

Harini Krishnan, District 1
Stephen Seymour, District 1
Kimberly Gordon, District 2
Elizabeth Stone, District 2
Belinda Hernandez Arriaga, Dist. 3
Laura McHugh, District 3
Jeanne Heise, District 4
Edward Sweeney, District 4
Manufou Liaiga-Anoa'i, Dist. 5
VACANT: District 5

County Manager's Office 400 County Center Redwood City, CA 94063 (650) 599-1005 www.smcgov.org/smcac



REGULAR MEETING OF THE ARTS COMMISSION Wednesday, March 16, 2022 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Zoom link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81886700594?pwd=VTJ6eXMvTGQxMGdETCtaM1JZM1FvUT09

AGENDA

1.	Roll Call (3:00) – Roll Call and introduction of guests.	Chai
2.	Action Item (3:03) A. AB361 Remote Meeting Requirements: in keeping with the recently enacted California AB361 and Governor Newsom's suspension of Brown Act Open Meetings law, vote to approve continuation of virtual Commission meetings.	Chai
3.	Agenda Amendments (3:06)	Chai
4.	Oral Communications (3:07) To allow the public to address the Commission on any matter <u>not</u> on the agenda. If your subject is <u>not</u> on the agenda, the Chair will recognize you at this time. Speakers are customarily limited to two minutes. A speaker's slip is required.	Chai
5.	Consideration of Minutes of January 19, 2022 and February 16, 2022 meetings (3:08)	Chai
6.	<u>Reports</u>	
	 A. Staff Reports (3:11) B. Commissioner Reports: each Commissioner will provide a report and/or announcements, up to 3 minutes, of arts/culture and Commission activities since last Commission meeting. (3:30) 	
7.	Discussion Item A. Update on Arts Celebration Subcommittee Meeting of February 16, 2022 and Municipal V Convening Meeting of March 9, 2022 (3:54) B. Recap on County Commissions Training (4:05)	ice Chai Chai
8.	Action Item None	
9.	Adjournment (5:00)	Chai

NEXT REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING: May 18, 2022 - 3:00-5:00 PM

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE ARTS COMMISSION

Wednesday, January 19, 2022 — 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom meeting

MINUTES

1. Roll Call – Chair Stephen Seymour called the meeting to order at 3:03 with roll call and introduction of guests

In Attendance: Commissioners Krishnan, Seymour, Gordon, Stone, Hernandez Arriaga, McHugh,

Heise, and Sweeney

Absent: Commissioners Liaiga-Anoa'l

Staff: Robin Rodricks, Mara Grimes, Shawna Vesco, Juda Tolmasoff

Guest: Anne Matthew, Commission on Disabilities

2. AB361 Remote Meeting Requirement – Action Item

Review and vote on AB361 Remote Meeting Requirements: in keeping with the recently enacted California AB361 and Governor Newsom's suspension of Brown Act Open Meetings law. Commissioner Gordon moved to approve continuation of virtual Commission meetings; Commissioner McHugh seconded the motion. Roll call vote: approved unanimously.

3. Agenda Amendments

None

4. Oral Communications

The Director stated that this meeting was publicly posted and announced. Anne Matthew of the Commission on Disabilities was in attendance and Director asked her to give a short bio. She stated that she was a parent of an 8-year-old special needs child. Her child's situation brought to light that there were gaps in the resources need to help her child. She sits on this Commission to try to improve the quality of life for those with disabilities in all areas including housing, transportation, and education.

5. Consideration of Minutes of November 17, 2021, meeting

Commissioner Sweeney asked that we correct the spelling of his name. Motion made by Commissioner Sweeney to accept the minutes with the spelling correction; seconded by Commissioner Heise. Roll Call Vote: approved unanimously.

