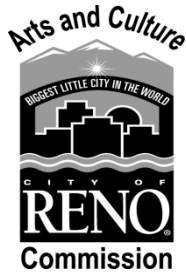


Reno Arts and Culture Commission

Special Meeting



DRAFT SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, September 18, 2017 ~ 4:00 p.m.
MCKINLEY ARTS & CULTURE CENTER
BOARDROOM
925 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, RENO, NEVADA 89503

MEMBERS

Sharon Honig-Bear, Chair
Geralda Miller, Vice-Chair
Dave Aiazzi
Doug Erwin
Dana Hatjakes
Nettie Oliverio
Maria Partridge
Nancy Pearl
Colin Robertson
Vacant
Vacant

Naomi Duerr, City Council
Liaison

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Honig-Bear called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. A quorum of six members was present.

Members Present: Sharon Honig-Bear, Geralda Miller, Dave Aiazzi, Doug Erwin, Nettie Oliverio (arrived at 4:21 p.m.), Maria Partridge and Colin Robertson (departed at 5:47 p.m.)

Members Absent: Dana Hatjakes and Nancy Pearl

Positions Vacant: Two

Council Liaison: Absent

Also Present: Megan Berner – Public Arts Coordinator, City of Reno
Alexis Hill – Arts, Culture and Special Events Manager, City of Reno

2. Public Comment – This item is for either any General Public Comment or any Action Item Comment and is limited to no more than three (3) minutes per person.

Chair Honig-Bear, made the following public comment:

- She has been attending the meetings of the Public Art Committee
- There are amazing, hard-working people on the Public Art Committee and she learns something new at each meeting
- The Public Art Meeting occurs on the third Monday of each month at 11:00 a.m. and everyone can attend the meeting

Commissioner Erwin made the following public comment:

- It was great to see several Commissioners including Nancy Pearl and Nettie Oliverio recognized at EDAWN's Arts and Business Luncheon & Awards held on September 14th

3. Discussion and possible approval of By Laws revisions (For Possible Action)

An updated version of the RACC Bylaws was given to the Commissioners.

The Commissioners reviewed each of the changes to the RACC Bylaws including those revisions suggested by Commissioner Aiazzi at the last RACC meeting on September 12th. The Commissioners noted several grammatical errors in the revised copy of the Bylaws during their review.

Commissioner Oliverio arrived at 4:21 p.m.

* Denotes **NON** action item

It was moved by Commissioner Oliverio and seconded by Commissioner Aiazzi to approve the revised RACC Bylaws presented and reviewed at this meeting. Commissioner Miller requested a cleaned-up version of the Bylaws including grammatical corrections. Commissioner Oliverio withdrew her motion.

It was moved by Commissioner Robertson; seconded by Commissioner Aiazzi to bring back a revised copy of the RACC Bylaws including grammatical corrections to the next regular meeting of the RACC on October 10th. The motion carried: Commissioners Honig-Bear, Miller, Aiazzi, Erwin, Oliverio, Partridge and Robertson assenting; Commissioners Pearl and Hatjakes absent; and two positions vacant.

4. Discussion and possible approval of revisions to the RACC Grants process, procedures, requirements and allocations of funds and suggested changes to the 2017/18 grants cycle (For Possible Action)

Ms. Hill provided the following handouts to the Commissioners:

- Grant Proposed Changes for Fiscal Year 2019
- Grant Scoring Sheet
- Call for Panelists

Ms. Hill proposed the following timeline for the revised grants process:

- Grants available in November – Fluid review by SurveyMonkey
- Grant deadline – January
- Grant panel meets – January
 - Grant panel reviews done online
- RACC review – February
- Council review – March or April
- Council budget approved – May

The Commissioners and staff held a lengthy discussion regarding revisions to the RACC grants process, procedures, requirements and fund allocation which included the following:

