

MINUTES

TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE Wednesday, July 11, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of a Chair or Vice-Chair at the scheduled meeting time, Community Services Director Schooler called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL Committee members present were Vice Chairperson Stadum (arrived at 5:20 pm) Committee Member Callan, Committee Member Johnson, Committee Member Lyte, Committee Member Shay-Diehl and Committee Member Wille

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Community Services Director Schooler

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action Motion: **Committee Member Lyte moved to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the January 31, 2007 Public Art Advisory Committee meeting**

Move: Lyte 2nd: Johnson Vote: 5-0-0-1

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Action Motion: **Committee Member Johnson moved to approve the agenda of the July 11, 2007 Public Art Advisory Committee meeting**

Move: Johnson 2nd: Shay-Diehl Vote: 5-0-0-1

STAFF REPORTS

1. Committee Discussion- Eric Mueller

Eric Mueller presented a conceptual idea for a local art event in the fall of 2007. An artist has offered to carve a piece of Carrera marble on Mueller's property on Twentynine Palms Hwy. With proper permitting in place, the public would be invited to view the carving, over a three week period. The artwork will be available for purchase. If not purchased, the artist would move the piece to his studio, after being on display locally for about a year.

Mueller related that conversations have occurred with area agencies to possibly purchase the artwork. If the piece is commissioned in advance, the subject matter is negotiable. If not commissioned, the artist would create something on his own.

The committee responded favorably to the idea, though further formal discussion is needed regarding Town involvement.

(Arrival of Committee Member Stadum- 5:20 pm.)

2. Committee Chair and Vice Chair Selection

Community Services Director opened nominations for the selection of Public Arts Advisory Committee Chairperson. Johnson nominated Stadum, with a 2nd by Shay-Diehl. Stadum declined the nomination for chair. Stadum nominated Shay-Diehl, with a 2nd by Lyte. No other nominations were offered, nominations closed.

Action Motion: **Move to select Committee Member Shay-Diehl to serve as Committee chair for fiscal year 2007-2008**

Move: Stadum 2nd: Lyte Vote: 6-0-0-0

Community Services Director opened nominations for the selection of Public Arts Advisory Committee Vice-Chairperson. Johnson nominated Stadum with a second by Lyte. No other nominations were offered, nominations closed.

Action Motion: **Move to select Committee Member Stadum to serve as Committee vice-chair for fiscal year 2007-2008**

Move: Johnson 2nd: Lyte Vote: 6-0-0-0

3. Art Donation- Dabah

Community Services Director Schooler informed the Committee of an art donation offer from artist Simi Dabah. The offer is a choice of two steel sculptures for public display. The artist has offered to donate one of the sculptures and to make recommendations regarding the installation of the piece. The offer was discussed by the committee. Both favorable and unfavorable comments were expressed. Favorable comments included the opinion that the artwork would lend an artistic element to the community's open areas, Mr. Dabah's work is unique, and that being creative to the placement of the artwork could be beneficial. Unfavorable comments included concern for the amount of Dabah's artwork already on display and the committee's reservations about the two pieces offered.

Schooler clarified the offer by explaining that the artist invited the committee to select a different piece from his inventory if desired.

Action

Motion: **Committee Member Johnson moved to accept the donation by Simi Dabah as presented, choosing from the two pieces included in the offer**

Motion Failed

Move: Johnson

2nd: Callan

Vote: 2-4-0-0

Committee discussion continued, considering the offer and taking advantage of the opportunity of selecting a different piece other than those originally offered for consideration.

Action

Motion: **Committee Member Lyte moved to accept the offer, exercising the option of selecting another piece from the artist's inventory.**

Move: Lyte

2nd: Johnson

Vote: 5-1-0-0

A sub-committee was formed, consisting of Committee Members Johnson, Shay-Diehl and Lyte, to visit the artist's display site in Joshua Tree on July 17, 2007 and bring back a recommendation to the group.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

STAFF INFORMATION

Community Services Director Schooler announced that a letter of resignation was received by Denise Dompke, thus creating a vacancy on the committee. Committee members should direct anyone interested in serving on the committee to town hall for more information.

The Great American Race will be visiting Yucca Valley for lunch on Friday July 13, 2007. Stop by and help cheer the teams on.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

1. Committee Member Callan

Committee Member Callan questioned if the public art program can be involved with the Morongo Basin Cultural Arts Council, Open Studio Tours as a way to promote public art.

2. Committee Member Johnson

Committee Member Johnson offered congratulations to Shay-Diehl on her chairmanship. The Yucca Valley Chamber's Spirit and Pride committee is going well.

3. Committee Member Lyte

Committee Member Lyte – no comments

4. Committee Member Shay-Diehl

Committee Member Shay-Diehl expressed interest in looking at creative funding options for the Public Arts Master Plan

5. Committee Member Wille

Committee Member Wille offered his discord with the public art offers by Simi Dabah.

6. Vice Chair Stadum

Committee Member Stadum – no comments

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next meeting – August 22, 2007, 5:00 p.m.

Sub-committee field trip to Dabah’s display site in Joshua Tree- Tuesday, July 17, 2007, 8:30 a.m.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

MBCAC- open art studio
Public Arts Master Plan
Public Art Appraisal
Dabah offer

ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chair Stadum adjourned the meeting at 6:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lesley Copeland, PAAC Secretary
Community Services Department