6. Reports

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A. Staff Reports

- Juda Tolmasoff: Ms. Tolmasoff noted that most boards and commissions meet monthly for 2 hours and have subcommittee meetings that meet in between those monthly meeting. It will be hard for the Office of Arts and Culture to establish itself and get the work done while meeting every other month, as it is too long between meetings. She hopes the Commission will reconsider and return to monthly meetings to get the work done. The OAC is making inroads and she wants to see that continue.
- Robin Rodricks: Onboarded the new County Galleries Curator who we will meet shortly. On December 16 she convened a meeting of municipal staff of the 20 cities who work on their cities arts/culture on December 16, 2021; each of the cities gave a short description of what they were working on or have recently accomplished in addition to ideas on how they might like to work with the OAC. The municipal staff asked that we hold quarterly meetings in the future, and to create a share repository they could access for information on their work. Director attended four California Arts Council meetings and the CA for the Arts Regional (south bay) convening. She reminded the Commissioners of their Equity workshop on Jan 26, 2022 facilitated by Irma Zoepf of ZBridge; all Commissioners are welcome to attend. Numerous meetings included meetings with Poet Laureate of SMC and County Librarian; SAMCEDA; SMC Visitors Bureau; and Redwood City Chamber of Commerce. These meetings are to build to collaborations to promote the arts in our County.
- Mara Grimes: She attended *Arts as LIFE!* Workshop for educators on February 2; the workshop had over 25 sessions, including a panel facilitated by Aileen Cassinetto with Youth Poet Laureates from San Mateo, Alameda, and Santa Clara Counties. Poetry Out Loud Competition is February 7^{th,} and all Commissioners are welcome to attend. She thanked Commissioner Krishnan for offering to be the IT person for the event. She is working with SamTrans and San Mateo County Office of Education on Art Takes a Bus Ride program; she requested 4 to 5 Arts Commissioners to volunteer to judge the contest. She reported Yerba Buena Center has requested the OAC promote an "Artists Convening Grant" program to our County's artists. The art microgrants for educators to August, funded by Dragonfly Community Art, will launch at the start of the school year; promotion of the grants will begin in May.

B. Commissioner Reports:

- **Commissioner Krishnan:** She will help with the Poetry Out Loud Competition again this year as well as be a judge for Art Takes a Bus Ride competition.
- Commissioner Seymour: He participated in an art show at Twin Pines in Belmont with artists Ruth Waters and Poet of San Mateo County, Aileen Cassinetto. His group in San Bruno, The Peninsula Art Foundation, received \$70,000 in funding to create two murals which also include teaching youth mural painting. Classrooms are being built at the Tanforan gallery space. He is preparing for the County Fair Arts Exhibitions which he took over from Boris Koodrin. He met with the Superintendent of San Bruno Schools and Dragonfly Community Arts for support of arts education in San Bruno schools.
- Commissioner Gordon: No activities to report.
- Commissioner Stone: No activities to report; she is working on ways to make Filoli Gardens
 more accessible; the Executive Director has met with Filoli, who will arrange a meeting with
 Filoli staff and Commissioner Stone to further develop opportunities for accessibility to Filoli.
- Commissioner Hernandez Arriaga: Working closely with her school district to get the arts in schools. Adelante will have a year-long rotating arts program which will include, drumming, dancing, and arts/crafts with a cultural focus. All three schools, Hatch, Farallon View and El Granada will have K-2 art programs and her organization, Ayudando Latinos a Soñar, will oversee the program.

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- **Commissioner McHugh:** Attended Silicon Valley Open Studios in November. Most arts organizations on the coast have cancelled events due to Covid. She reached out to congratulate all the grantees in her district.
- **Commissioner Heise:** The North Fair Oaks project and the Causeway mural are both on hold until the public art policy is finalized.
- **Commissioner Sweeney:** Interested in the feasibility to develop an art center. The group responsible is beginning to work now and he hopes to hear a presentation.

7. Discussion Items

A. Introduction of Shawna Vesco, County Galleries

Director introduced Shawna giving a short bio of Ms. Vesco. The first show was a retrospective to retired curator, Boris Koodrin, and a small reception was held in the Caldwell Gallery. There are three exhibits up currently, all woman of color artists and all with very different styles and subject matter. She launched an Instagram account and in the first month already have 150 followers, many of which are artists. It has created a buzz and visibility for the OAC galleries. Launched the *Women's View 2022* show with a call for artists, which is getting a good response. Commissioner McHugh asked what the rest of the year looked like. Curator said that she is looking for better ways to represent the county through new artists of all ages, career levels, ethnicity and mediums to be more diverse and inclusive.

B. Presentation of State of California Form 700 by Lead County Counsel Brian Kulich Mr. Kulich gave a presentation regarding the California Government Code Form 700 requirement. Annual submission of this form will be required of the Arts Commissioners in the near future; he will advise when the Commissioners will need to begin submit.

C. Arts Celebration and other Strategic Plan tasks

Director started the discussion by stated that strategic plan tasks have been severely impacted by Covid regarding our timeline. She stressed the need to stay focused on executing the tasks in the strategic plan, and asked each Commissioner to reevaluate the time they have available for Commission work and the tasks they are responsible, and to be prepared to update the group on the progress at the next meeting. She stated that if Commissioners had issued with time commitments, or their assigned strategic plan task, to contact her personal to discuss.

