

**CITY OF SANTA CLARITA
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
ARTS COMMISSION
6:00 p.m.
Thursday, January 20, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Millar called to order the regular meeting of the Arts Commission at 6:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

All Commissioners were present.

FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Fisher led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Strickland, second by Schmidt to approve the minutes of December 16, 2010.

Hearing no objections, it was so ordered.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Fisher, second by Strickland to approve the agenda.

Hearing no objections, it was so ordered.

ARTS SPOTLIGHT

Ovington Michael Owston of Repertory East Playhouse gave an overview of their current and upcoming productions.

Bret Lieberman and Kevin Lieberman from Higher Level Productions spoke about their organization which promotes local musicians in Santa Clarita.

ARTS RECOGNITION

Rita Garasi was unable to attend.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner Fisher commended City staff for the great job at the Art Project Dedication at Canyon Country Park. She also attended the Six Sculptors Artist Exhibit at COC, and commended COC for allowing local artists to have their show there.

Commissioner Strickland is excited to know that the Performing Arts facilities will be built at Canyon and Saugus High Schools. He also attended Jamming for Jesus and it was amazing.

Commissioner Schmidt attended a fundraiser at Chick-Fil-A for piano players and spoke to a teacher with the Music Teachers Association of California. They have 50 members here. It's nice to see kids involved with music outside of their schools.

Commissioner Dow attended Art Walk and also the Art Project Dedication at Canyon Country Park. The City did a fantastic job.

Chair Millar attended the Art Project Dedication and the Six Sculptors Exhibit at COC and thought it was great. Also, he attended the Summit of College Music Society and commented that how we engage our communities is an important national dialog going on.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Scott Bruckner with the Art Tree gave an overview of plans for 2011. Art classes will continue and there will be a new mural project with teens from the Community Center. They are working on a strategic plan and now have a 501(c)3 and insurance. They are looking forward to an exciting year going forward.

ITEM 1

AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS, ARTS & ECONOMIC PROSPERITY IV

Arts and Events Administrator, Phil Lantis gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Commission. The project goal of the study is to get a better picture of the impact the arts have on the financial health of the community. This is done through financial assessments of local arts organizations and surveying of attendees at local arts performances and events. The next steps are to create and distribute a press release, provide a comprehensive list of the eligible organizations, work with organizations to enter data in the California Cultural Data Project, and begin collecting audience-intercept surveys.

Commission received and commented.

ITEM 2

661ARTS.COM

Commissioner Dow gave an update and said that the website might possibly be up and running by later tonight, where you can make notes and suggestions. The intent is to have a live site by next month. This is very exciting for arts organizations. There will also be a suggestion box included.

Commission received and commented.

ITEM 3

MEDIAN ART PROJECT

Arts and Events Administrator, Phil Lantis gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Commission. The selected artist is L.T. Mustardseed and the name of the art is "Western Tiger Swallowtail".

Motion by Dow, second by Fisher, to accept the finalist LT Mustardseed for the median art project.

Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM 4

PERCENT FOR ARTS PROGRAM

Arts and Events Administrator, Phil Lantis gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Commission. Past research was discussed, as well as the program purpose, and next steps.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

TimBen Boydston spoke as a private citizen on the Percent for Arts Program Agenda Item. He thanked the Commission for looking into the Percent for Arts Program, and reminded them that he could be helpful to staff and provide historical documents from the past.

ITEM 5

PUBLIC ART FUNDING

Arts and Events Administrator, Phil Lantis gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Commission. He gave the history of what the City has funded on public art from 2003 to current.

ARTS COMMISSION INITIATIVES UPDATE

Commissioner Dow asked that in order to support and promote events, he would like to find a way for budget information to be shared with the Commission prior to the February 1 Joint Council Budget Study Session.

Commissioner Fisher suggests having a Study Session prior to the February 1 Joint Council Budget Study Session to come up with a basis to request funding and get a history on what kind of funding has been received in the past.

Chair Millar supports the idea of having a Study Session so the Commissioners understand the issues as well as the current and relevant data.

Consensus by all Commissioners to have a Study Session regarding the 2011-12 Budget Discussion on Wednesday, January 26, 2011, from 4:00-6:00 p.m., in the Orchard Rooms, at City Hall.

Commissioner Schmidt is anxious to see the results form the arts survey.

Commissioner Strickland was very impressed with the Three Piggy Opera and continues to find out how the arts are so important in education.

PUBLIC ART PROJECT STATUS REPORT

Commission received and commented.

STAFF COMMENTS

Administrator Lantis reminded Commissioners of the Joint Council Budget Study Session with City Council, the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission, the Arts Commission, and the Planning Commission on Tuesday, February 1, 2011, in the Century Room, from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Administrator Lantis reported that at last months meeting, Sherry Klahs with the Santa Clarita Master Chorale proposed an idea for an event recognizing the tenth anniversary of the September 11 attacks. She proposed sponsoring a City-wide event to commemorate this anniversary and to provide a ceremony to mark it. Ms. Klahs met with 661Arts and they will partner on it.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Millar adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

FUTURE MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Arts Commission will be held on February 17, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, first floor of City Hall, 23920 Valencia Boulevard, Santa Clarita, CA.

Ingrid Hardy
Interim Community Services Superintendent

Dr. Michael Millar, Chair
Arts Commission

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