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**CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION  
Minutes**

March 11, 2008  
Manhattan Beach City Hall  
Community Development Conference Room  
6:00 p.m.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Cultural Arts Commission (CAC) was called to order at 6:06 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners  
Shelby Phillips, Chair  
Candy Duncan, Vice Chair  
Susannah Rosenthal, Commissioner  
Nancy Humbarger, Commissioner  
Susan Sweeney, Commissioner

Juanita Purner, Cultural Arts Manager

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes were approved as written

**IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Gary McCauley – no questions

**V. GENERAL BUSINESS**

020612.7 Sculpture Garden

The Commissioners discussed the challenge of finding artists for the sculpture garden. A Commissioner volunteered to continue seeking information for artist Tom Oterness; his work was previously seen by the Commission.

Commissioner Duncan reported on the Public Art in The City of Carlsbad; the City's recent exhibition themes were art works depicting whimsical animal images and abstract works. The animal works were the most popular.

Commissioner Duncan was referred to the Port of San Diego's web site to the Urban Tree project.

- Project is a revolving exhibition of one year duration
- Exhibition travels: Chicago, Metropolitan Museum and seven trees installed in Carlsbad

- Port's project has 75 public art works

The Port's web site also included a directory, artist registry, Public Art Policy and an informative video. Commissioner Duncan urged the Commissioners and City Council to visit the web site, [www.portofsandiego.org](http://www.portofsandiego.org).

It was pointed out that there is a wealth of public artists available, and staff and the Commission need to search for potential public art artists; need to sort, evaluate cost, size of works, and themes; then identify those art works that meet the City's criteria. The Commissioners were assigned to research Oterness and to create a call sheet. It would be practical to present Council with an 18-month program for the Sculpture Garden rather than program for six months.

Other points of discussion:

- Public art themes - trees; surf boards; volleyballs; Sun Sand and Sea; light pole decoration; bark-a-texture (invite architects to create dog houses for display on the green belt; art works may be auctioned off)
- Commission faced with challenge of evaluating wild, surreal, quirky art works vs. safe and lifeless works of art
- Focus on inaugural Sculpture Garden exhibition; need for Commissioners and staff to search and gather a variety of public artists and images of their works
- Create a call sheet/fact sheet. Create a proposal over the next two meetings.

Chair Shelby Phillips will term-out in May from the Cultural Arts Commission.

#### **IV. REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS**

Children's Theater

Theater survey's indicated Aesop's Fables was very positively received and indicated interest in seeing more children's theater. The revenue was \$3,246.00. The actors engaged the children with quick paced dance and engaging songs. Chair Phillips presented two proposals directed at keeping the momentum for children's theater alive.

The first proposal offered enhancement options for the Joslyn Center; stage curtains are fine, versa decks (eight needed instead of ten), tree lights can be rented, a16 channel sound system. Individual mikes are not needed; actors can project their voices. Two sound monitors and one amplifiers are needed.

Mr. Gill asked if pipe and drape and stage can be stored in the existing outdoor storage unit. Chair Phillips agreed the stage extension and pipe and drape would fit in the storage unit.

Performance time needs review—the 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. performance could be problematic.

The second proposal involves: Commission's focus on educating the next generation of theater goers. Aesop's Fables was the first performance art production sponsored by the

Commission. Performances could be established through a subscription series with performances three times a year. Series tickets would go on sales in advance with a cost \$20.00 each; \$80 for a family of four.

Options exist in the selection of a production company. DancinDan is not the only company to choose from but his productions involve songs, dance and an interactive approach. We've found the Saturday and Sunday's four performance schedules worked and the only consideration is the Jolsyn Center's availability. \$25,000 from the Art Fund would support this Children's Theater three-times-a-year series.

Grant writing or fund raising efforts could contribute to the program costs.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.