



Harini Krishnan, District 1
Stephen Seymour, District 1
Kimberly Gordon, District 2
Elizabeth Stone, District 2
Belinda Hernandez Arriaga, Dist. 3
Laura McHugh, District 3
Jeanne Heise, District 4
Edward Sweeney, District 4
Victoria Magbilang, Dist. 5
VACANT (1 seat), Dist. 5

County Manager's Office
400 County Center
Redwood City, CA 94063
(650) 599-1005
www.smcgov.org/smcac



WORKING SESSION FOR COUNTYWIDE CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS EVENT

Wednesday, June 22, 2022 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Zoom

MINUTES

- 1. Roll Call** – Chair Stephen Seymour called the meeting to order at 3:05 with roll call.
In Attendance: Commissioners Gordon, Krishnan, McHugh, Seymour, Stone, Hernandez-Arriaga, Magbilang
Absent: Commissioner Heise
Staff: Robin Rodricks, Mara Grimes, Juda Tolmasoff

Introductions: Director introduced our new District 5 Commissioner, Victoria Magbilang.

- 2. Action Item**
 - A. AB361 Remote Meeting Requirements: in keeping with the recently enacted California AB361 and Governor Newsom's suspension of Brown Act Open Meetings law, vote to approve continuation of virtual Commission meetings. Commissioner Gordon made a motion that we approve continuation of virtual Commission meetings. Commissioner Magbilang seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: approved unanimously.
- 3. Oral Communications**

To allow the public to address the Commission on any matter not on the agenda.
No oral communications received.
- 4. Discussion Item**
 - A. Update and potential actions regarding the Countywide Celebration of the Arts
Commissioner Gordon thanked the Commissioners Krishnan and McHugh and the Director and Administrator-Manager for all the work done so far. She reported that the stage at Central Park in San Mateo is booked for August 27, 2022 from 12:00-3:00pm to showcase our local artists and arts and culture nonprofits. Commissioner Krishnan has agreed to emcee the afternoon and the participatory art project that Commissioner McHugh will present later in this meeting will be displayed there. She went on to explain that we had some hurdles to overcome with the venue in terms of the condition of the stage and the sound equipment, but the Admin-Manager has worked with San Mateo Parks and Rec to resolve these issues. Commissioner Krishnan stated that she had sound equipment that could be used as back up if needed.

Public records that relate to any item on the open session agenda for a regular Arts Commission meeting are available for public inspection. Those records that are distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting are available for public inspection at the same time they are distributed to all members, or a majority of the members of the Commission. The Commission has designated the Board of Supervisors Office, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063, for the purpose of making those public records available for inspection. The documents are also available to be sent electronically by e-mailing jtomasoff@smcgov.org. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), auxiliary aids and services for this meeting will be provided upon request when given three days notice. Please call (650)599-1005 (voice) or e-mail jtomasoff@smcgov.org. For the safety of those sensitive to airborne chemicals, please refrain from wearing chemically based products.

The Administrator-Manager offered to share the spreadsheet detailing the interested parties that have contacted her so far. She noted that four of the eight performances so far are from San Mateo and the goal is to have all 5 County districts represented. Commissioner Gordon stated that she hoped that Commissioners would do some outreach in their districts to ensure equal representation.

Commissioner Krishnan reported that she sent information about the Celebration to all the high school arts and music departments in the hope that maybe one of the jazz band or choral groups might want to participate. Commissioner Stone asked if there would be a rehearsal and Commissioner Gordon confirmed there would not be a rehearsal. Commissioner Stone noted that she was concerned about that and wondered if 10-15 minutes for each act would be enough. The Administrator-Manager noted that most of the groups were used to these short performances and Nathan Cottam from Mannakin Dance would be there to help manage the groups too.

The Director noted the Ms. Tolmasoff reminded her that Supervisor Groom had used some of her Measure K funds to purchase audio-visual equipment that at Peninsula Ballet Theater and we might ask to use it if needed.

