

THE ARTS COMMISSION MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON THE 3RD DAY OF AUGUST 2009 AT 5:00 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 5:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Bill Hodge
Soledad Salazar
Berenice Martinez

Absent:

Jose D. Garcia

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Bill Hodge.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONER

Chairman Hodge asked Ms. Tauler if Commissioner Cardenas and Commissioner Garcia planned on continuing to be part of the Arts Commission. Ms. Tauler replied that she would look into the situation.

Chairman Hodge asked that the themed dance be placed on next month's agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion by Commissioner Salazar, seconded by Commissioner Martinez and passed unanimously the minutes for the regular meeting on March 2, 2009, were approved as delivered.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Chairman Hodge stated that he would like the Arts Commission to focus on raising funds. He would like to look into grants, and hosting fundraising events. He asked that the Commission focus on finding funds for a couple of sessions. Chairman Hodge also mentioned that they look for outside help, and network.

Commissioner Martinez mentioned that Imperial Valley College offers a class on grant-writing.

Ms. Tauler recommended visiting the California Center for the Arts and California Arts Council websites to see if any grants are available.

Roy Dorantes recommended that the Commission speak with Gustavo Reza who is a grant writer and who is also the El Centro Small Business Development director.

YOUTH ART EXHIBIT-REVIEW COMMENTS ABOUT PROGRAM

Chairman Hodge said that the exhibit had a great turn-out and everyone did a great job.

Commissioner Martinez stated that the event was a success, but that she would have liked to have seen more students from IVROP. Some people who work for IVROP had mentioned that they were not aware of the exhibit and were very interested in participating in the next one.

Ms. Tauler suggested that because the event was such a success and because there were students who were turned away because there were so few spots available, that the next time the Commission has a Youth Art Exhibit, that it be separated into two exhibits. There should be one for students from kinder through the eighth grade, and another for High School students, grades ninth through twelfth.

ARTIST GATHERING III-REVIEW

Ms. Tauler stated that she would like to have an artist gathering every quarter.

CLOSING OF CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

Chairman Hodge stated that he had attended the City Council meeting when the Mayor gave direction to close the Cultural Arts Center for one year. What he understood was that the Chamber of Commerce will absorb the cost, but that nothing will be changed regarding the arts. The building will still be available for the Arts Commission to use, although the classes currently offered at the Cultural Arts Center will be cancelled.

Ms. Tauler reported that although the Commission is allowed to use the facilities, part of closing the Cultural Arts Center meant that there would be no budget to fund any of the events or programs.

Chairman Hodge asked if one of the stipulations of having received the monies to build the Cultural Arts Center was that the building has to be used for the Arts. Ms. Tauler replied that the City was currently looking into that.

Chairman Hodge asked if the extended hours of operation of the Carnegie Technology Center was related to the closing of the Cultural Arts Center. Ms. Tauler replied that the Library Branch at the William Moreno Jr. High was closed for the Summer, so she was able to move the staff over to the Carnegie. The Carnegie budget is still not approved, and it may also be closing.

Chairman Hodge stated that the Arts Commission will have to conduct business the way they did before the Cultural Arts Center was opened. The Commission will have to work to continue to be active.

SERGIO CABRERA-POROPPOSAL FOR ART EXHIBIT

Ms. Tauler stated that because the situation of the Cultural Arts Center is uncertain, she cannot continue to book events at the Cultural Arts Center. If there are any events hosted at the Cultural Arts Center, money for refreshments will have to be raised, volunteers will be needed to work the events and help setup and cleanup.

Roy Dorantes stated that his Writers Club members would be willing to help out at any of the events.

Chairman Hodge mentioned that he might be able to receive some funding through CASA at the High School for some of the events.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Tauler gave her report during the discussion of the closing of the Cultural Arts Center. She had nothing to add.

INFORMATION

Meeting was adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: SEPTEMBER 14, 2009