

APPROVED MINUTES  
PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE  
CITY OF MILPITAS

**Minutes:** Meeting of the Public Art Committee (PAC)  
**Date of Meeting:** Monday, January 28, 2008  
**Place of Meeting:** Milpitas City Hall, Committee Meeting Room, 455 E. Calaveras Blvd.

**I. Call to Order** Chairperson Foulk called the Meeting to Order at 7:08 p.m.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance** Chairperson Foulk led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Roll Call** Committee Members Present: Butler, Cherry, Foulk, Hays, McGuire, Moss, Rabe, Voellger, and Alternate Tsuei

Committee Member Excused Absence: Ettinger, Whitecar  
Committee Member Absent: Asif

City Staff Present: Parks & Recreation Director, Bonnie Greiner, Public Services Assistant, Tirzah Cedillo

City Council Liaison Present: Council Member Giordano

**IV. Seating of Alternates** None.

**V. Approval of Agenda** **MOTION** to approve the amended agenda dated January 28, 2008 to table agenda item #3. Coordination of Library Interior Displays and replace it with 'Update on Library Public Art Status presented by Mr. Greg Armendariz and Mr. Steve Erickson.'

M/S: Rabe/Moss Ayes: All

**VI. Approval of Minutes** **MOTION** to approve the minutes of November 15 and 26, 2007.

M/S: Voellger/Rabe Ayes: All

**VII. Public Forum** None.

**VIII. Announcements/Correspondence**

Committee Member Hays stated she had an artist approach her about painting a mural in Milpitas. She wants to know what are the appropriate steps a Committee member should take when a situation like this occurs. Also, does the Committee keep a portfolio of artists work, does an artist speak under Public Forum, or would the artist be put on the agenda as a specific agenda item. Ms. Greiner, Parks & Recreation Director responded a Committee member would either: have an artist bring a portfolio, speak to your Staff Liaison to agendaize, or have an artist speak under Public Forum for the allotted (3) minutes. Chair Foulk added during those (3) minutes the artist would make a project proposal. Then, PAC members would decide to agendaize the item or not. Committee Member Voellger stated PAC does have a bid process. Committee Member Rabe added that if a Committee member comes across an artist that they like, then the member would get the artist's business card and we would keep a portfolio of what the artist's medium to which they work and keep the recommendation on file.

Ms. Greiner, Parks & Recreation Director stated she would follow up with Staff Liaison, Ms. Whitecar on this matter.

## IX. New Business

### 1. Proposed New Senior Center Presentation and Initiation of Public Art for the Project

Parks & Recreation Director, Bonnie Greiner gave an update on the new Senior Center building that is slated to begin construction next January, after the new Library opens.

Ms. Greiner stated to reiterate on how the appropriate funds are allotted to a project of art it's based on the construction costs, and we have yet to approve a construction cost. So, we don't have a solid number that we would be spending on public art at this time on the project. She stated she would make sure to follow all proper protocols, and will put on the agenda again when they have construction costs. As of right now it's immature to talk further about the project tonight. Seniors have been coming up with ideas on what they'd like to see, but we're only talked about the project at a very low level.

**Note. Receipt. File.**

### 2. 2008 Tea in the Trees Kickoff Discussion

The Public Art Committee discussed planning a 2008 Tea in the Trees event. The committee decided to form a subcommittee to provide a proposal at the next scheduled meeting. The nominated Tea in the Trees Subcommittee Members are: Butler, Moss, Rabe, and Tsuei.

**MOTION** to form a Tea in the Trees subcommittee to discuss the possibility of having a Tea in the Trees event in 2008 and provide the Public Art Committee the event proposal at the next scheduled meeting.

