



MINUTES OF THE
CHANDLER ARTS COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, April 19, 2022
5:00 PM

Commissioners Present: Kathleen Escobedo, Michelle Hirsch, Tim Wiant, José Benavides, Shachi Kale, Farhana Ahmed, Julie Ray

Commissioners absent: None

Staff Present: Peter Bugg, Caroline Hudson-Naef, Michelle Mac Lennan

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 PM by Michelle Hirsch

UNSCHEDULED / SCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES / CALL TO PUBLIC

- John Sefton, new Director of the Community Services department, introduced himself and shared a little bit of his background. He has experience with public art going back to 1998 with various municipalities. He thanked commissioners for their artistic guidance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 15 MEETING:

- a) Michelle Hirsch had a question about the abbreviation, "CAC," which Caroline identified as standing for "Chandler Arts Commission." Kathleen made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Farhana seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION AGENDA

- a) Peter shared the proposals from the finalists for the Fire Department memorial project. Kathleen shared how the selection meeting with Fire Department representatives went, saying that they went over the proposals in detail. The committee selected two of the four artists, Nicholas Rascona and Rachael Slick, to send in revised proposals, as they were close but still

not quite what the Fire Department was looking for. The committee agreed that Gabriel Vinas and Bobby Zokaite's proposals were not a good fit for this project. The commissioners gave some feedback on all the proposals, and José pointed out that the overall quality of the proposals was very professional. José made a motion to ask for refined proposals from Nicholas Rascona and Rachel Slick. Michelle Hirsch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- b) Peter reminded the commissioners of the Portable Public Works initiative and shared options for artists to approach, selected by staff based on the commissioners' previous comments. The artists shared were Yuke Li, Edgar Cardenas, Frank Ybarra, Sapira Cheuk, Ashley Czajkowski, Alonso Delgadillo, Jason Begay, Christy Puetz, Laura Spaulding Best, and Mary Meyer. After looking through these artists, the commissioners each voted on their top three. The artists with the most votes were Yuke Li, Frank Ybarra, and Edgar Cardenas. Kathleen made a motion that gallery staff should reach out to these three artists to get available works to select from for purchase for the next meeting. Michelle Hirsch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

BRIEFING ITEMS

- a) Ongoing public art projects
 - a. Peter finished the paperwork for the Zora Folley mural and the Request for Qualifications is live. He will share the RFQ with the commissioners so that they can help spread the word, and then the commission will review applications at the May meeting.
 - b. Caroline gave an update of the Hightown neighborhood project. She and Peter have worked with Esposito's Restaurant to host a neighborhood kick-off party on Sunday, May 1 to meet residents, discuss the project, and gather initial input. Michelle Hirsch asked if any commissioners should attend, and Peter said that two commissioners would be a good number so as not to overwhelm the gathering with City officials. Michelle Hirsch suggested that José attend, and volunteered to go as well. José said he should be able to attend.
 - c. Peter is working with Administrative Librarian Sue Van Horne on the mural project for the Downtown Library but needs to gather a few more details before the RFQ is ready for review. He pointed out that this project is a good opportunity to have some more relevant artwork for the library than what was previously on display.

- d. Peter shared that this year's INFLUX project is still moving along, if slowly. Lily Reeves has provided better options for the more verbose signs.
- e. Peter shared that the Police Memorial project should be completed by late May. It has been delayed because of supply chain issues, but will still fall within the terms of the contract.
- b) Maintenance Projects
 - a. Peter shared that there are currently no in-progress maintenance projects. A photographer is coming this week to document public artworks that staff does not have good images of for the website.
- c) Discuss public art component for Spring 2023 exhibitions
 - a. Peter gave a refresher of this idea and what was discussed at the last meeting, that he is proposing that the Arts Commission commission Gerald Clarke, a Native artist, for a public artwork as a companion project to Jacob Meders' and Daniel Nez's exhibitions. He provided another opportunity for input from the commission. He also reminded the commission that they are allowed to select an artist directly without producing an open call if the project budget is under \$10,000. There were no comments, so Peter will make this an action item at the next meeting.

MEMBERS COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- As this was her last meeting as a commissioner, Kathleen thanked everyone for a wonderful experience on the Chandler Arts Commission and expressed that she will miss everyone.
- Michelle Hirsch thanked Kathleen for her service and leadership, adding that she felt welcomed from the very beginning by Kathleen.
- Tim wanted to make sure that there was an addendum in the contract for the library mural that will allow the artwork to be used for multiple purposes.

CALENDAR

- a. Next regular meeting will be May 17, 2022 via webex

INFORMATION ITEMS

Current Exhibitions

- a. Vision Gallery – *Chasing Ghosts* – April 2 – June 18, 2022.
- b. Chandler Center for the Arts Gallery – *CUSD 2022* - April 20 – May 12, 2022. Reception: Wed, April 27, 5:30pm in the Bogle Theater

Upcoming Exhibitions

- a. Vision Gallery – *Melting Point: Artisans of Bollinger Atelier* – June 25 – August 20, 2022. Reception: Friday, June 24, 6-8 p.m.
- b. Chandler Center for the Arts Gallery – *Out of the Blue* – May 21 – July 30, 2022. Reception: Friday, May 20, 6-8 p.m.

Upcoming Events

- a. Moving through Grief with Art. Thursday, April 21, 6-8pm in Vision Gallery
- b. City Council Budget Review. Thursday, May 26, 6pm, Council Chambers

ADJOURNMENT

- a) At 5:53 PM, Kathleen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Michelle Hirsch, Chair

Date