

**PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA**

MEETING AGENDA

**Wednesday
November 15, 2023
5:30 PM**



**Palm Springs City Hall
3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way
Large Conference Room**

Gary Armstrong, Chair
Christopher Ramirez
Carlos Silveira

Barrett Newkirk, Vice Chair
Melissa Shelton

Shawnda Thomas Faveau
Tom Burns

Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361, this meeting may be conducted by teleconference. There will be in-person public access to the meeting location. To join meeting via teleconference, please use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81194643652?pwd=SHlxMjloK3UyNmpINDdsRkxJaXJtUT09>

Meeting ID: 811 9464 3652
Passcode: 006733

Dial by your location: 669 900 6833 US (San Jose); 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma); 346 248 7799 US (Houston); 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC); 312 626 6799 US (Chicago); 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Public comment may also be submitted to jay.virata@palmspringsca.gov. Transmittal prior to the meeting is required. Any correspondence received during or after the meeting will be distributed to the Commission and retained for the official record.

A. CALL TO ORDER:

B. ROLL CALL:

C. PRESENTATIONS:

1. The PRIDE Sculpture, by Karen & Tony Barone (Richard Noble)

D. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS: This time has been set aside for members of the public to address the Public Arts Commission on items of general interest within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission, and agenda items if the member of the public cannot be present later in the meeting at the time the item is heard by the Commission. Additionally, members of the public may address the Commission on

each item listed on the posted agenda at the time each item is heard. Although the Public Arts Commission values your comments, pursuant to the Brown Act, it generally cannot take any action on items not listed on the posted agenda. Three (3) minutes are assigned for each speaker.

F. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR:

G. REMARKS FROM THE VICE CHAIR:

H. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of the minutes from the meetings of July 19, 2023, August 21, 2023, September 20, 2023, and October 18, 2023.

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/APPROVAL:

1. Approve formation of an ad hoc committee to meet with the Desert Highlands Gateway Community to the Richard Wyatt mural.
2. Approve cancellation of the December 20, 2023 meeting and plan for a Study Session in December 2023.
3. Discuss next steps for Utility Box projects impacted by backup battery storage boxes installed on top of artwork.
4. Approve Airport mural design.
5. Approve funding in the amount of \$4,000 to provide signage for Public Art projects throughout the City.

J. PROJECT UPDATES:

1. Beautiful Shade
2. Pillars of Palm Springs
3. Art Collection Inventory
4. Asphalt Art

K. REPORT FROM DIRECTOR/STAFF:

ADJOURNMENT: The Public Arts Commission will adjourn to a meeting on December 20, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the Large Conference Room of Palm Springs City Hall located at 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way.

It is the intention of the City of Palm Springs to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in all respects. If, as an attendee or a participant at this meeting, or in meetings on a regular basis, you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, the City will attempt to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please contact the Office of the City Clerk, (760) 323-8204, at least 72 hours prior to the meeting to inform us of your particular needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible.

Pursuant to G.C. Section 54957.5(b)(2) the designated office for inspection of records in connection with the meeting is the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way (760) 323-8204.

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

I, JAY VIRATA, Community & Economic Development Director for the City of Palm Springs, California, certify this Agenda was posted at or before 5:00 p.m. on November 9, 2023, as required by established policies and procedures.

/s/ Jay Virata

Jay Virata, Director
Community & Economic
Development

PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA
July 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 Gary Armstrong on Wednesday, July 19, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners Melissa Shelton, Tom Burns, Carlos Silveira, Vice Chair Barrett Newkirk, Chair Gary Armstrong

Not present: Shawnda Faveau and Christopher Ramirez

City Staff: Jay Virata

C. WELCOME TO THE NEW COMMISSIONERS

D. PRESENTATIONS: None

E. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

MOTION BY VICE CHAIR NEWKIRK TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA, SECONDED BY CHAIR ARMSTRONG, CARRIED 5-0 TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Paul Henrickson, Upper Westside Neighborhood Organization: Suggestion for the installation of a memorial and park for Lawrence Crossley on a city lot at the south end of the Lawrence Crossley organization. A proposal has been shared with the Human Rights Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, and the Public Arts Commission.

G. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR:

Welcome to new Commissioners. The abundance of ideas coupled with the lack of Commission members recently has been challenging. The diversity of backgrounds, opinions, personalities and perspectives of this current commission

will be beneficial. Commission members are encouraged to ask hard questions and provide strong opinions. The Commission should workshop together, with ideas presented to the group for structuring. Review of current programs for assignment to Commissioners. Moving forward the focus will be on big and important pieces of artwork, and on managing select community engagement pieces with inexperienced and non-traditional artists.

H. REMARKS FROM THE VICE CHAIR:

Vice Chair Newkirk offered to continue the maintenance review of artwork, which he assisted with in 2021.

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/APPROVAL:

1. Request from the Palm Springs Arts Commission for \$25,000 grant for the de-installation and return of the sculpture “History of Suspended Time,” by Gonzalo Lebrija.

MOTION TO APPROVE MADE BY COMMISSIONER BURNS, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SILVEIRA, CARRIED 4-0 TO APPROVE GRANT. [COMMISSIONER SHELTON RECUSED HERSELF AT THE BEGINNING OF THE DISCUSSION OF THIS ITEM].

J. PROJECT UPDATES – Chair Armstrong:

1. Airport Art Update
The Airport Commission is supportive of public art. There are currently two initiatives: a mural on the concourse, which is in the solicitation phase, and the re-siting of existing artwork to increase their visibility and to protect them during renovations. Lengthy approval process for the Airport was outlined, need to plan for timing. The Airport would like to add more artwork, and a copy of their renovation plans has been requested.
2. Pillars evaluation and next steps
Plan was approved by City Council in April 2023. Height will be increased to 12,’ per the request of City Council. Landscaping and professional photographs requested to make the installation a highlight in city promotions. Solicitation through Procurement for these artworks has received 125 applications, closing date is July 25, 2023; subsequent review, evaluation, and selection process outlined. Possible special commission meeting in August to review and announce selections. Target date for completion and installation is April 15, 2024.
3. Eco-Art
General review and update provided.

K. REPORT FROM DIRECTOR/STAFF:

1. City \$300,000 Grant for Palm Springs Art Museum Free Thursday Night Program was approved by City Council. Funds will be provided from the City's General Fund.

ADJOURNMENT: The Public Arts Commission will adjourn to a meeting on September 20, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the Large Conference Room of Palm Springs City Hall located at 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way.

MOTION BY VICE-CHAIR NEWKIRK, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BURNS, CARRIED 6-0 TO ADJOURN at 6:17 PM TO A REGULAR MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 20, 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

PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA
August 21, 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 special meeting of the Palm Springs Public Arts Commission was called to order by Chair Armstrong on Wednesday, August 21, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:

Present: Chair Gary Armstrong, Vice Chair Barrett Newkirk, Christopher Ramirez, Carlos Silveira, Tom Burns, Melissa Shelton (arrived at approximately 8:41 minutes)
Not present: Shawnda Faveau

City Staff: Jay Virata

C. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA:

MOTION BY CHAIR ARMSTRONG TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA, SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR NEWKIRK, CARRIED 5-0 TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

E. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR: None.

F. REMARKS FROM THE VICE CHAIR: None.

G. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/APPROVAL:

1. Discussed and reviewed for approval selected Pillars of Palm Springs artworks for the East Tahquitz Median, for recommendation to the City Council.

