



Vacant, 1st District
Robin Rodricks, 2nd District
Sherrill Swan, 3rd District
Karen Chew, 4th District
Lisa Steel, 5th District
Karen Chee, Youth Commissioner

County Office Building
555 County Center, 5th Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063
(650) 599-1393
www.sanmateocountyparks.org
www.discoversmc.com

SAN MATEO
COUNTY
ARTS
COMMISSION

Regular Meeting of the Arts Commission
Wednesday, March 14, 2012
3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
555 County Center, Conference Room 1, 5th Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063

MINUTES

1. Roll Call

Chair Rodricks called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

Commissioners: Chee (Youth) (Absent), Chew, Rodricks (Chair), Steel, Swan (Vice Chair)

Staff: Bennett, Lockman, Tolmasoff

2. Agenda Amendments

None.

3. Oral Communications

Ms. Alisan Andrews, Gallery Annex, announced the scheduled speakers for the April 15, 2012 Sequoia High School students art exhibit.

4. Consideration of Minutes

A. Regular Meeting of February 8, 2012

Commission Action: M/S Swan/Steel to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2012 meeting with the following modifications:

- Page 1, change "Roll Call" to show Commissioner Chew as absent.
- Page 1, under "Oral Communications," add "Steve Aguirre" after "Beth Mostovoy."

Motion carried 4-0 with Youth Commissioner Chee absent.

5. Reports

A. Curator's Report

Curator Silvestri reported that good participation for the 2012 Women's View annual show. She requested Plexiglas holders for show information and confirmed with staff there was signage available for the galleries after the Women's show. She said in May there would be a mixed media exhibition including a small group show in the Caldwell Gallery and one-artist show in the Community Gallery. The Rotunda exhibit continues through June. She said an all photography show would follow the mixed media exhibition with another community show in September and October, and watercolors in November and December.

B. Youth Commissioner's Report

None.

6. Action Items

A. Consideration of Establishing an Exhibit Policy for the Caldwell, Community and Rotunda Galleries

Chair Rodricks said this item had been placed on the agenda in response to requests from County departments and non-profit agencies to use the County galleries for art projects, not necessarily done by artists. Recognized by the Chair, Ms. Bennett said the County Facilities Manager had suggested such displays might be accommodated through the use of a multi-sided kiosk in the lobby space outside the Board of Supervisors' chambers with oversight of content by the County Manager's Office.

Curator Sylvester stated she had received numerous requests from various non-profit and government agencies to use the gallery spaces, and asked for direction and guidelines from the Commission.

The Commission's consensus was to create an ad hoc committee to establish gallery guidelines.

Commission Action: M/S Steel/Chew to approve an ad hoc committee of Commissioners Chew and Steel and Curator Silvestri to establish guidelines for the County galleries for the Commission's future consideration.

Motion carried 4-0 with Youth Commissioner Chee absent.

B. Review Proposals Received for Members' Projects for Selection and Funding

Commissioner Swan described the joint Districts 3 and 5 project proposal requesting \$2,800 for art education supplies and educator tools for RAFT to create up to 35 gift art baskets for lower income elementary school classes. She said if approved RAFT would provide information on what schools would best be served for the Commission's consideration. Park Superintendent Lockman said that an agreement would be needed for the funding that would include deliverables and a required final report from RAFT explaining the use of the funds and the outcomes and benefits.

Ms. Alisan Andrews of the Gallery Annex in Redwood City (District 4) presented a proposal requesting \$400 to support an April 13 through May 5, 2012 exhibition of art by Sequoia High School students in the Gallery Annex. She provided information on how the funds would be spent to support the exhibit. Commissioner Swan indicated her support for the project and suggested increasing the amount of funding. Ms. Andrews said that there was no need for additional funding at this time. Commissioner Chew suggested that in the future, perhaps next year, the Community Gallery could be used for a large annual student show of mixed-media and the Rotunda Gallery used for 3-D art.

