



Office of Economic Development
Civic Arts Commission

MINUTES

Civic Arts Commission

Wednesday, March 22, 2006 at 6:30 p.m.

North Berkeley Senior Center

Berkeley, Ca. 94710

Please Refrain From Wearing Scented Products To Public Meetings.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Sara Sanderson, Barbara Coleman, Lori Taguma, Amanda Bornstein, David Snippen, Jos Sances, Chiori Santiago, and Suzy Thompson

Absent: Commissioner Ione

Staff: Mary Ann Merker, Civic Arts Coordinator

Public: Bill Able, North Berkeley Resident

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The February 22, 2006 Minutes were approved as submitted.

5. **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Commissioner Suzy Thompson

6. **ACTION ITEMS**

a. Appoint Commission members to meet with Cultural Density Bonus Committee and recommend that the West Berkeley Study Committee members meet with appropriate Planning Commission Committees.

First Motion: Commissioner Santiago, second Commissioner Snippen that the Civic Arts Commission supports the Peerless Lighting Project if it conforms to the requirements of

Policy 1.2 of the Arts and Culture Plan. Policy 1.2 reads as follows:

Policy 1.2:

Support the increase and improvement of the availability of permanently affordable housing for artists, performance venues, and studio spaces designed for the practice of art.

Actions:

A. Conduct an inventory of existing arts facilities to determine what specific needs are not being fulfilled. The City should facilitate the creation of space for arts use in Berkeley by permitting the change of use to arts and crafts from manufacturing and warehousing.

B. Collaborate with the community and building owners to research and identify vacant buildings that could potentially be converted and used for arts activities.

C. Research and recommend policies for adoption by appropriate City Boards and Commissions, to encourage artisan studios, gallery spaces, production workshops, dance performance facilities, literary arts venues and collaboration sites for all the arts, consistent with the goals and policies of the Housing Element of the General Plan.

D. Work with the Planning Commission and the City Council to protect existing arts space and to protect and enhance permanently affordable arts space.

E. Strengthen and enforce existing policies, i.e. the Cultural Density Bonus, to ensure such agreements are implemented.

Vote: All in favor.

Second Motion: Commissioner Bornstein, second Commissioner Coleman, that the Civic Arts Commission will refer back to the Commission's subcommittee (West Berkeley Study Committee) the decision making about planning and collectively decide which member will represent the Committee in the Planning Commission Committee meetings. **Vote: All in favor.**

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Grant Committee: Suzie Thompson

b. Public Art Committee: David Snippen

- I-80 Bike Bridge
- San Pablo Park Historic Marker
- Train Stop with Redevelopment
- Corporation Yard Gates
- 1947 Center Street
- Maudelle Shirek Commemorative Mural
- Civic Center Call for Artists

c. Education Committee: Amanda Bornstein

d. West Berkeley Study Committee: Sara Sanderson

e. Berkeley Cultural Trust Meeting: Chiori Santiago

8. CONTINUING DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Civic Arts Budget
- b. Request Intern to Assist With West Berkeley Survey
- c. Line Item in City Budget
- d. Strategies

9. STAFF REPORT

- a. Budget
- b. Current Staffing
- c. West Berkeley & Peerless Lighting Artist Studios

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

11. NEW AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

None.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Contact person: Mary Ann Merker, Civic Arts Coordinator (510) 981-7533.

ACCOMMODATIONS PROVIDED UPON REQUEST

To request meeting materials in large print, Braille, or on cassette, or to request a sign language interpreter, assistive listening device, real-time captioning or other accommodations for the meeting, call 981-7533 (voice) or 981-6903 (TDD) as soon as possible. Providing at least five (working) days' notice will help to ensure availability at the meeting.

New Address: Civic Arts Office
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