



**City of El Segundo**  
**Arts and Culture Advisory Committee**  
Meeting Minutes  
for January 26, 2020 5:30 p.m.  
Zoom

Land Acknowledgement: We acknowledge that we are holding this meeting on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Tongva. We recognize the Tongva people as the traditional land caretakers of Tovaangar (Los Angeles basin, So. Channel Islands). We also acknowledge that Los Angeles County is home to the largest Indigenous populations in the US.

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairperson Neal Von Flue.

**B. ROLL CALL**

1. Members present: Jeff Cason, Kristen Dorsey, Maureen Kingsley, Mark Knight, Michael Kreski, Brian Mitchell, Natalie Strong, Vice Chairperson Eva Sweeney (arrived at 5:40PM), and Chairperson Neal Von Flue

Absent: Samantha Smith-Strassner

2. City Council Liaisons present:

Councilmember Lance Giroux (left at 6:23PM)

Councilmember Scot Nicol (arrived at 5:44PM, left at 6:23PM)

3. City Staff Liaisons present: Community Services Director Melissa McCollum and Senior Librarian Julie Todd

**C. PRESENTATIONS - NONE**

**D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS – NONE**

**E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES for December 2, 2020**

1. Approval of minutes of the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee Special Meeting of December 2, 2020.

A verbal vote was taken by Julie Todd.

MOTIONED by Natalie Strong and SECONDED by Brian Mitchell to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2020 Special Meeting as presented. Motion CARRIED 8-0.

**F. SPECIAL BUSINESS - NONE**

## **G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Debriefing of ACC Workflow Report to City Council on December 15, 2020  
(Chairperson Neal Von Flue/20 Minutes)

Link to City Council Meeting – <https://youtu.be/ar6qfns4KWE?t=2714>

Councilmember Lance Giroux feels there are a lot of future opportunities for the Arts and Culture Committee and the key to a successful relationship between ACC and City Council is to work closely together upfront to better understand Council's expectations while moving into project planning. Councilmember Nicol concurred, and added that he would like to see the Arts and Culture Committee be agile as potential opportunities arise. Councilmember Nicol also mentioned a kinetic sculpture that the owners were at one time considering donating to the City, using this as an example of unexpected opportunities.

Eva Sweeney mentioned establishing a logistical framework of procedures and parameters regarding maintenance and other costs associated with future donations so the ACC would be ready to move forward on these opportunities as they present themselves. Eva Sweeney also would like to hear from Council which projects are the most important, i.e. Gateways, etc., so that the committee can start planning in advance.

Councilmember Nicol suggested that Melissa McCollum ask for Council's priorities during strategic planning sessions so future Arts and Culture related projects can be a part of the City's strategic plan, providing the committee with project direction.

Using the donation of art as an example, Vice Chairperson Natalie Strong asked if these projects would be something that ends up on an agenda for ACC discussion. Melissa McCollum confirmed that is how she sees any possible art donation projects making their way to ACC for consideration.

Councilmember Giroux shared with Chairperson Neal Von Flue that he sees identifying public art priorities similar to capital improvement planning; identifying a few public art projects to accomplish within a fiscal year. Keep the list of priorities for Council short 3-5 items.

Chairperson Von Flue asked how the Council still felt on a smaller holding account of funds that would be more immediately attainable for smaller projects such as parklet beautification, addressing the k rails used for outdoor dining. Councilmember Giroux felt that presented in this way, the City Council could possibly be more amiable to the holding account concept.

Councilmember Nicol mentioned he would still prefer to have all ACC projects come before Council, no matter the size, but is also in favor of streamlining the approval process to continue the committee's momentum and enthusiasm.

Councilmember Giroux also reminded ACC members that Council prefers tangible proposals. Councilmember Nicol suggested informal one on one conversations with

Councilmembers for additional feedback when needed and Melissa McCollum reminded the ACC that Chairperson Neal Von Flue also has access to the City Manager for feedback.

Jeff Cason mentioned the more the ACC can have easy and open conversations both formally and informally with Council, the better for both sides at helping the ACC contribute to meeting the City's strategic plans.

Chairperson Neal Von Flue reminded the committee that between now and April, it is the committee's task to figure out the 3-5 CDP supported projects to present to Council.

Eva Sweeney expressed the importance of ideating with the City's strategic plan in mind to develop ACC projects to present to Council.

Brian Mitchell agreed that following the City's strategic plan is a good direction to go in as well as having a Master Plan for Art.

Melissa McCollum mentioned library staff providing the committee more information on larger City projects, initiatives and current RFPs to help inform the ACC's ideating efforts.

## **H. NEW BUSINESS – NONE**

1. Election of ACC Chair and Vice Chair for term of one year  
(Julie Todd/15 minutes)

Julie Todd led the election of Chair and Vice Chair. ACC members were asked to either nominate themselves or others for the positions. Natalie Strong reached out to Julie previously expressing interest. Jeff Cason asked if Eva Sweeney was still interested in the role of Vice Chair. Natalie expressed that Eva was interested in allowing others to have the opportunity. Julie Todd asked if Eva Sweeney was also interested in the Vice Chair role and Eva concurred with Natalie that she is willing to offer someone else the opportunity. A verbal vote was taken by Julie Todd. Natalie Strong's election to Vice Chair passed 9-0.