Ms. Beth Mostovoy presented a proposal for support of the Redwood City Art on the Square annual summer events. She noted that cuts to the City of Redwood City's Redevelopment Agency impacted the City's funding support for this multi-event program. Commissioner Chew asked if Redwood City's Civic and Cultural Commission provided funding for the program. Ms. Mostovoy said that Commission had originally supported the program but later support had been moved to the Redevelopment Agency. Commissioner Steel asked how much money the program had received from that Agency. Ms. Mostovoy said \$2,000 or so. She said the Art on the Square program was an important part of the downtown cultural events that Redwood City offers every summer. She said she and her co-producer get 10,000 to 15,000 event postcards printed and distributed every year through the San Mateo County Library System. She noted that all of the events were free and attracted diverse public attendance.

Commissioner Steel suggested funding at \$1,000 rather than \$1,400. Commissioner Chew noted that an additional \$500 would be needed to complete the Todos Santos project. Commissioner Swan confirmed with Ms. Mostovoy that the event program had only been receiving Redevelopment Agency funding and that was now cut.

Park Superintendent Lockman noted \$7,000 was budgeted for up to five Members' Projects at \$1,400 each and that \$1,400 on one project had been funded already. He suggested as the District I seat was vacant that its allocated \$1,400 could be used for a different District. He said that also there had been no nominations for the Arts Educator of the Year awards which funds could potentially be used differently. He said there was also potential expense for the Chair to attend the annual Americans for the Arts conference which should be considered.

Chair Rodricks tabled agenda item 6.B until after items 6.C and 6.D.

After discussion of the other items, there was Commission consensus that all three proposals met the criteria for members' projects and there was sufficient funding to award all three.

*Commission Action: M/S Steel/Swan to accept the following proposals and to have staff develop the funding agreements with the proposers including written report back requirements:

- Sequoia High School Student Art Exhibit at Gallery Annex - \$400
- RAFT art supply baskets for up to 35 classes of lower income elementary schools in San Mateo County - \$2,800
- Art on the Square marketing and promotional efforts - \$1,400

Motion carried 4-0 with Youth Commissioner Chee not in attendance.

C. Consideration of Nominations for Arts Educator of the Year Program

Chair Rodricks reported that no nominations for Arts Educator of the Year had been received and suggested the funding allocated for that could be used elsewhere. She said as the Commission was in the midst of strategic planning that her preference would be to revamp the program after the strategic plan was completed.

Commissioner Steel asked staff if the nomination deadline should be extended. Ms. Bennett said the Commission could do that but noted the efforts made to call for nominations and that there had not been any responses. Commissioner Steel expressed concern about there being no response.

Commission Action: M/S Chew/Steel to investigate why there were no responses to the call for nominations for Arts Educator of the Year and use recommendations from the strategic planning to revamp the program for 2013.

Motion carried 4-0 with Youth Commissioner Chee absent.

D. Consideration of Authorizing the Commission Chair to Attend the June 8-10, 2012 Americans for the Arts Conference in San Antonio, Texas

Chair Rodricks said she had attended the American for the Arts Conference the previous year and had found it very educational and worthwhile. She said her attendance was partially reimbursed by the California Arts Council and was included in the Council's 2011-12 Technical Assistance grant award of \$11,474 (\$1,474 was what will be reimbursed to the County). She said there was no funding available from the Council for this year's conference.

Commissioner Swan said if approved she would like the Commission to receive a report about the conference. Park Superintendent Lockman suggested getting information on the cost of travel and lodging.

Item was tabled until the April meeting.

(The Commission returned to its discussion of Item 6.B.*).

7. Discussion Items

A. Consultant's Report and Next Steps

Chair Rodricks noted that Commissioners had received a draft of a strategic plan from the consultant and May 25 was the deadline for Commissioners to send comments to the consultant.

Commissioner Swan said she had a conflict and could not attend the regularly scheduled April 11 meeting. There was consensus to change the meeting date to accommodate full Commission attendance as the draft Strategic Plan would be on the agenda for discussion.

8. Staff and Commission Reports

Park Superintendent Lockman reported that Ms. Bennett had been reassigned from the Parks Division's Executive Secretary position to the Department of Public Works Executive Secretary position effective April 2, 2012.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:23 p.m.