The Director reported that she held a meeting of the municipal staff for arts/culture on December 16; 10 of the 20 cities were represented. She reported that the municipalities expressed interest in the concept of the Countywide Celebration of the Arts. Commissioner Gordon who is leading the celebration was excited to here that there was interest from the cities. The Commission could potentially serve as a hub or connector to amplify the events going on in each of the cities. She suggested there could be a takeaway art project people that could be hung in a window to show participation and tie all of the events together. She recommended that the Commission form a subcommittee to discuss more. Commissioners Stone, Seymour, Krishnan, and Hernandez Arriaga said they would like to serve on this subcommittee. She also reminded us that we have a line item in the budget of \$2500 for this event. It was agreed that the subcommittee would meet on February 16, 2022 from 3:00-4:00pm on Zoom.

D. Draft County Public Art Policy

Director

The Director stated that the new County Manager is supporting more public art for the County. In the past, there was not a lot of public art and no process for the public to apply. There are lots of new County projects slated for his year and in the future, which has created the need for a transparent process for local county artists to bid on opportunities and be considered. The OAC has been asked to develop the public policy> the Director has been working with the Curator to write such a policy. They researched other public art policies and the Curator has been a big help in developing a strong and clear policy. The policy has been shared with Supervisors Groom and Slocum, in addition to other County departments including the Sheriff, Health, Library, Public Works, Parks and Rec, and Planning. It has been well received and has them thinking about ways to incorporate public art into future projects.

Although the art policy was shared with the Arts Commissioners and the Director specifically requested feedback, the Director indicated that she had not received any feedback. Commissioner Stone commented that it was well written and wanted to know the definition of a professional artist. Commissioner Sweeney stated that he would think more and email suggestions to the Director. He stated that this issue came up with the North Fair Oaks project. Commissioner Seymour stated that the policy said, "The OAC will assemble knowledgeable people" and he asked then what is the role of the Arts Commission. The Director declared that the role of the Arts Commissioners was to fulfill the goals of the strategic plan and to represent the Supervisors. She offered to extend the deadline for feedback on the draft policy to January 28, giving the Commissioners additional time.

The Director asked that the Commissioner review the strategic plan and choose tasks related to Public Art if they were interested. She reiterated that assigned strategic plan tasks can be changed, and for Commissioners contact her if they would like to change their assigned tasks. Commissioner Heise noted that some of the Commissioners had completed their tasks and might need additional tasks.

8. Action Item:

None

9. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 5:03 pm.

NEXT REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING: Wednesday, March 16, 2022 3:00-5:00 pm



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INITIAL BRAINSTORMING SESSION FOR COUNTYWIDE CLEBRATION OF THE ARTS EVENT OF THE ARTS COMMISSION

Wednesday, February 16, 2022 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Zoom

MINUTES

1. Roll Call – Chair Stephen Seymour called the meeting to order at 3:02 with roll call and introduction of guests

In Attendance: Commissioners Gordon, Krishnan, McHugh, Heise, Sweeney Absent: Commissioners Seymour, Stone, Hernandez Arriaga, Liaiga-Anoa'l

Staff: Robin Rodricks, Mara Grimes

2. Action Item

A. AB361 Remote Meeting Requirements: in keeping with the recently enacted California AB361 and Governor Newsom's suspension of Brown Act Open Meetings law, vote to approve continuation of virtual Commission meetings. Commissioner Heise made a motion that we approve continuation of virtual Commission meetings. Commissioner McHugh seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: approved unanimously.

3. Oral Communications

To allow the public to address the Commission on any matter <u>not</u> on the agenda. If your subject is <u>not</u> on the agenda, the Chair will recognize you at this time. Speakers are customarily limited to two minutes. A speaker's slip is required.

4. Discussion Item

A. Discussion and brainstorming ideas for the Countywide Celebration of the Arts
Commissioner Gordon reiterated that the Countywide event is one of the goals in the strategic plan. We have talked about this event for a while, and it is finally safe enough for us to pursue. She stated that she thought that after hearing the results of the municipality meeting held by the OAC that there was enough interest, and we could serve as the umbrella or connector of the event. She opened the floor for discussion.
Commissioner Krishnan shared that Orange County has been holding countywide arts events for many years called "The Imagination Celebration." Each city has an event over a specified period of time. The OCAC then coordinated and promotes these events through links and brochures. She said that she would share information with us of their past events via email.