Chair Armstrong expressed the gratitude of the Public Arts Commission to all the talented artists who participated in this artist call for the Pillars of Palm Springs project, and noted the specifications required for these submissions. The Public Arts Commission's role in this meeting is to formally accept the artworks selected by the selection committee and to recommend that the selection subsequently be presented to city council for approval. One of the six proposals – Serenity - needed minor technical adjustments. For the Equality piece, Commissioner Shelton notes that the flag the piece represents, does not represent equality for all marginalized communities. For the Diversity artwork, concern that the meaning of the artwork

is not clear at first sight and viewers would not have access to any narrative on the median. Placement and sequence of these artworks on the median have not yet been determined.

MOTION TO APPROVE MADE BY VICE CHAIR NEWKIRK, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SILVEIRA, 4 - APPROVE, 2 – ABSTAIN (COMMISSIONERS RAMIREZ AND SHELTON), 1 – ABSENCE, CARRIED TO 4-2 TO APPROVE THE PILLARS OF PALM SPRINGS ARTWORK SELECTIONS TO PROCEED TO CITY COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL.

H. PROJECT UPDATES: None.

I. REPORT FROM DIRECTOR/STAFF: None.

ADJOURNMENT: The Public Arts Commission adjourned to a meeting on September 20, 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 VICE CHAIR NEWKIRK AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SILVEIRA, CARRIED 6-0 TO ADJOURN at 6:40 PM TO A REGULAR MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 20, 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

PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA
September 20, 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 Gary Armstrong on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at 5:32 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners Christopher Ramirez, Melissa Shelton (departed at 6:38 p.m.), Tom Burns, Shawnda Thomas Faveau, Vice Chair Newkirk, Chair Armstrong
Not present: Carlos Silveira

City Staff: Jay Virata, Anita Fields

C. PRESENTATIONS: None

D. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER RAMIREZ TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA,
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BURNS, CARRIED 6-0 TO ACCEPT THE
AGENDA

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Phillip K. Smith, III, artist for the Palm Springs AIDS Memorial Sculpture, read a statement, on behalf of himself and the Palm Springs AIDS Memorial Sculpture Task Force, to address some recent comments about the AIDS memorial project. The intent of the memorial, the lengthy review process, which included public discussion and feedback. The progress of the sculpture's design was shared with the public, and feedback was incorporated into the artwork. The sculpture was subsequently approved two years ago by both the Public Arts Commission and City Council, and it reflects the memories and emotions of many people. Some people love the design, but some are offended by it; the artist and Task Force apologize to those offended by the design. They have been working on new iterations of the design for several months, which is part of the design process, as they attempt to move the project forward. The reality of an artwork in the public realm means that there will be some criticism and assures everyone that all

comments are heard. The constructive criticism and respectful discussion are appreciated.

Cristopher Cichocki, a Palm Springs artist, introduced himself and his art center, The Elemental, off Vella Road, with an invitation to his opening reception on November 17, 2023. His work explores the intersection of biodiversity, art, and science (environmental art), and the center will serve as a bridge for international artists to the Palm Springs area. He would like to partner with the city on public art projects and programming. www.cristophersea.com

Richard Noble, resident, here for education on the Pillars project. He would like to get on the agenda for a presentation at the next meeting.

F. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR:

Chair Armstrong remarked on the current challenging times, cultural and political divides in our society, and the ability of the arts to focus on commonalities and bring people together. The lengthy timeline associated with the creation of public art, e.g., the AIDS Memorial started in early 2021, must be kept in mind. Commission members must remain unbiased and respectful of input from the community; the Commission is a jury, must remain balanced in their decision-making, and not make comments in a public manner. Many of these projects reflect the community, people feel it represents them, which makes the selections more nuanced and is the beauty of being a Public Arts Commission member.

G. REMARKS FROM THE VICE CHAIR:

Vice Chair Newkirk, commenting on the Palm Springs AIDS Memorial Sculpture, appreciates the artist and task force being open to feedback. He affirms that the task force proceeded with the best of intentions and elicited a wide range of feedback throughout the process. He acknowledged the years of work that the artist and the task force have put into this piece. The Public Arts Commission supports this project and approved \$65,000 to assist with the installation costs.

H. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from the meetings of April 20, 2022 (amended), May 18, 2022, June 15, 2022 (amended), July 20, 2022 (amended), September 7, 2022, September 21, 2022 (amended), September 28, 2022, October 19, 2022 (amended), and November 16, 2022 (amended).

MOTION TO APPROVE MADE BY VICE CHAIR NEWKIRK, SECOND BY CHAIR ARMSTRONG, CARRIED 6-0 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED.

I. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Consider Resolution No. 23-001 MUR “A RESOLUTION OF THE PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING

AN ART MURAL APPLICATION FOR “WHIMSICAL MID-CENTURY PALM SPRINGS” FROM CANYON FUND LLC BY FLAT BLACK ART SUPPLY LOCATED ON THE EAST (PARKING LOT FACING) ELEVATION OF THE PERIMETER WALL AT 310-320 NORTH PALM CANYON DRIVE (CASE 23-001 MUR)”

Viewing of proposed artwork and discussion. Applicant Josef Jonathan, Canyon Fund LLC, participated in the discussion he owns the rights to the artwork and will be responsible for its maintenance. The owners of the businesses identified on the map have not received notice of the use of their names and question raised if their permission is required. Suggestions include the addition of some historical sites, more variety in the landmarks cited, and request that the spelling for some street names be corrected, the Tram icon should be repositioned, the map should be dated to reflect the period captured, the use of colors and materials that work with the environment, direct sun, and request for inclusion of a larger area (beyond downtown Palm Springs). The vote will be tabled until the next meeting so Commissioners can review the revised artwork.

MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER RAMIRIEZ, SECOND BY CHAIR ARMSTRONG, CARRIED 6-0 TO PROVISIONALLY APPROVE THE MURAL SUBJECT TO REVIEW OF REVISIONS AT THE NEXT MEETING.

J. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/APPROVAL:

1. Discuss and approve additional funding in the amount of \$20,000 for steel plates and additional installation costs for Pop Art Park projects (Pinwheel, Popsicles, and Lawn Chair).

MOTION TO APPROVE MADE BY VICE CHAIR NEWKIRK, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SHELTON, CARRIED 6-0 TO APPROVE THE ADDITIONAL FUNDING OF \$20,000 FOR STEEL PLATES AND ADDITIONAL INSTALLATION COSTS FOR POP ART PARK PROJECTS.

2. Discuss inventory of art – Vice Chair Newkirk noted that the last inventory was completed in 2016 and that many pieces were excluded; artworks in storage should be included in the inventory. Chair Armstrong asks that the inventory include installation methods used and an assessment/audit of needed maintenance and repairs. Commissioner Faveau will assist Vice Chair Newkirk with the inventory and report back to the Commission regarding next steps based on total number of pieces in inventory, repair level, and how they are installed.
3. Park Art Grant program discussion. An evolution of the Art is Everywhere, Art in the Park After Dark programs, which were \$5,000 per park. Council members are asking for art in the parks, particularly Victoria Park and the James O. Jessie Community Center. The Park Grant, proposed to be increased to \$50,000 per park, can be used to create healthy and family – living oriented artwork, as a

single piece or in multiples. Commissioners are asked to visit the parks, see how the community utilizes them, and come up with ideas, preferably for artworks that the community finds engaging, are more interactive. The initial funding will be for two parks.

K. PROJECT UPDATES – Chair Armstrong:

1. Airport Mural/Art Relocation – Commissioner Ramiriez is engaging with others, including the Airport Commission, to identify possible artists, muralists.
2. Pillars of Palm Springs – Chair Armstrong state that the Commissioners' recommendations will be presented at the council meeting on Tuesday, September 26, 2023. The artworks were created by a diverse group of artists with a strong Palm Springs footprint.
3. Eco Art Park / Eco Art Statement – Chair Armstrong. This initiative is a collaboration with other city departments and it's in currently in a holding pattern. Jay Virata is working with the City Manager and others to get approvals from various agencies, e.g., Riverside County, agency for flood control.
4. James O. Jessie Unity Center Richard Wyatt, Jr. mural restoration – Commissioner Faveau is working on legal issues concerning the artist and supervision of artists chosen to restore his artwork. Commissioners are asked to view the mural. Generally, the city owns artworks once completed.