- Commissioner Aiazzi suggested that a small portion of grants funding be set aside for grants which come in later in time
- Commissioner Oliverio clarified that in the past, every penny of grants funding was allocated; if a grantee could not later fulfill requirements, funding would be rolled over
- The Commissioners liked the idea of smaller, more flexible \$1,000 to \$3,000 grants
- Commissioner Oliverio commented that in the past, grant requests have totaled twice the amount that is available and a process is needed to figure out what projects match up with the City's Master Plan and Council directives
- Commissioner Aiazzi made the following suggestions:
 - In October, the RACC decides how much grants funding will be put aside for grants which come in later
 - Each Commissioner be given an amount of funding to give away, similar to Councilmembers' discretionary funding which would not have to go through a grants process, but would still need to be approved by Council
- Commissioner Oliverio commented that each person on the grants panel has specific arts knowledge
- Commissioner Aiazzi commented that the same people seem to be getting grants and that the grants process needed to be opened up more
- Vice-Chair Miller commented that amounts for funding requests made to the RACC that do not go through the grants process could be placed into a grant pool
- Commissioner Robertson made the following comments:
 - There is an overall concern by the RACC regarding sustainability of arts organizations who come back repeatedly for RACC grants and limit other new organizations from obtaining grants
 - It is also a concern that direct requests for RACC funding may be used to work around the grants process
 - The RACC should figure out what percentage of grants come in during the October/November time frame to determine a percentage of funding that can be put aside and used for smaller grants and/or sponsorship opportunities
- Ms. Berner commented that the Public Arts Committee receives funding requests and does not have a formal process regarding funding requests and that a formal process is needed to be fair
 - Commissioner Partridge agreed that the Public Arts Committee needed a formal structured process regarding funding requests
 - Ms. Hill agreed with these comments and stated that they will work on establishing a standard process for funding requests

- Commissioner Erwin commented that a part of grants funding could be set aside as a second chance fund for those who did not receive formal grants
- Commissioner Aiazzi made the following suggestions:
 - Future discussion with Council Liaison Duerr regarding recommending to City Council that budget line items for Artown and the Pioneer Center be included in the RACC grant funding pool and that art related budget requests go through the RACC
 - A town hall/public meeting to disclose proposed changes to the RACC grant process and receive feedback and comments
- Commissioner Robertson made the following suggestions:
 - The Councilmembers can be asked if the RACC could help them with art related line items
 - As a first trial, the RACC can set aside roughly \$14,000 of grant funding for smaller grants/sponsorships
 - This amount can increase in future years
 - Community input from surveys such as those used for the ReImagine Reno Master Plan Update would be useful for feedback/input regarding grants
- Chair Honig-Bear liked the idea of funding a project which solves a problem for the City of Reno; this type of project would align with the goals of the Master Plan

Commissioner Robertson departed at 5:47 p.m.

Ms. Hill stated that there was \$194,000 in grant funding and that a small portion of this amount, roughly \$14,000 could be set aside for smaller, more flexible grants. Ms. Hill asked the Commissioners for guidance regarding structure of the grant program and it was decided that further discussion would be held in October.

Chair Honig-Bear asked to see how the fluid review on SurveyMonkey worked. Ms. Hill replied she would send the Commissioners a link to a demo.

It was moved by Commissioner Aiazzi; seconded by Commissioner Miller to keep Ms. Hill's timeline for grant process changes with the following additions:

- ***The RACC will decide on grants in October***
- ***Structurally, the grants process will move forward, but there may be further changes***
- ***Any Commissioner may be a grants panelist***
- ***Ask Council Liaison Duerr to ask the other Councilmembers about art related line items in October***

The motion carried: Commissioners Honig-Bear, Miller, Aiazzi, Erwin, Oliverio and Partridge assenting; Commissioners Pearl, Hatjakes and Robertson absent; and two positions vacant.

5. Discussion of possible dates for a joint meeting with the Historical Resources Commission in October, 2017 (For Possible Action)

This agenda item was not discussed.

6. Financial Report and Budget Update (For Possible Action)

- a) Review and possible acceptance of the FY2017/18 Commission Budget Report (For Possible Action)

This agenda item was not discussed.

- b) Discussion and review of the history of the City of Reno Room Tax spending – FY14-FY17

This agenda item was not discussed.

7. Announcements not anticipated at notice date (Item for general announcements and information only. No deliberation or action will be taken on this item.)

Chair Honig-Bear made the following announcement:

- There will be a special meeting of the Historical Resources Commission on Tuesday, September 19th at 3:00 p.m. on the UNR Gateway Project

Commissioner Partridge made the following announcement:

- There will be a work party cleaning up weeds at the Playa Art Park on Saturday, September 23rd at 10:00 a.m.

Ms. Hill announced that Fiesta Latina will be held on Saturday, September 23rd at City Plaza.

Ms. Berner made the following announcement:

- The weeds at the Lear Theater have been cleaned up

8. Set Date, Time and Agenda for the next meeting (For Possible Action).

This agenda item was not discussed.

9. Public Comment – This item is for either any General Public Comment or any Action Item Comment and is limited to no more than three (3) minutes per person.

None.

10. Adjournment (For Possible Action)

It was moved by Vice-Chair Miller; seconded by Commissioner Aiazzi to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 p.m. The motion carried: Commissioners Honig-Bear, Miller, Aiazzi, Erwin, Oliverio and Partridge assenting; Commissioners Pearl, Hatjakes and Robertson absent; and two positions vacant.