M/S: Rabe/McGuire

Ayes: All

### 3. Update on Library Public Art Status

Public Works Director, Greg Armendariz and Project Manager, Steve Erickson provided an update on the public art status at the Library. At this time staff continues to work with Ms. Lynne Baer, Library Art Advisor and the artists. There is a meeting scheduled to discuss the artist's contracts with the artist schedules for the Library and the art, the coordination remains tight. The contractor could start working on the Library Tower and Plaza in February, March. To avoid delays or initial costs the artists should also be prepared to start their part of the installation and their aware of the timelines. Chairperson Foulk asked when could the Public Art Committee members be alerted of when the art would be installed. Project Manager, Steve Erickson responded that he would notify the committee. Committee Member Cherry asked what is the problem with the artist's contracts. Public Works Director, Greg Armendariz responded there are a couple of areas; indemnification language between the City Attorney and the artists attorney, and limitations. The original contract was limitless liability for the city on damages. So, our City Attorney is currently ironing out those issues. Then, in respect to the contract itself, there were some construction elements/questions as to whether or not the foundation for 'The Terrapedia' for instance would be included. The City Attorney needs clarification for the scope of issues. The City Council did approve \$100,000 for 'The Terrapedia' and \$20,000 for the foundation.

Mr. Armendariz added staff did meet with the artists on the job site to have them better understand where the city was on the Library Project. The artists, Ms. Rebeca Bollinger and Mr. Brian Goggin were able to see their respected areas. The artists walked through the schedule that the contractor has for them and the windows they have available.

Committee Member McGuire asked the garage and the area where 'Leapin Lena' would be, is that progressing. There have been questions from the Milpitas Historical Society about the safety of the truck. Mr. Steve Erickson, Project Manager responded yes, the Milpitas Historical Society has concerns with the safety of the truck against vandals. The City Attorney is concerned with liability, and will be seeking liability insurance from the Historical Society that apparently cannot afford to provide. So, there would be an update at the next City Council meeting with respect to the possibility of instead of a railing around the truck, maybe it would be more of a cage. So, that would be presented at the next City Council meeting.

The committee has requested that Ms. Whitecar send an email and phone call the committee members of the schedule when the art would be installed.

**Note. Receipt. File.**

**4. Library Plaza Flagpoles**

The Public Art Committee had requested to discuss and make a decision on the relocation of both the flagpoles at the new Library and the 'Cartwheel Kids' art piece in front of City Hall.

Chair Foulk stated the artist Mr. Brian Goggin of the art piece; 'The Terrapedia' did state the flagpoles wouldn't be a problem or conflict with his artwork.

Committee Member Rabe stated her opinion was that flagpoles are meant to fly against the sky. Where the flagpoles are now, they do not; it's against a building. Also, we're putting too much in the area where the flagpoles are and need to be spread out (flagpoles, sign, art, bookdrop). Chair Foulk agreed. Committee Member Voellger stated if the artist doesn't feel that the flagpoles need to be moved, and the architect designed it that way we should keep the flagpoles where it was originally planned. Committee Member McGuire agrees with Committee Member Rabe that the flagpoles are too close. Isn't there anywhere else that the flagpoles could be moved to. Committee Member Voellger added that if it's not affecting the artwork then it's out of our realm. Committee Member Tsuei stated he believes the flagpoles are at the best place. Mr. Armendariz, Public Works Director stated the architects first choice is where the poles are now. The architect would only consider moving the flagpoles if it interferes with the art.

**MOTION** to ignore the idea of moving the flagpoles at the new Library.

M/S: Voellger/Tsuei

Ayes: Butler, Cherry,  
Foulk, Hays,  
Moss,

Nays: McGuire, Rabe

Chair Foulk stated the 'Cartwheel Kids' art piece is too small in front of City Hall, and it would be more appropriate at the new Library. Committee Member Hays stated she wouldn't want to move the art piece until we have something else to replace it. Committee Member Voellger stated the Library Project Staff asked for \$5,000 to move the art and then the idea was dropped. Committee Member Rabe stated we have an ideal opportunity to speak with Committee Member Moss the artist of the art piece. Committee Member Moss stated the 'Cartwheel Kids' art piece should be part of the new Library in front of the kids' section. It would look better. She also stated she's willing to find the cheapest way to move, re-patina, and get the art piece ready to move. Committee Member Hays stated she