Commissioner Gordon reminded us that there was \$2500 in the budget for this event and the Director stated that it might be possible to get more from the Supervisors if needed. It was suggested that maybe we could have one culminating event in some place central like Redwood City with awards and recognition.

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The group discussed possible the idea of "Elements of Participation" and themes around "Hope" and "Building Community Through Art."

It was suggested that it would be great to get the press such as the San Mateo Daily Journal to help publicize and promote. The Director noted that the OAC had a very active Facebook and Instagram presence and that we could also work with the County Communications Department.

The Director said she would set up the next meeting with the Municipal Colleagues before the next Arts Commission meeting.

5. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 3:54 pm.

NEXT REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING: March 16, 2022 – 3:00-5:00 PM



San Mateo County Public Art Policy

VISION

Public Art has the power to educate, inspire, and shape our identity as individuals and as a community. We envision a County with vibrant public spaces where artwork celebrates the extraordinary diversity and history of our communities, and sparks delight and creativity in residents and visitors alike. Our vision is a future in which San Mateo County's well-designed and engaging artworks encourage people to fully appreciate and utilize public spaces. Public Art is an essential component of a thriving community, and a banner of the County's aspirations for our shared future.

1. MISSION AND GOALS

The mission of San Mateo County's Public Art policy is to:

- 1.1 Promote a rich, diverse, and stimulating cultural environment to enhance the County's vitality and enrich the lives of the county's residents, visitors, and employees;
- 1.2 Establish public standards and a public process for decisions about adding works of art in public spaces;
- 1.3 Celebrate and reflect the diversity of the County by establishing equitable and community-engaged processes for artist selection;
- 1.4 Establish and nurture ongoing collaborative planning relationships between The Office of Arts and Culture and other County departments; and
- 1.5 Honor local and regional artists and encourage and promote emerging artists by marking them in the public landscape through their artwork.

2. DEFINITION OF PUBLIC ART

The Office of Arts and Culture is guided by the following definition of public art:

Art objects placed permanently in a shared and publicly accessible place (indoors or outdoors). Artwork can be freestanding work or integrated into the architecture of buildings or the landscape of outdoor spaces.

A. Public art includes: functional, ornamental, expressive, or installation art donated or commissioned, or otherwise acquired that are located in publicly accessible space.

B. Art media includes, but is not limited to: sculptures, painting, murals, photography, drawings, prints, mixed media, electronic media, gardens, memorials, light works, or statuary, made from clay, fiber, textiles, wood, metal, plastic, or other material.

3. FUNDING

The methods for funding of public art can include General Fund allocations, or the inauguration of a percent-for-arts programs. Alternative funding sources might include government grant monies and private (including business) donations and grants. In addition to the cost of the artwork, funds should pay for administration, acquisition and construction, as well as maintenance, insurance and all other costs associated with the artwork.

4. CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL (SITE AND ARTWORK)

All departments will work in consultation with the Office of Arts and Culture after a decision has been made to pursue public art on an upcoming project. Prior to approving a site for an artwork and prior to approving the artwork itself, The Office of Arts and Culture shall take into consideration the following:

- 4.1 Relationship of proposed artwork to existing or future architectural features, natural features (landscaping etc.), and urban design (pedestrian walkways, etc.);
- 4.2 Public access to and visibility of the artwork;
- 4.3 Public safety;
- 4.4 Overall aesthetic merit and the artwork's ability to enhance the public's experience of the site;
- 4.5 Relationship of the proposed artwork to existing artworks within the site's vicinity;
- 4.6 Exhibition of the artwork does not contradict the County's values of environmental sustainability, accessibility, and cultural inclusiveness;
- 4.7 Appropriate for the site in scale, media, and context;
- 4.8 Supports inclusivity by avoiding themes related, but not limited to, religion, politics, violence, or nudity; and
- 4.9 Building and other code requirements;
- 4.10 Physical integrity of materials and construction for endurance.

After an artist, proposal, and project site has been selected, the Office of Arts and Culture may hold community meetings for input and feedback. A minimum of one Supervisor shall participate in this process.

5. ARTIST SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA

SELECTION PROCESS

Depending on the project, the Office of Arts and Culture may:

- a) issue an open call for artists and/or emerging artists; or
- b) hold a limited invitational competition; or

To ensure fairness and openness, open calls and limited invitational projects will use the standards outlined in the County Cultural Equity Statement and County Galleries' calls for artists. Calls and invitationals will be promoted to the County at large using County communication methods.