Commissioner Gordon noted that we will need tables for the event on August 27th. The Administrator-Manager advised that they had been requested from the Parks & Rec department. She said she will check back with them and also brought up that one of the performers asked if they could sell merchandise and will check with them about that too. Commissioner Gordon stated that she thought it was alright as long as they managed everything, and we were not involved in any way.

Commissioner Gordon asked which events the group wanted to have the participatory art project available, with one event in each district. The Commissioners signed up on the spreadsheet and the Administrator-Manager will keep track.

Commissioner Gordon asked the Director for an update on the promotion of the event. The Director indicated that she and the Administrator-Manager had a productive meeting with the County Communications team. They are looking for good news and will help us to promote the events widely on social media and through channels like Next Door. She also stated that the County IT agreed to put the calendar on the OAC website and that she would follow up with them.

Commissioner Gordon invited Commissioner McHugh to present her participatory art project to the group. Commissioner McHugh acknowledged that Commissioner Seymour's work on the mural panels at the County Fair this year influenced her vision for the project. She presented a slide show to describe the goals, concept, process, materials, and how the Commission can use the project. The goals of the project are that it is: 1) Accessible to all; 2) Ease of handling from site to site; 3) Can be assembled and displayed at the final event; 4) Can weather conditions outdoors 1-2 years after completion; and 5) Cost effective materials. She went on to state that she estimated that the cost of the materials including the varnish to go over each chip was about \$1,000.

Commissioner McHugh stated that each participant could choose a color and add their own words to their chip using quick drying paint and markers. All of the individual pieces would be numbered and go together to create the larger image. Commissioner Gordon stated that August 27th could be the "big reveal." It was suggested that the Commission could also pre-paint and number some of the pieces and leave at public venues like the library where people visit to encourage greater participation. It might also be possible to have a "leave one and take one" policy.

The one issue to resolve was what one image would be used as the basis for the project. Commissioner Seymour suggested that he knew people that could design a mural for us. The Administrator-Manager noted that the Commission had just created a process including criteria for public projects. The Director stated that we did not have time to use the process. Commissioner McHugh suggested that each Commissioner choose an image with a theme of nature or the County landscape and send it to the Administrator-Manager. Once all of the images are received, the Commissioners could then vote on their favorite.

The question of where the artwork would go when it was completed was raised. Commissioner Gordon noted that the project was like a metaphor that each participant is part of a larger project that comes together as a whole. Commissioner Seymour related that there was an artist in San Bruno that had create a similar mural project using a pixelated image. Commissioner Gordon also noted that we need to have a deadline to make a choice on the image as the event is quickly approaching.

Ms. Tolmasoff suggested that the Convention and Visitors Bureau has an archive of County photos and they might have an image that we could use for the project. Commissioner Gordon asked that Ms. Tolmasoff put her in touch with them. The Director stated that she had been working with them and said that she would set up a call. Commissioner Gordon thanked Commissioner McHugh for her time and work on this project.

Commissioner McHugh offered to create a kit for each Commissioner with all the materials and instructions that they could then bring to the event they will attend in their district. Commissioner Gordon stated that the Commissioners would then bring their completed panel to the event on August 27th, and it would be assembled into one bigger panel there. Commissioner McHugh also noted that there were enough panels for one to be created at the August 27th event.

Commissioner Gordon reported that we were within our budget so far – \$900 for technology and \$1,000 - 1,300 for supplies. Commissioner Stone asked if they should consider hiring a videographer to record the August 27th performances in order to make a video about the celebration that could be used next year or to make a promotional video about the Arts Commission. She offered to look into a videographer. It was also suggested that each Commissioner could take photos and videos at the events that they attended.

Ms. Tolmasoff noted that John Hutar, the Convention and Visitors Bureau's Executive Director might be interested in contributing to this video. Commissioner Stone noted that we could use money from next year's budget to pay for it. The Director stated that we could use some of funds from the 2022 budget for the event if any is left over. She also noted that in 2023 there could be line items for both the event and a video and the costs for the videographer could come out of that.

5. Adjournment

Commissioner McHugh made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Gordon seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:16 pm.

NEXT REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING: July 20, 2022 – 3:00-5:00 PM