presented a proposal to move the sculpture, "Sequoia" from the east side of the museum to a location on the west side to be included in a new sculpture garden. They presented drawings showing the proposed location, and indicated that a building permit is needed to complete the move. Ms. Evans talked about a possible plan to expand the current parking lot on the east side to include additional staff parking, as well as gated security. An additional benefit to the new location will be safety (less homeless use and garbage buildup). The museum will pay

the costs associated with the move, and will work with the city to secure the building permits and plans. The new location will include a gravel area around the footing, and the artists will assist with engineered plans and the logistics of the move. It was mentioned that the move will place the sculpture on museum-owned property (it is currently on city-owned property). Since the piece is owned by the city, a simple encroachment permit will provide the needed documentation. Kennedy expressed her disappointment at the addition of 6 parking spaces, but no bike parking. A motion was made by Flock and seconded by Rabinowitsh to approve the museum's proposal to move the sculpture. Motion passed unanimously.

## 6.2 Reports and Updates

### a. Artstart Partnership

Matheny-Schuster reported on a restructured relationship between the Recreation, Parks & Community Services Department and the nonprofit Artstart. A partnership agreement is being developed to provide management and staffing of the program. All Artstart positions will be temporary city employees, and funded by the nonprofit.

### b. 9<sup>th</sup> Street Underpass Mural

Matheny-Schuster reported that she presented the project at a recent Caltrans District Transportation Art Committee meeting, she received preliminary approval. The last item needed to complete the encroachment permit process is a resolution from the city council stating the city's approval and responsibility for the mural. It is expected that the work can begin this summer.

### c. Street Performers

Matheny-Schuster reported that as of today's date, 45 permits have been issued in 2011. Back in January, a piece in the Press Democrat spurred some complaints about the performer featured in the article. Working with Sgt. Celli with the Downtown Enforcement Team, enforcement of the ordinance is going relatively smoothly. Several issues may need to be addressed when a review of the ordinance is performed this summer, including the distance at which the sound is audible.

## 7. Adjournment

7.1 Future Agenda Items: Orientation for new members at the April meeting; update on current projects and FY goals; budget update; and possible discussion of Literary Arts in Santa Rosa.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:17pm. The next scheduled meeting is Monday, April 4, 2011, at 3:30pm at the Steele Lane Community Center in Santa Rosa, CA.