



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

Commissioners Present: Michelle Hirsch, José Benavides, Shachi Kale, Farhana Ahmed, Caitlin Penny, Julie Ray

Commissioners absent: Tim Wiant

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

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 PM by Michelle Hirsch via Webex.

UNSCHEDULED / SCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES / CALL TO PUBLIC

- None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 21 MEETING:

- Farhana made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Shachi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION AGENDA

- Caitlin reported back to the commission about the artist selection meeting for the Zora Folley mural with Folley family members, a representative from the neighborhood, and the owners of FLO Yoga & Cycle. She stated that the group selected the Fleming/Dixon team for the project and that their design needed just a few tweaks. Shachi added that the group was interested to see how these two artists' styles combine in this collaborative project. Michelle Hirsch asked if any final changes will need to be approved again, and Peter said that they will need to be approved by the Folley family and the owners of FLO. Caitlin made a motion to approve Jerome Fleming and Giovannie

Dixon as the artists to complete the Zora Folley Mural. Farhana seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- b) Caroline gave a recap of the Pueblo Alto committee meeting to select an artist for that mural, stating that the group left the meeting with a top three of Martin Moreno, Edgar Fernandez, and Diego Perez. José stated that any one of the three would make an excellent choice. The commissioners discussed the merits of Moreno's traditional style versus Fernandez' more contemporary style. Shachi stated that although Fernandez' style is very modern, his imagery is still very much rooted in tradition. José made a motion to approve Edgar Fernandez as the artist for the Pueblo Alto mural. Julie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- c) Peter shared the draft Request for Qualifications for the Downtown bench project and explained that it will be funded by Downtown Redevelopment, not the Arts Commission. Caitlin asked how the Arts Commission came to the conclusion to create benches, and Peter explained that the Arts Commission was brought into the conversation after the project had been conceived of by Downtown Redevelopment. Michelle Hirsch suggested a few small grammatical edits. Julie made a motion to approve the Request for Qualifications as amended. Shachi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- d) Peter shared about the opportunity to apply for an NEA Our Town grant with a collaborative project with the Chandler Cultural Foundation. The proposed project would be a music festival with artist Michael Mwenso in spring 2024 that would incorporate a visual arts component. He proposed allocating \$10,000 of the Arts Commission's budget for Fiscal Year 2024 to be used for matching funds for the grant; the much larger remainder of the matching funds will be provided by the Chandler Cultural Foundation. The commissioners discussed this opportunity, and Michelle Mac Lennan added that the CCF will be seeking in-kind donations from the City with the end goal of being able to offer the festival to the public for free. Michelle Hirsch made a motion to approve \$10,000 in funding for Fiscal Year 2024 for this project, should it be funded by the NEA. Farhana seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- e) Peter shared that the commissioners should select a representative to attend the Chandler City Sponsorship funding program selection meeting on September 13 from 5 – 8pm. Caitlin and Michelle Hirsch volunteered to attend. Michelle Hirsch made a motion to approve Caitlin as the Arts Commission's representative to this meeting. Shachi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- f) The commissioners discussed who should attend the selection meeting for the Downtown Library artwork project. Peter suggested that Tim serve as one of the Arts Commission's representatives because he is also on the Friends of the Library board. Julie also volunteered to attend. Farhana made a motion to approve Tim and Julie to attend the Downtown Library artwork selection meeting on August 15, 3 - 4pm. Jose seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

BRIEFING ITEMS

- a) Councilmember Orlando budget amendment
 - a. Peter shared that he has reached out to the principal of Galveston Elementary but hasn't heard back yet. Michelle Hirsch asked if the project will be conducted just at one school, to which Peter answered likely yes. Michelle Hirsch also suggested that he consider approaching the Kyrene de la Paloma Arts Integration Academy.
- b) Ongoing public art projects
 - a. Peter shared a very early-stage construction photo from Lily Reeves for the INFLUX project. He said that the signs should be installed before the September Arts Commission meeting.
 - b. Peter shared that Yuke Li's traffic control box design has been a finalist in a number of design awards that she has applied for and thanks the Chandler Arts Commission for the opportunity to create the design.
 - c. Peter shared that the Transportation department is installing bike lane barriers on Frye Rd and that they approached Peter for a recommendation of an artist to work with for this project. Peter recommended Yuke Li, and it is likely that she will be the artist to complete this project.
 - d. In a previous meeting Tim had suggested that staff especially commend Library Artwork applicant Andrea Kirvaitis for applying to a public art project while only in high school. Peter did this and received a response from Andrea thanking the commission for considering her.
- c) Maintenance Projects
 - a. Peter shared that some tile benches around Downtown have tiles that have fallen out due to age and wear, but that they have been fixed now.
 - b. Peter also shared that he is continuing to work with a structural engineer to fix the Infinite Wave shade structure to ensure that it is less susceptible to wind damage. Currently the City's insurance policy is paying for this but Peter will keep the commission informed as things move forward.

MEMBERS COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Jose shared that he is getting ready to attend Burning Man later this summer.
- Michelle Hirsch shared that she was approached by Michelle Mac Lennan about potentially combining the Arts Commission, Chandler Cultural Foundation, and Chandler Museum Foundation holiday parties into one. Michelle Hirsch said she thought this was a great idea and a good opportunity for the groups to connect. She also recently travelled to Las Vegas and enjoyed attending Meow Wolf there and seeing public art around town.
- Farhana shared that the election is coming up and hoped for the commissioners' support.

CALENDAR

- a. Next regular meeting will be August 16, 2022, via Webex

INFORMATION ITEMS

Current Exhibitions

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

Upcoming Exhibitions

- a. Vision Gallery – *Inward Shift / Outward Gaze: Chelsie Tamala & Cam DeCaussin* – August 26 – November 10, 2022. Reception: Friday, August 26, 6-8 p.m. (Tentative)
- b. Chandler Center for the Arts Gallery – *Michelle Emami: Both, Neither, and All of the Above* – August 5 – October 15. Reception: TBD.

Upcoming Events

- a. July 30, 10am – Vision Gallery – Art Social: Block printing with Olivia Yuen
- b. August 20, 1pm – CCA Gallery – Make and Take: Painted Tiles

ADJOURNMENT

- a) At 5:55 PM Michelle Hirsch adjourned the meeting.

Michelle Hirsch, Chair

Date