CRITERIA

For each public art project, the Office of Arts and Culture will assemble a committee of knowledgeable people in the arts, including public art experts and County Arts Commissioners. The committee will judge applicants and their proposals. Preference will be given to San Mateo County residents; however, the committee is not limited to the use of local artists. The committee will select artists based on:

- 5.1 Artistic merit and vision of body of work, including: artist's proven ability to create artwork that generates positive community impact and conversation, and enhances the experience of public spaces;
- 5.2 Professional experience and record of commitment to satisfactory project completion;
- 5.3 Ability to translate artistic concepts into materials that are appropriate for public space, taking into consideration maintenance and safety;
- 5.4 Appropriateness and feasibility of the artist's proposal;
- 5.5 Demonstrated ability to create artwork that is socially, environmentally, historically sensitive; and
- 5.6 Ability and willingness to collaborate with County staff, design and engineering professionals, and other stakeholders.

County Arts Commissioners and members of their immediate family are ineligible. San Mateo County staff and members of their immediate family are also ineligible.

6. DECOMMISSIONING, RELOCATION, ALTERATION OF PUBLIC ART

The Office of Arts and Culture reserves the right to relocate, remove, decommission, or dispose of artworks for any of the following reasons:

- 6.1 Condition or security of the artwork cannot be reasonably guaranteed;
- Artwork has been damaged or has deteriorated to the point where repair is impractical, unreasonable, infeasible, or would render the work false;
- 6.3 Significant changes in use, character, or actual design of the site require a re-evaluation of the relationship of the artwork to the site;
- 6.4 Artwork no longer exists due to theft, accident, or natural disaster; or
- 6.5 Artwork is determined to be fraudulent, not authentic, or in violation of copyright law.

The artist whose work of art is being considered for removal shall be notified in advance of said action.

7. MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ART

San Mateo County is responsible for the maintenance of indoor and outdoor public artworks. Reasonable effort will be made to return artwork to its original condition and integrity when repair is needed due to aging, damage, or vandalism. A good faith effort will be made to notify artists of these actions.

8. PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF ART

It is the County's intent to obtain ownership of rights to publish, display, reproduce, promote or sell any works of art created, solicited, donated or commissioned by the County for public display. Any call for art should include language making clear that submissions will be considered property of the County, unless otherwise specified. This policy in no way intends to abrogate any rights of the artist to use and promote their work consistent with any intellectual property rights they may have in the production.

ADDENDA

SAMPLE CALL FOR ARTISTS SAMPLE FLOW CHART FOR PROJECTS

[SAMPLE]

CALL FOR ARTISTS

(Language to be adapted to the specific project)

The Office of Arts and Culture is pleased to announce an open call for public artwork proposals. We are seeking an artist or artist team to create the design for public artwork at [insert site here]

[Opening statement about the specific site for the public artwork that gives pertinent details and direction for artists' proposals, including project background and project budget.]

Complete application packages must be submitted online to [insert email] by [deadline].

ELIGIBILITY

The call is open to all artists/artist teams residing in the state of California.

All applications must include the following:

- o Artist(s) biography/philosophy (300-400 words).
- o Résumé(s)/CV(s).
- 3-7 representative images of recent work completed within the last five years. Artwork images should demonstrate the artist(s) can create and commission durable artwork adequate for the outdoor elements and a public setting. Images of artwork should have annotated descriptions (title, date art was created, dimensions, type of media, location of installation).
- o Links to relevant online portfolios or social media.
- o Proposal for a public artwork: Your proposal can be any length and any format, and must include a) artwork design; b) artwork medium type; c) estimated time to commission the artwork. We recommend a visual (hand sketch or computer-generated image) alongside a brief description.
- o Diversity statement, optional (200-300 words).

SELECTION

The selection process will begin in [insert date]. The project committee will review and jury all proposals. Proposals will be judged on criteria in the San Mateo County Public Art Policy.

The Office of Arts and Culture is committed to supporting local and regional artists from every background. We strongly encourage artists of color, LGBTQ+ artists, immigrant artists, and artists with disabilities to apply.

Due to the amount of submissions, not every artist will be contacted.

San Mateo County Public Art Approval Flow Chart

Public Meeting (optional) Project Committee reviews proposals Artist Proposals Received Call For Artists (executed by OAC) Project Committee (assembled by OAC) Project budget defined Dept./OAC/AC Identifies public art opportunity

Project Committee selects artist(s)

Artist Contract Awarded