

THE ARTS COMMISSION MET IN SPECIAL SESSION ON THE 2ND DAY OF NOVEMBER 2009 AT 6:30 P.M. AT CITY HALL, 608 HEBER AVE, CALEXICO, CALIFORNIA. THE DATE, HOUR AND PLACE DULY ESTABLISHED FOR HOLDING SUCH SAID MEETING.

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Bill Hodge
Soledad Salazar
Berenice Martinez
Judith Mazon
Sergio Gaytan

Community Services Director:

Sandra Tauler

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of allegiance was led by Chairman Bill Hodge.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Commissioner Salazar, seconded by Commissioner Martinez and passed unanimously, the agenda was approved as delivered.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONER

Chairman Hodge welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if anyone would like to comment on any items not listed on the agenda. Chairman Hodge stated that part of the Strategic Plan Implementation is to raise funds in order to support the arts in Calexico, and he asked each Commissioner to look into ways to apply for grants and/or do fundraising.

Ms. Tauler reported that she has asked the Townsend Company, who has a contract with the City, to help look for grants. She will also commit to finding someone that can train the Commissioners on how to search for grants.

Chairman Hodge asked Ms. Tauler to please remind the Commissioners of upcoming meetings and events. Ms. Tauler replied that she will send an e-mail two weeks before every Arts Commission meeting.

Chairman Hodge stated that he would like to host another Youth Art Exhibit, and that he liked Ms. Tauler's idea of having two separate exhibits. One would be for children in grades kinder through eighth, and another for grades ninth thru twelfth.

Chairman Hodge asked if the City charges for use of the Cultural Arts Center. Ms. Tauler replied that there is a rental fee of \$400.00. Non-profit organizations may use the Cultural Arts Center for free once a year, but they pay must a \$200.00 clean-up fee.

Chairman Hodge inquired about the status of the Carnegie Technology Center. Ms. Tauler replied that the Carnegie was awarded a budget and has been doing very well. The Carnegie averages about 50+ visitors a day. It is open Monday thru Thursday, from 3:00 – 8:00p.m.

Chairman Hodge asked when the Cultural Arts Center will be getting a sign, now that it is re-opened. Ms. Tauler reported that the Arts Council budget does allow for a sign, and she will look into possible funding sources and prices.

Commissioner Gaytan reported that Bernardo Olmedo had offered to help create invitations for any of the events that the Commission has.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Jesus Gallardo lives in the Imperial Valley and is very interested in promoting music in the Imperial Valley. He has worked in the music industry in Mexico, and would like to offer his talents to the Commission. He would like to have an American Idol type of contest in Calexico. Ms. Tauler suggested that he come to the next Arts Commission meeting with a complete presentation in order to better understand his idea.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion by Commissioner Salazar, seconded by Commissioner Martinez and passed unanimously the minutes for the regular meeting on August 3, 2009, were approved as delivered.

RESIGNATION OF ARTS COMMISSIONER, ULISES CARDENAS

Ms. Tauler reported that Commissioner Cardenas resigned and Councilman Castro appointed Sergio Gaytan to replace him.

WELCOME NEW ARTS COMMISSIONERS, JUDITH MAZON & SERGIO GAYTAN

Ms. Tauler stated that in addition to Mr. Cardenas, Mr. Garcia would no longer be part of the Arts Commission, due to him being gone for six months. Councilman Romero, who had previously appointed Mr. Garcia, decided that it would be best to appoint someone else to serve on the Arts Commission. Judith Mazon and Sergio Gaytan will now be serving as Arts Commissioners.

Commissioner Mazon introduced herself. She is a teacher for the Calexico School District and was informed of the opening. She does not consider herself as “artsy” but is very much interested in the arts.

Commissioner Gaytan introduced himself and stated that he was happy to be back on the Commission. He is an artist. He works for the Imperial Valley College financial aid office. He has always been involved in the arts and continues to set up art exhibits in the Imperial and Mexicali Valleys.

Ms. Tauler welcomed the new Commissioners and provided each with a binder with important information and forms. An updated contact information sheet will be provided at the next meeting.

THEATRICAL PRESENTATIONS AT TCRUMMET PARK, BY MR. PINZON

This item was tabled due to Mr. Pinzon’s absence.

ARTS COMMISSION DANCE FUNDRAISER

Chairman Hodge stated that he would like to host a dance every year and focus on a different decade. He would like this year’s dance to be a 1960’s themed dance. He will be happy to take the lead on organizing this event. Commissioner Mazon asked where these dances would be held. Chairman Hodge replied that in the past they were held at the Elk’s Lodge in Calexico, but he would prefer to have them at the Cultural Arts Center. Chairman Hodge thought the dance floor to be a little small at the Cultural Arts Center and asked what could be done about it. Ms. Tauler replied that a portable dance floor can be used.

Commissioner Mazon asked when the dance would be held, Ms. Tauler replied that most of the month of March was open at the Cultural Arts Center. The commissioners agreed to have the dance on March 26, 2010.

MURAL WALL ART CONTEST

Ms. Tauler explained that the City Council was discussing ways of handling the graffiti problem in Calexico. They came up with the idea of having a mural contest, and were wondering if the Arts Commission would be interested in organizing the contest. Police Chief, Jim Neujahr, had stated at the Council meeting, that areas where murals have been painted are usually not defaced by graffiti. This would be a good way to creatively challenge a lot of artists in the Imperial Valley. Chairman Hodge asked if this contest would only be open to kids or “taggers.” Ms. Tauler replied that it would be open to the whole community. On motion by Commissioner Salazar, seconded by Commissioner Martinez and passed unanimously, the Arts Commission agreed to organize the mural wall contest.

SET DATE FOR ARTIST GATHERING IV

The Commission agreed to have the fourth Artist Gathering on Thursday, December 3, 2009. This gathering will focus on music.

CHANGE REGULAR MEETING TIME TO 6:30 P.M.

Ms. Tauler suggested moving the meeting time to a later time in order to give a chance for all Commissioner’s to attend the meetings. Chairman Hodge suggested meeting at 6:00 p.m. which all Commissioner’s agreed to. On motion by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Mazon and passed unanimously, the Arts Commission will meet at 6:00 p.m.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

- Ms. Tauler reported that the calendar for the 2010 mini art exhibits is filling up quick. For 2010, the mini art exhibits will be on display for two weeks instead of one. It will be the first full two weeks of the month.
- The La Ronda Senior Citizen Club asked to use the Cultural Arts Center twice a month, Ms. Tauler offered them one Friday a month. They will not be charged a rental fee, but they will be paying for the clean-up.
- Ms. Tauler reported that the Library has a poetry club, but that it needs an infusion. Chairman Hodge suggested hosting a poetry event at the Cultural Arts Center.

INFORMATION

SEPT/OCT NEWSLETTER
CROCHET CLUB FLYER
SENIOR MOVIE DAY FLYER
WALKING CLUB FLYER
CARNEGIE TECH CENTER FLYER
POETRY CLUB FLYER

Meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: DECEMBER 7, 2009