



LAGUNA BEACH ARTS COMMISSION

Regular Meeting
Monday, September 28, 2009
City Council Chambers
5:30 p.m.

Recap of Minutes

PRESENT: Commissioners: Bill Atkins, Diane DeBilzan, Suzi Chauvel, Mary Ferguson, Pat Kollenda and Lisa Mansour. **ABSENT:** Joan Corman **STAFF:** Siân Poeschl

- 1) Pat Kollenda called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
- 2) **Minutes** – Minutes were approved as presented.
- 3) **Chair's Announcements** – Pat Kollenda noted an upcoming application by the Festival of Arts to replace the sculpture at the bus depot on Broadway. Ms. Kollenda noted an article in the Los Angeles Times regarding the display of art work in empty store fronts in Palm Springs. Ms. Kollenda noted that local landlords had been contacted by the Chamber of Commerce suggesting the same concept, but to date nothing had been installed.
- 4) **Treasurers Report** – Approved as presented.
- 5) **Public Communications** – None.
- 6) Items for discussion and action:

A. 2009 Mural Competition – Finalists Jesse Bartels, and artist teams Scott and Naomi Schoenherr and Gerard Stripling and Michele Taylor presented their proposals for the installation of a mural on the exterior of the restroom on Forest Lane. Each artist and artist team presented their concepts and answered questions from the Commission. Bill Atkins, representing the Mural Committee, presented a recommendation for the installation of "Little Treasurers" by Scott and Naomi Schoenherr. Created of ceramic relief, the two panels would each measure 53" x 81½" at the highest point of the arch. The mural would include imagery of local nature that would read from across the street but would also have detailed creatures and plants that would be seen by pedestrians. The artists noted once complete, they would make a mould of the mural, in the event any section of it would need to be replaced. A motion was made to recommend the installation of a mural, as described, with an expenditure of \$9,000 budgeted in FY 09/10 in the Arts Commission Special Programs budget of the Business Improvement District. M/S Chauvel/Ferguson. Yeas: Atkins, DeBilzan, Chauvel, Ferguson, Kollenda, Mansour. Noes: None.

B. Mural Installation at Whole Foods Market – Mike Tauber presented a proposal to install murals on the exterior windows of Whole Foods Market at 283 Broadway. Each panel, 15 in total will measure 60" x 114" depicting different areas and wildlife of Laguna. The murals will be painted on aluminum clad PVC and installed on the existing windows. Bill Atkins inquired why the murals were on the exterior and not interior and protected. Mr. Tauber explained that the windows were tinted and would make the murals reflective. Suzi Chauvel suggested they be lit at night. A motion was made to approve the installation of "Locals of Laguna Beach" as described. M/S Chauvel/Ferguson. Yeas: Atkins, DeBilzan, Chauvel, Ferguson, Kollenda, Mansour. Noes: None.

C. Mural Installation at Thalia Street Beach Access – Staff reported on the submission of two separate applications for the same location to install painted memorials at Thalia Street beach access. Bruce Hoping provided newspaper documentation of murals having been at the location since the 1970's, however, those murals did not have City approval. Mr. Hoping introduced artist Jeff Lavinsky who presented his design, which would be temporary in nature. The proposed acrylic painted mural would measure 17' x 3' 65" and would be dedicated to Laguna Beach High School students who had tragically lost their lives. Artist John Chaney presented his original design, which had been installed at the site, until painted over. Mr. Chaney had originally been commissioned by Mr. Hoping and had been led to believe the mural was sanctioned by the City.

Jackie Gallagher asked staff if the unauthorized murals were protected under the Visual Artist Right Act. Staff was unsure, as they were not approved as public art and could be considered graffiti. Doug DuMaurier presented a petition of signatures supporting John Chaney's design be approved for the site. Following discussion the item failed due to lack of a motion.

D. Competition Guidelines, Art in Public Places, South Laguna – Mary Ferguson presented a draft of the competition guidelines. Ann Christoph felt the request was cold and dry and that it needed to be more inspiring. Ms. Christoph noted it needed to include the theme or reference marine wildlife. Jackie Gallagher noted that the request for qualifications needed to be more specific about the history and importance of the site. Staff suggested working with Ms. Christoph and the committee on the first paragraph, and requested clarification on the theme. The Commission confirmed they did not want a theme for the competition. A motion was made to approve the request for qualifications as amended. Ferguson/DeBilzan. Yeas: Atkins, DeBilzan, Chauvel, Ferguson, Kollenda, Mansour. Noes: None

E. Friday Flicks at the Forum – Suzi Chauvel noted the success of the program in January and encouraged the Commission to approve a three week series on January 15, 22 and 29, 2010 at the Forum Theatre on the Festival of Arts grounds. Ms. Chauvel noted a weekly attendance of 75 to 100 people who had seen films relating to art genres and artists. Mike Tauber had attended the event and encouraged a reception to discuss the film following the screening. A motion was made to approve the January Friday Flicks at the Forum on January 15, 22 and 29, 2010. Mansour/Ferguson. Yeas: Atkins, DeBilzan, Chauvel, Ferguson, Kollenda, Mansour. Noes: None

F. Children's Holiday Palette Exhibition – Staff presented the guidelines and submission dates. Following review a motion was made to approve the guidelines as presented. Chauvel/Ferguson. Yeas: Atkins, DeBilzan, Chauvel, Ferguson, Kollenda, Mansour. Noes: None. Lisa Mansour supported the program and noted that her own daughters had enjoyed participating.

- 7) **Commissioner Communications** – Diane DeBilzan reminded the Commission of the upcoming "1st Saturday Artist Open Studios" on October 3, 2009 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Suzi Chauvel noted over 200 people had been attending "Sunset Serenades" and that it was a wonderful program. Mary Ferguson invited the Commission to the Dance Festival events and exhibitions at the Laguna College of Art and Design. Ms. Ferguson had attended the Planning Commission discussion regarding "Artist Live/Work" and requested an Arts Commission committee be established. Lisa Mansour noted the upcoming performance of "Lagunatics" by No Square Theatre in which she and Pat Kollenda were performing. Pat Kollenda noted the recent resignation of Commissioner Joan Corman and that she would be greatly missed.
- 8) **Staff Communications** – Staff reported that 35 submissions had been selected for the juried exhibit at City Hall and requested assistance with accepting the work and its display. Staff noted the upcoming deadline for submissions to the Palette Competition. Staff thanked Mary Ferguson and Diane DeBilzan for their assistance in distributing information to artists participating in the "Artist Open Studio" event. Staff reported the current exhibition at City Hall was created by adults who had attended classes during the summer at the Festival of Arts and thanked Kathy Jones, Betty Haight and Stephanie Cunningham for their assistance. Staff opened City Hall to the Historic Docent Council of the Laguna Art Museum to view the City's permanent painting collection. Staff thanked Joan Corman for all her contributions to the City both as an artist and Commissioner.
- 9) Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

cc: City Manager
Asst. City Manager
City Clerk