The Chairperson role is also available. Eva Sweeney suggested to keep Neal as Chair of the ACC. A verbal vote was taken and Neal Von Flue was elected Chairperson, 9-0.

2. Review of Subcommittee and Outreach Assignments  
(Neal Von Flue/15 minutes)

Chairperson Neal Von Flue suggested establishing a group to gather new project ideas and organize them along with the previous Big Idea List items. Jeff Cason mentioned that at least one subcommittee is appropriate for organizing ideas to a Big Idea List. Eva Sweeney suggested everyone send ideas to Julie Todd to compile a spreadsheet for more contributions from the group. Michael Kreski agreed to having the group members send their project ideas to Julie. Jeff Cason suggested a hybrid

approach; sending ideas to Julie and then having a subcommittee organize the submissions.

Mark Knight asked if it was possible for Julie to send all committee members the compiled list of ideas. Chairperson Neal Von Flue reminded the group that this information would be for information only and not to be discussed with each other due to the Brown Act. Julie will include the list as part of the February ACC agenda.

Jeff Cason suggested all contributing ideas, but still having a lead to help direct the efforts. Eva Sweeney agreed. A verbal vote was taken by Julie Todd in response to Mark Knight's motion.

MOTIONED by Mark Knight and SECONDED by Vice Chairperson Natalie Strong to abolish the current subcommittees and create a subcommittee to work on the revised Big Idea List. Motion CARRIED 9-0.

Kristen Dorsey suggested revising the Big Idea List become an assignment as opposed to creating a new subcommittee. Melissa McCollum mentioned needing to address the previous motion if the committee decides to take a different action. A verbal vote was taken by Julie Todd in response to Mark's Knight's motion to eliminate the previously created subcommittee.

MOTIONED by Mark Knight and SECONDED by Brian Mitchell to eliminate the previous created subcommittee and to create a working group tasked with revising the Big Idea List before the February ACC Meeting. Motion CARRIED 9-0.

Chairperson Neal Von Flue asked for volunteers to be a part of the Big Idea working group. Kristen Dorsey, Jeff Cason, Vice Chairperson Natalie Strong, and Maureen Kingsley volunteered for this assignment.

Chairperson Neal Von Flue asked that Julie Todd send out the existing Big Idea List along with any current City RFPs to help the working group make edits and more appropriate additions to the list.

## **I. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES**

1. Anti-Racism Through an Intersectional Lens - none
2. Cultural Development Program - none
3. Events/Marketing - none
4. Grants - none
5. Projects - none

## **J. GOVERNANCE**

Julie Todd mentioned that Mishia Jennings does not have a list of ACC applicants to share yet, but she is hoping the City Council will identify possible interview dates and times by the end of the month.

Julie also shared the current CDP fund balance is \$573,627 with current allocated funding of \$400,000 (\$300,000 towards the Gateway project and \$100,000 towards the Library Park Activation project). \$173,627 is the remaining unallocated funding.

Julie Todd shared that there was going to be a presentation to ACC this evening on a public mural proposal by a new business coming to town, but they decided to pay into the Cultural Development Fund instead of opting for creating on-site public art to meet the City's Cultural Development requirement.

## **K. ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Chairperson Neal Von Flue – Thank you to Eva Sweeney for serving as Vice Chair. Welcomed Natalie Strong into the Vice Chair position. Thanked the group for allowing him to serve as Chair for another year.

Vice Chairperson Natalie Strong – Appreciates the group's votes of confidence in electing her Vice Chair. She is looking forward to her service.

Jeff Cason – Happy New Year to all. Congratulations to Neal and Natalie in their roles as Chair and Vice Chair. Thank you to Eva Sweeney for her leadership and service.

Kristen Dorsey – Congratulations to Neal and Natalie.

Maureen Kingsley – Congratulations Neal and Natalie. Excited to have an assignment and work to do.

Mark Knight – Congratulations to Neal and Natalie. Thanked Eva for her leadership.

Michael Kreski – Gateway Committee met in December. The current Gateway efforts are addressing both east and west of Main Street. There will be another meeting in February.

Brian Mitchell – Concurred with the rest in congratulating Neal and Natalie.

Eva Sweeney – Shared that EDAC is no longer going to be a City group, but they are transforming into a nonprofit. Eva would like to continue to attend their meetings as an ACC representative. Wished everyone well.

## **CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS – NONE**

Councilmember Lance Giroux – not present (left at 6:23PM)

Councilmember Scot Nicol – not present (left at 6:23PM)

## **L. CITY LIAISON UPDATES**

Julie Todd mentioned that the Eagle Scout John Van Hamersveld DWP Tank Wrap Mural viewing station is currently waiting for DWP's attorney to respond to the request to install a bench on the property.

**M. ADJOURNMENT** – Meeting adjourned at 7:15PM.

NEXT MEETING: on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 5:30 p.m., held virtually on Zoom.

Posted by: Julie Todd

Date & Time: