

APPROVED MINUTES
PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE
CITY OF MILPITAS

Minutes: Meeting of the Public Art Committee (PAC)
Date of Meeting: Monday, August 18, 2008
Place of Meeting: Milpitas City Hall, Committee Meeting Room, 455 E. Calaveras Blvd.

I. Call to Order Chair Foulk convened the Meeting at 6:41 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance Chair Foulk led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Roll Call Committee Members Present: Chair Foulk, Vice Chair McGuire, Ettinger, Hays, Cherry, Navarro, Tsuei, Moss, Rabe, Voellger and Alternate Strauss.
Council Liaison: Giordano
Excused Absent: Butler.
City Staff: Economic Development Manager, Diana Whitecar,

IV. Seating of Alternates Neither alternate was seated as there was a quorum. Sobhan Dutta was introduced and welcomed as the newly appointed Alternate 2.

V. Approval of Agenda **MOTION** to approve the agenda dated August 18, 2008.
M/S: Rabe/Voellger Ayes: Unanimous

VI. Approval of Minutes MOTION to approve minutes of the May 19, 2008 meeting.
M/S: Voellger/Rabe. Ayes: Unanimous
MOTION to approve minutes of the June 16, 2008 meeting.
M/S: Voellger/Rabe Ayes: Unanimous.

VII. Public Forum No speakers.

VIII. Announcements/Correspondence

Committee Member Voellger announced a fundraiser to benefit South Bay Kids at Fresh Choice on August 26th. He also announced the October 3rd Mystery Dinner sponsored by the Milpitas Alliance for the Arts. Funds raised would go towards Milpitas High School Band uniforms.

Committee Member Hays spoke about the art in public places throughout Kansas City, MO downtown. Committee members Tsuei, Navarro and McGuire talked about public art displays in other communities they visited. The Committee asked that this item be agendaized for a future meeting.

Chair Foulk advised that during the meeting he would be more diligent about keeping track of speakers and asked that Committee members not speak out of turn and to be courteous to each other.

Committee member Moss announced that she has a show in Arizona and distributed flyers.

IX. Old Business

1. Library Art

South Tower: Staff Liaison Whitecar advised that the tower ceiling connections had been installed and that it is likely that the Marcheschi piece will be installed for the Library opening in January 2009.

No action was taken on this item.

2. Cookbook Update

Cookbooks were not sold at the Celebrate Milpitas! Festival. It was suggested that the cookbooks be sold at the Rotary Pumpkin Patch.

Note. Receipt. File.

3. Art in the Park

Committee Member Voellger presented a slide show of the three finalists that were selected at the second neighborhood meeting on July 31st.

Models of the art proposals are due on September 15th. Committee members suggested that a picnic or an ice cream social in Pinewood Park be hosted to review the models with the neighborhood to try and encourage a good turnout.

Chair Foulk agreed to get a flyer announcing the event to the school for distribution. Committee member Navarro volunteered to make the flyer.

4. Public Art Program Reorganization.

Staff Liaison Whitecar thanked the Committee Members for taking the time to meet with her and identified some common threads she heard from Committee members. Committee member Voellger indicated that he believed there were two issues – a structural problem and philosophical differences and how to approach public art. Chair Foulk concurred that the structural problems exist regarding membership and meeting schedules and reiterated that the Council is the ultimate decision maker on public art decision.

Council Member Giordano indicated that the Council did not intend to disband the Public Art Committee (PAC), but rather to combine into one entity.

Several Committee members expressed a desire to have public art decisions under the purview of the Arts Commission, but acknowledged that the Arts Commission workload would be increased. Some noted that this would not address the structural issues.

Several members suggested that a separate meeting for the PAC would help address structural issues in terms of workload and meeting schedules.

Committee Member Rabe suggested an alternative PAC structure, see attached. She reviewed the proposal and it was decided, after much discussion, to take “straw” votes on the recommendations to come to consensus on continuing a PAC separate from the Arts Commission.

The first vote considered absorbing the PAC responsibilities into the Arts Commission. Three members voted to support this and the remaining 7 voting members agreed that PAC should be a blend as proposed by Committee member Rabe. The second straw vote considered retaining PAC in its current configuration and the vote was 3 to 7. A vote to retain PAC with fewer members resulted in three supporting and 7 opposing.

Discussion continued on the number of Arts Commissioners that would be a part of a reconfigured PAC as some Committee members expressed concern that the Arts Commission would not be adequately represented in public art decision making. The next vote considered how many Arts Commissioners were interested in participating on a public arts committee: four Commissioners so indicated.

After lengthy discussion the final vote was to recommend to the City Council a reconstituted Public Arts Commission consisting of 3 members of the Milpitas Alliance for the Arts, 3 Arts Commissioners, 2 rotating stakeholders (such as Library or Senior Center Advisory Commissioners) and one community artist at large. Seven Committee members supported this, one member abstained and three members did not support this. All members supported the proposal that the 3 Arts Commissioners would have voting rights.

The Committee acknowledged that this item warranted more discussion and some established guidelines (such as timed meeting agendas and keeping discussions to the item on the table for consideration), but that this recommendation needed to be forwarded to the City Council for its September 2nd meeting.

7. Update on Moving the ‘Cartwheel Kids’ Sculpture

After lengthy discussion, a motion was made to broach relocation to the Library grass lawn (in front of the historic building) with the City Council, but not until the new artwork for City Hall was decided upon. Several members voiced support to relocate the Cartwheel Kids to the Library Plaza but this was not considered in the motion. Committee member Navarro urged that the public input on the Library Plaza art not be “tossed out”. M/S: Ayes: Voellger, Cheery, Navarro, Foulk, Hayes, Ettinger. Nays: Rabe, Tsuei, Moss and McGuire.

Chair Foulk suggested that the Library Plaza Art and the BART Art be placed on a future agenda.

X. Adjournment

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diana Whitecar, Economic Development Manager