



HERITAGE AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

CITY OF DUBLIN

May 12, 2016

The May 12, 2016, Regular Meeting of the Heritage and Cultural Arts Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM at the Dublin Civic Center, Dublin, California, by Chair Blackburn.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners (Cm.) Present: Blackburn, Deets, Iharosi, Minniear, Szollos, and Tutino
Commissioners Absent: He

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Blackburn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

3.1 Public Comments – None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 April 14, 2016 Joint Meeting

On a motion by Cm. Deets, seconded by Cm. Minniear, and by a vote of 6-0-0, with Cm. He absent, the Commission took the following action:

ACTION

Approved minutes of the April 14, 2016 Joint Meeting as presented.

4.2 April 14, 2016 Special Meeting

On a motion by Cm. Tutino, seconded by Vice Chair Szollos, and by a vote of 6-0-0 with Cm. He absent, the Commission took the following action:

ACTION

Approved minutes of April 14, 2016 Special Meeting as presented.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS – None.

PUBLIC HEARING – None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Bay West Development's Dublin Apartments Public Art Proposal

Ms. Tegan McLane, Cultural Arts & Heritage Manager, presented the specifics of the item as outlined in the Staff Report.

Bay West Developer Mr. Sean Murphy provided an overview of the development, noting that the developers consider this a gateway project because of its location at the corner of Dublin Boulevard and Golden Gate Drive.

Artist Ms. Deirdre Murphy presented her proposed sculptural wall inspired by the migration pattern of the Orange-Crowned Warbler, a songbird which migrates through Dublin each spring and fall.

Cm. Deets expressed concern about how well the public would be able to see and enjoy the sculpture if they are sitting on the bench wall. He said children should be able walk up and touch the sculpture. Other Commissioners echoed the feeling that the public should be able to view the sculpture from a closer vantage point. Mr. Murphy stated that the developer would be open to changing the seating wall to allow closer access to the art.

Cm. Minniear asked about the sculpture's distance from the street, the location and size of the restaurant signage, and the lighting plan. Mr. Murphy replied that the distance to the curb is about 10 feet. He said the restaurant signage is not determined yet, as a tenant agreement has not yet been signed. Ms. Murphy explained that the sculpture would be lit from within and from both the plaza and street sides of the wall.

Vice Chair Szollos asked for clarification about materials used for the bird sculptures. Ms. Murphy explained the birds would be cast in metal and then powder coated.

Cm. Iharosi asked whether the sculpture would reflect sunlight and why the sculpture was not as colorful as the artist's original concept sketches. Ms. Murphy explained that the matte finish would not reflect the sunlight. She said she decided to go with a white sculpture to make the art stand out against the colorful landscaping and building façade.

Chair Blackburn asked whether the sculpture would be easy to maintain. Mr. Murphy explained that the powder coat finish would make the art easy to clean should graffiti vandalism occur. Chair Blackburn asked if there would be a plaque for the artwork. Ms. Murphy said there would be a plaque explaining the connection between the constellations and Warbler migration and also the connection between art and science.

Ms. McLane reminded Commissioners that they are being requested to make a recommendation for City Council approval based on whether the art meets the Public Arts Master Plan goals.

On a motion by Cm. Tutino seconded by Cm. Deets and by a vote of 6-0-0, with Cm. He absent, and with an amendment for the developer to consider changes to the accessibility of the artwork, the Commission voted to recommend that City Council approve the proposed Warbler Migration sculpture.

8.2 Wallis Ranch Public Art Substitute Piece

Ms. Tegan McLane presented the specifics of the item as outlined in the Staff Report and noted the developer and artist were unable to attend due to scheduling conflicts.

Cm. Minniear asked about the location change of the art piece. Ms. McLane said the artist and City agreed moving the art piece to the new location near the park entrance would make the art more visible.

