

PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA
April 19, 2023
Palm Springs City Hall
3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way
Large Conference Room

Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361, this meeting was conducted by teleconference and in-person.

A. CALL TO ORDER:

A regular meeting of the Palm Springs Public Arts Commission was called to order by Chair Pritchard on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:

Present: Chair Russell Pritchard, Vice Chair Gary Armstrong, Commissioner Shawnda Faveau

Not present: Commissioner Barrett Newkirk

City Staff: Jay Virata

C. PRESENTATIONS: None.

D. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA:

Chair Pritchard has one amendment: Item #H5 will be deleted.

Vice Chair Armstrong amends Item #H3: should be Commissioner Faveau, not Vice Chair Armstrong.

MOTION BY VICE CHAIR ARMSTRONG TO ACCEPT THE AMENDED AGENDA, SECONDED BY CHAIR PRITCHARD, CARRIED 3-0 TO ACCEPT THE AMENDED AGENDA

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Richard Noble, a LGBTQ+ activist, discussed a student project that was filmed at Francis Stevens Park. A picture of 350 trans flags installed at the park for the rally was sent to the Commission. Also forwarded was a letter he received from Karen Baroni and her husband discussing their religion, costs, and other issues. Richard Noble requests an addition to the agenda for the regular May meeting for a presentation by his group that will show how the project was initiated, designed, and possible tie in with planned tablet project at the park.

F. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR:

Chair Pritchard congratulated the Commission for the successful collecting all the Clement sculptures to Demuth Park. Looking forward to the pillars project, the projects at Francis Stevens Park, and prospective temporary art installations at two other properties.

G. REMARKS FROM THE VICE CHAIR:

Vice Chair Armstrong stated that the John Clement pieces were very successful and have elicited positive feedback from the community. The collaboration of the committee members was helpful. The commission has received a number of event opportunities and community grants can be used as seed money for these events; the commission should be mindful not to become an event company, which would violate the purpose of this commission, which is to create art.

H. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/APPROVAL:

1. Discuss and approve a budget of \$9,000 for the purchase of the Altanviro and Loper Sculptures by Christopher Myers (\$1,500 each) currently located on the East Tahquitz Canyon median art pads (Chair Pritchard)

MOTION TO APPROVE MADE BY VICE CHAIR ARMSTRONG, SECONDED BY CHAIR PRITCHARD, CARRIED 3-0 TO APPROVE BUDGET FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE ALTANVIRO AND LOPER SCULPTURES.

2. Discuss and approve a budget of \$43,500 for a one-year installation, from July 1, 2023, to June 30th, 2024, of the artwork “The only other thing is Nothing” by MIDABI, aka Michael Bernberg to be installed at the Downtown Park, “Art Park” section, located at the southeast corner of Museum Drive and Museum Way. (Chair Pritchard)

MOTION TO APPROVE MADE BY CHAIR PRITCHARD, SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ARMSTRONG, CARRIED 3-0 TO APPROVE THE BUDGET FOR THE ARTWORK INSTALLATION BY MIDABI.

3. Amended item, to discuss and approve a \$5,000 neighborhood grant to the Black History Committee for Juneteenth celebrations, June 17th, 2023 (Commissioner Faveau)

MOTION IS APPROVE \$5,000 NEIGHBORHOOD GRANT, FOR THE BLACK HISTORY COMMITTEE FOR JUNETEENTH CELEBRATIONS, BY COMMISSIONER FAVEAU, SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ARMSTRONG, CARRIED 3-0 TO APPROVE THE BUDGET FOR THE JUNETEENTH CELEBRATIONS.

4. Discuss and approve a budget of \$650 for a new plaque for WOW installation, now relocated to North Palm Canyon (Chair Pritchard)

MOTION TO APPROVE MADE BY CHAIR PRITCHARD, SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ARMSTRONG, CARRIED 3-0 TO APPROVE THE \$650 BUDGET FOR THE NEW PLAQUE FOR THE WOW INSTALLATION

I. PROJECT UPDATES:

1. Utility Box Artwork update, by Commissioner Faveau

Commissioner Faveau provided an update on artwork and locations; one box has been completed. Artists will suspend work in May and resume work in the fall when the weather is cooler. Approximately \$10,000 in funds remaining. Commissioner Faveau to create an updated list of boxes approved by the City Council, artists, and available funds.

2. Vice Chair Armstrong met with developer Michael Braun and discussed the vision for public art, and the availability of space for murals on the construction fencing being installed. Developer Braun would like to be introduced to artists for possible private commissions of outdoor art installations on his development. Vice Chair Armstrong will mention possible upgrades to the Ryan Campbell piece in the Grit Art Pit.

J. REPORT FROM DIRECTOR/STAFF: No comments.

ADJOURNMENT: The Public Arts Commission adjourned to a special meeting on May 3, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the Large Conference Room of Palm Springs City Hall located at 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way.

MOTION MADE BY CHAIR PRITCHARD AND SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ARMSTRONG, CARRIED 3-0 TO ADJOURN at 6:24 PM TO A SPECIAL MEETING ON MAY 3, 2023, AT 5:30 PM IN THE LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM OF CITY HALL LOCATED AT 3200 E. TAHQUITZ CANYON WAY.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jay Virata

Jay Virata, Director
Community & Economic Development Department