**MOTION** to not move the ‘Cartwheel Kids’ art piece until another art piece could replace it.

M/S: Hays/Voellger

Ayes: Cherry

Committee Member McGuire disagrees; the ‘Cartwheels Kids’ art piece could be removed and just have grass grow over the area. Mr. Erickson, Project Manager stated Group 4 Architecture wants \$5,000 to find the best location at the Library and to provide foundation design. The Subcommittee advised the subject to go to City Council for further discussion. To date this item has not been agendaized. Council Member Giordano asked could we get the \$5,000 from the Library Fund. Mr. Armendariz, Public Works Director responded he would have to find the monies in a CIP (Capital Improvement Project). Council Member Giordano advised to move the ‘Cartwheel Kids’ art piece now. Committee Member Cherry stated the committee should wait because then the committee wouldn’t have to deal with the architect and the Library Subcommittee. Committee Member Rabe stated if we move them now we’ll have the ‘Cartwheel Kids’ in front of the new Library for the grand opening. Committee Member Voellger stated the children’s section at the new Library is two stories tall. Do you really mean moving the ‘Cartwheel Kids’ art piece to the front of the old Grammar School. Both Committee Members Moss & Rabe stated yes, in front of the old Grammar School on the grassy area.

**MOTION** to move ‘Cartwheel Kids’ art piece from in front of City Hall to the front of the old Grammar School at the new Library on the grassy area.

M/S: Moss/Rabe

Ayes: All

#### **5. Milpitas BART Station: Glass Artist Recommendation**

Ms. Gail Collins and Mr. Jack Mackie of VTA presented the recommendation of the glass artist for the proposed BART Station located in Milpitas, Ms. BJ Katz. They passed around two handouts showing what Ms. Katz work would look like at the station.

Mr. Mackie provided an overview of the BART Station, a decision was taken to separate monies into two different projects: 1. Platform Level of the BART Station the artist under contract is Ms. Amy Trachtenberg and will begin work with the architect shortly. 2. The other half of the monies is directed towards the Glass dress façade of the building. There is an amazing view from the light rail platform looking over to where the station will be of this piece. These are individually (9ftx6ft) panels of glass. The Committee selected three different artists and the final artist chosen today was Ms. BJ Katz who is well known nationally and internationally. She is based in Chandler, Arizona. Her proposal is to work primarily to the front of the building, the main entrance at Capitol Ave (1,700 sq ft of glass). She’s using textured glass, enameled glass paint, dichroic glass pieces coated so that it breaks up the spectrums.

Mr. Mackie explained that the artist, Ms. Katz misread the architectural drawings, the primary focus will be at the West entry. Any more monies that we can get out of the budget, add to and building again, the artist will move over to a glass wall that faces Montague Expwy, where the track crosses Montague right now. The artist wants to find another location to echo the glasswork.

Mr. Mackie stated the BART Station date of operation is scheduled for 2016.

**Note. Receipt. File.**

## 6. Cookbook

The Public Art Committee received the cookbooks for fundraising in late November. At this time Committee members have the opportunity to report their sales.

Ms. Bonnie Greiner, Parks & Recreation Director stated she's unable to provide a dollar amount or number of cookbooks sold. She will forward the request to the Staff Liaison, Ms. Whitecar to respond at the next meeting.

Committee Member McGuire requested that staff be provided with a list of the Public Art Committee members so they know who to give the cookbooks to. She stated there was a mishap when Committee Member Hays tried picking up her share of the cookbooks. She was told to pay for her cookbooks when she picked them up.

The Committee also requested to return some of the cookbooks because they need to be re-laminated. Some other requests were to determine what to do with the extra cookbooks, and to send out another citywide email to sell more books.

**Note. Receipt. File.**

## 7. Election of Officers

The Public Art Committee agreed to postpone the election of officers until the next meeting because not all members are present.

Also, the Committee discussed the possible resignations of both Committee Members Lawson and Asif, the status of Alternate Tsuei, and new Committee Member BJ Navarro. Ms. Greiner, Parks & Recreation Director stated she would forward the information to the Staff Liaison, Ms. Whitecar for clarification.

**MOTION** to postpone Election of Officers and re-agendaize for the next scheduled meeting.

M/S: Rabe/Moss

Ayes: All

## IX. Staff/Commission Reports & Discussion Items

None.

### Future Agenda Items

- Election of Officers (clarification of vacancies and alternates)
- Cookbooks Updates
- Art in the Park
- PAC Bylaws and Manual
- City Council actions on moving Cartwheel Kids

## X. Adjournment

**MOTION** to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. to the 'specially' scheduled meeting on February 25 2008.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tirzah Cedillo  
Public Services Assistant