Chair Blackburn noted that Dublin resident Kane Wong who had spoken against The Globe sculpture during the initial art review for Wallis Ranch, was in the audience and invited him to comment on the

substitute piece. Mr. Kane said he had spoken with a few neighbors from the Silvera Ranch Home Owners Association who agree the new art work is acceptable to the community, but that the art does not have a “wow” factor. Mr. Kane asked about the new location for the art piece. Ms. McLane answered that the art would be on the north side of the park, closer to Quarry Land School, but said she did not have the setback information. City of Dublin Facilities Development Manager Meghan Tiernan said the art will be visible from the roadway and a path would allow park visitors to approach the sculptures.

Chair Blackburn asked Ms. McLane to restate the responsibilities of Commission regarding this proposed piece. Ms. McLane stated that the Commission’s role is to recommend whether City Council should approve this new art piece. Ms. McLane reiterated that the Commission is to consider whether the art meets the goals of the Public Art Master Plan, paying attention to scale, safety concerns, and whether the content is appropriate for the City of Dublin. Chair Blackburn expressed concern about the possibility of people climbing on the art. Ms. McLane stated that the artist has taken that into consideration and in fact designed the pieces to intentionally provide seating opportunities.

Cms. Iharosi, Tutino and Vice Chair Szollos questioned why the artist is not making changes to “The Globe” art work that was originally approved. Ms. McLane said that, according to the artist, the changes required to make the art easier to engineer would significantly detract from the elegance of the original piece. The found objects were his original inspiration.

Several Commissioners expressed that they preferred the originally approved art piece and voiced concerns that not enough notice was given to the neighborhood and that the new art was poorly presented to the Commission. Commissioners requested more accurate renderings and a site map, along with a formal presentation by the artist.

Cm. Deets made a motion that the Heritage and Cultural Arts Commission recommend that City Council not approve the proposed new art as a substitution for the piece originally approved. The motion did not receive a second.

On a motion by Cm. Tutino, seconded by Cm. Minniear, and by a vote of 6-0-0 with Cm. He absent, the Commission voted to delay a decision on the substitute public art piece until the artist and developer attend and present the art at a future Commission meeting.

8.3 Heritage and Cultural Arts Commission Bylaws

Ms. Tegan McLane presented the specifics of the item as outlined in the Staff Report.

The Commission discussed the proposed new language.

On a motion by Cm. Tutino, seconded by Cm. Iharosi, and by a vote of 6-0-0 with Cm. He absent, the Commission voted to include new language proposed by Cm. Minniear to broaden the Commission’s responsibility “in all matters pertaining to the promotion and support of the history throughout the community.”

OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Brief Information Only Reports from Heritage & Cultural Arts Commissions and/or Staff

Cm. Iharosi reported attending a meeting regarding the Kaiser development, where it was mentioned the building which would have a large mural on the side. Cm. Iharosi asked if Kaiser would be required to present their art work to the Heritage and Cultural Arts Commission. Ms. McLane stated that she

was not yet aware of an art proposal from Kaiser, but Kaiser would have to present the art if the art is constructed to comply with the City’s Public Art requirement. Ms. McLane noted that private developers can install more art than the minimum required by the City. If the art is not intended as part of the developer’s public art requirement, then the developer is not required to bring the art before the Commission.

Cm. Tutino reported she spoke to the Dublin High School AP Art teacher regarding the utility box project and attended the Spring Fair.

Cm. Minniear reported attending the Spring Fair.

Cm. Deets reported attending a City Council meeting.

Ms. McLane provided program and event updates.

Cm. Szollos left at 9:18 PM.

9.2 Discussion of Future Agenda Items

Ms. McLane provided an overview of upcoming agenda items for the Commission. She clarified that Commissioners can suggest topics for future meetings, but that items suggested by Commissioners should be voted upon to determine if the majority are interested in adding the item to the agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Minutes prepared by Kristen Finn, Recording Secretary.

Kathy Blackburn
Chairperson

ATTEST: _____
Tegan McLane
Cultural Arts and Heritage Manager