L. REPORT FROM DIRECTOR/STAFF:

Item I.1 is continued to the October 18, 2023 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The Public Arts Commission will adjourn to a meeting on October 18, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the Large Conference Room of Palm Springs City Hall located at 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way.

MOTION BY VICE-CHAIR BARRETT, SECONDED BY CHAIR ARMSTRONG, CARRIED 6-0 TO ADJOURN at 6:50 PM TO A REGULAR MEETING ON OCTOBER 18, 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

PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA
October 18, 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 Gary Armstrong on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners Christopher Ramirez, Melissa Shelton (joined via Zoom at 5:55 p.m.), Tom Burns, Shawnda Thomas Faveau, Vice Chair Newkirk, Chair Armstrong, and Carlos Silveira

City Staff: Jay Virata, Anita Fields

C. PRESENTATIONS: None

D. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

Chair Armstrong asked to change the agenda, moving Item #F (Remarks from the Chair) to before Item #E (Public Comments).

MOTION BY VICE CHAIR NEWKIRK TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA AS AMENDED, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SILVEIRA, CARRIED 6-0 TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.

F. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR:

Chair Armstrong states that the commission acknowledges and respects the concerns expressed by the community regarding the proposed design of the privately commissioned AIDS Memorial. The commission also acknowledges and respects the autonomy of private donors in choosing the artist and design that represents their intentions and vision. The AIDS Memorial is a privately funded project generously donated to the city by a group of Palm Springs residents who genuinely care about the cause and received over 400 individual donations from Palm Springs residents who made this gift possible.

The commission's role is to ensure that art contributes positively to the city's cultural landscape and represents its citizenry; the artist's sexuality should not be a determining factor for acceptance of the artwork as artists have the capacity to

create pieces that transcend their identities and experiences, and the artist's sexual orientation does not diminish the intention or meaning of the memorial. The city did not commission this piece, and the money is not fungible to another artist or another task force. The piece is commissioned and designed by a task force of private citizens, not by a city entity. The previously discussed design will not move forward; it will not be constructed; it will never exist.

Once the task force shares the new design, the Arts Commission will review, and approve or deny the piece. There's no need to notify City Council or rescind money for installation until there's an approved artwork; the approved artwork will determine the needs for installation. There is no action needed by the city at this time.

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Public comments about the previous design of the AIDS memorial were made. Several speakers noted the distinction between an art object and a memorial, and the previous design's absence of emotion and sensitivity to lives lost from AIDS; it did not reflect the horror, despair, hopeless, and social rejection suffered in the early years of the epidemic, or the sense of devastation and loss of survivors. Concern that the previous design is inappropriate as a memorial, and that it invited mockery and disdain. The ask was for an open and public dialogue directly with the memorial's task force.

G. REMARKS FROM THE VICE CHAIR:

Vice Chair Newkirk: no further comments.

H. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from the meetings of January 18, 2023, February 15, 2023, March 15, 2023, April 19, 2023, May 3, 2023, and June 14, 2023; with amendments to correct the spelling of Commissioner Faveau's name on the Minutes from October 19, 2022, and November 16, 2022.

MOTION TO APPROVE MADE BY COMMISSIONER RAMIREZ, SECOND BY VICE CHAIR NEWKIRK, CARRIED 7-0 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND AMENDED MINUTES.

I. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Consider Resolution No. 23-001 MUR "A RESOLUTION OF THE PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING AN ART MURAL APPLICATION FOR "WHIMSICAL MID-CENTURY PALM SPRINGS" FROM CANYON FUND LLC BY FLAT BLACK ART SUPPLY LOCATED ON THE EAST (PARKING LOT FACING) ELEVATION OF THE PERIMETER WALL AT 310-320 NORTH PALM CANYON DRIVE (CASE 23-001 MUR)"

Revisions to the mural have not been completed and this item should be continued to the November 2023 meeting.

