



Civic Arts Commission  
Office of Economic Development

## Minutes

### Civic Arts Commission

Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 6:00–8:00 p.m.

Tarea Hall Pittman South Branch Library, 1901 Russell St., Berkeley, CA 94703

1. **CALL TO ORDER** 6:02 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL**  
**Commissioners Present:** Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Ozol, Passmore, Ross, Slattery  
**Commissioners Absent:** Anno, Tamano  
**Staff Present:** Jennifer Lovvorn, Commission Secretary/Chief Cultural Affairs Officer and Mara Engelson, Civic Arts Analyst.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**  
None
4. **CHAIR REPORT**
  - a) The chair gave a debriefing on the November 19, 2019 Council Meeting regarding Short Term Rental Revenue and Arts Funding.
5. **STAFF REPORT**
  - a) Civic Arts Grant
    - i. Grant applications are open – Deadline to apply: January 16, 2020.
    - ii. Upcoming Topic Workshop on Cultural Equity Wednesday, December 11, 2019 from 6–8 p.m. The Technical Workshop was on Monday, November 25, 2019 and was well received by 26 attendees.
    - iii. Call for Grants Panelists open – Application on Civic Arts website. Deadline to apply is January 17, 2020.
  - b) Update on Berkeley Big People deaccession: The City will provide the artist with additional time to support his effort to find a buyer for the artwork.
  - c) “Earhsong” by Wang Po Shu has been repainted and reinstalled on Shattuck Avenue. The artist is working on a design for the bell to be integrated into the artwork plaque. This design will be coming to the Commission for approval in the coming months.

6. **ACTION ITEMS** *(All items for discussion and possible action)*

a) **2020 Civic Arts Commission meeting schedule. (Attachment 2)**

**Action:** M/S/C (Blecher/Covarrubias) to approve the 2020 Civic Arts Commission meeting schedule.

**Vote:** Ayes — Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Ozol, Passmore, Ross, Slattery; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Anno, Tamano.

7. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a) **October 23, 2019 Draft Minutes (Attachment 3)**

**Action:** M/S/C (Ozol/Ross) to approve the October 23, 2019 Minutes.

**Vote:** Ayes — Blecher, Bullwinkel, Ozol, Passmore, Ross, Slattery; Nays — None; Abstain — Covarrubias; Absent — Anno, Tamano.

8. **PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION** *(All items for discussion only and no action)*

- a) Measure T1 Infrastructure Bond Program Update: Postponed to January's Commission meeting.
- b) Actors Ensemble Discussion of John Hinkel Park: Jerome Solberg, President/Secretary of the Actors Ensemble, (which has been in Berkeley since 1957 as a community theater) stated they and all other performance companies that have been performing at John Hinkel Park have become displaced due to construction on the park and Live Oak Theater. They expressed concerns regarding the planning of the park. Some of their concerns include: not having been consulted or considered in the plans; that there may be ADA issues with how the theater is used; that the installed pole holes used for staging purpose during their productions may be removed; and they'd like to request permanent storage be built to be shared by all theatrical companies performing there. They've written a letter and made several attempts to contact Parks but still do not feel that they've been heard. They asked for assistance in connecting with Parks and would like their concerns to be considered. The Commission agreed to ask Civic Arts Staff to contact the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Department to try to arrange a meeting to further communications.

9. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) Grants — No Meeting

- John Slattery, Chair
- Kim Anno

b) Policy — Next meeting set for December 15, 2019

- Kim Anno
- Lisa Bullwinkel
- Liz Ozol
- Jennifer Ross

- c) Public Art — Met on November, 15, 2019 to select a new Cube Space Curator. Leila Weefur was selected and will be invited to attend the January Commission meeting.
  - Matt Passmore, Chair
  - Kim Anno
  - Dana Blecher
  - Modesto Covarrubias
  
- d) Berkeley Cultural Trust Representative — An invitation is extended for all Commissioners to attend the next meeting on December 11, 2019. The topic will be Cultural Equity. The Space Committee and the Steering Committee have been very active.
  - Lisa Bullwinkel
  
- e) Berkeley Arts Education Steering Committee Representative — BAESC took the lead in coordinating the submission of a California Arts Council grant application on behalf of the Civic Arts Program for \$10,500 to expand the BEARS Summer Art Program from one month to two. The initial funding of \$15,000 from the Chancellor’s Community Partnership fund has been augmented by an award of \$3,000 from the Berkeley Public Schools Fund so that month one is fully funded. Another grant application will be submitted to the Berkeley Public Schools Fund in December requesting additional funds for month two in order to increase the California Arts Council’s required local match.
  - Liz Ozol
  - Jennifer Ross (Alternate)
  
- f) Design Review — This month’s meeting is November 21, 2019. At last month’s meeting the committee reviewed a number of buildings in the pipeline.
  - Modesto Covarrubias
  
- g) Civic Center Vision Subcommittee — This month’s meeting is November 21, 2019.
  - Dana Blecher
  - Lisa Bullwinkel
  - Liz Ozol
  - Hiroko Tamano

10. **COMMUNICATIONS**

11. **ADJOURNMENT** Motion to adjourn at 7:39 p.m.

**Action:** M/S/C (Covarrubias/Blecher) to adjourn.

**Vote:** Ayes — Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Ozol, Passmore, Ross, Slattery; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Anno, Tamano.

Staff Contact:  
Jennifer Lovvorn  
Secretary to the Civic Arts Commission  
Berkeley, CA 94704 (510) 981-7533  
civicarts@cityofberkeley.info

Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City's electronic records, which are accessible through the City's website. **Please note: e-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required, but if included in any communication to a City board, commission or committee, will become part of the public record.** If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the secretary to the relevant board, commission or committee for further information.

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the Civic Arts Office located at 2180 Milvia Street, Fifth Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704.

**ADA Disclaimer**

*This meeting is being held in a wheelchair accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.*