MOTION MADE BY CHAIR ARMSTRONG, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER BURNS TO CONTINUE THIS ITEM TO THE NOVEMBER MEETING, CARRIED 7-0 TO APPROVE.

J. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/APPROVAL:

1. Discuss inventory of art – Vice Chair Newkirk does not have updates on this item. Chair Armstrong asked if someone should be hired to complete the inventory and technical assessment, noting work that needs to be done, and reporting back to the commission. Discussion regarding the creation of interactive signage, QR codes, geo-mapping for the artworks that provides a background for each artwork and guides them to other artworks in the area; structure and scope should be defined and sent out to bid.
2. Acceptance of gift, the Red Dragon sculpture, from the Old Las Palmas Neighborhood Association – Vice Chair Barrett provided an overview of the work and donation. The neighborhood is responsible for the installation, the city is responsible for its maintenance.

MOTION MADE BY VICE CHAIR BARRETT, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER FAVEAU, TO ACCEPT THE ARTWORK, RED DRAGON, INTO THE CITY'S ART COLLECTION, CARRIED 7-0 TO APPROVE.

3. Park Art Grant program – Chair Armstrong mentioned the \$50,000 allocated per park; artwork ideas would be selected with the assistance of the community. They can be whimsical pieces; they don't have to focus on social messaging. Suggestion of large flower sculptures at the James O. Jesse Community Center area, that could also function as shade structures. Approval of the idea would also be needed by the Parks Commission, possibly the Human Rights Commission or Sustainability, etc.
4. New utility equipment impact on Utility Box Project – Chair Armstrong mentioned that new utility equipment was installed over boxes with existing artwork. The artists impacted should be contacted; the artwork will remain as is or we will paint over it. \$500 per box to paint. The commission will decide if they want to continue painting the utility boxes, explore other options, or suspend the project.

K. PROJECT UPDATES:

1. Airport Mural/Art Relocation – Commissioner Ramirez sent an internal PSP deck: there have been 7 mural submissions and a selection of new artists to add to our roster. The next step would be a presentation to the Airport Commission for approval. A quick, special meeting of the arts commission could be called to vote on the selections if they are available before the November 2023 meeting.
2. Pillars of Palm Springs – Chair Armstrong stated that all the artists are good to go, the Human Rights Commission approves of the project and artworks. The installation is slated for World Art Day on April 15, 2024, and the possible participation of the artists and members of the Human Rights Commission and Public Arts Commission at the unveiling was discussed. A media plan for the unveiling is being developed by the City's Chief Communications Officer.
3. Asphalt Art – Chair Armstrong noted that the funds have been approved and two locations were identified. Artwork (painted murals) on crosswalks can be split among more than one artist. The benefit of placing the artworks in high traffic locations discussed. The community would be involved in the process. Commissioner Ramirez will spearhead this project. Status of contracts and contact for requesting repairs to artworks discussed.

L. REPORT FROM DIRECTOR/STAFF:

Jay Virata noted that meeting via ZOOM was a temporary solution. The city attorney will confirm the process for transitioning from hybrid to in-person meetings, possibly starting in January 2024. Chair Armstrong discussed the scheduling of a study session for the Commissioners, with an open agenda, to be posted, publicly accessible, but not recorded; decisions cannot be made, or money spent during the session.

ADJOURNMENT: The Public Arts Commission will adjourn to a meeting on November 15, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the Large Conference Room of Palm Springs City Hall located at 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way.

MOTION BY CHAIR ARMSTRONG, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER RAMIREZ, CARRIED 7-0 TO ADJOURN at 7:10 PM TO A REGULAR MEETING ON NOVEMBER 15, 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