

**MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
TORRANCE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance Cultural Arts Commission convened in a regular session at 7:04 p.m. on Monday, September 17, 2007 in the Library meeting room at the Katy Geissert Main Library.

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

Commissioner Strehler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Armstrong, Endo-Roberts\*, Miranda, Stadler, Strehler, and Chairperson Smisek.

Absent: Commissioner Wang.

Also Present: Acting Cultural Services Manager Kelso, Cultural Services Senior Supervisor McClelland, and Cultural Services Supervisor Ferguson.

\*Commissioner Endo-Roberts arrived at 7:12 p.m.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Strehler moved to grant Commissioner Wang an excused absence for the September 17, 2007 Cultural Arts Commission meeting. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Stadler moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda. Commissioner Miranda seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Armstrong moved for the approval of the August 20, 2007 Cultural Arts Commission meeting minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Strehler and passed by unanimous voice vote approval (absent Commissioner Wang).

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**6A. PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 2007 AS NATIONAL ARTS AND HUMANITIES MONTH**

Chairperson Smisek introduced the item and requested that the Commission recommend that City Council issue a proclamation declaring October as National Arts and Humanities month in Torrance.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Strehler moved to adopt the proclamation declaring October as National Arts and Humanities month in Torrance for recommendation to City Council. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Wang).

Commissioners Strehler, Armstrong, and Chairperson Smisek indicated they would attend the October 2, 2007 Council meeting when the proclamation is read.

**6B. COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Strehler moved to adopt the Commission Annual Report for 2006-2007 as submitted for approval by City Council. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Wang).

Acting Cultural Services Manager Kelso noted that this item would also be considered by City Council on October 2, 2007.

**7. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**7A. EXCELLENCE IN ARTS**

No report.

**7B. FACILITIES**

Has not met.

**7C. GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE**

No report.

**8. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Cultural Services Supervisor Ferguson stated that the September 8, 2007 Torrance Art Museum's exhibition of *Themes and Variations: New Abstraction in Los Angeles* was very successful, with 330 people in attendance. She reported that there was a Stories in Art on September 13, 2007 and another one will be on September 20, 2007. She encouraged Commissioners to attend a gallery talk with artist Fran Siegel on September 26, 2007 in Gallery Two. She stated that CitiCable interviewed Yong Sin and Regina Klenjoski and distributed cards announcing Regina Klenjoski Dance Company's *The Museum Project: Triptych: feet on concrete* on September 28-29, 2007.

She reported that fall classes started and that she was looking forward to a busy season. She announced the last Art by the Beach at Miramar Park on October 7, 2007 and the next Artful Days, "Learning the Language of Art—Part II," on October 2, 2007.

Commissioner Armstrong mentioned that it is difficult to see the Museum from the street and offered the suggestion to add additional signage.

Regina Klenjoski thanked the Commission for awarding the grant to Regina Klenjoski Dance Company and provided information about the three duet performances at the Museum on September 28-29, 2007. She stated that she created a work that is based on the concept of abstraction to complement the theme of the exhibits. She noted that the duet installations would be performed three times and that the audience would be engaged as active viewers.

Cultural Services Senior Supervisor McClelland reported that StarLight Production's "Bye Bye Birdie" on August 24-26 and "Proof" on September 9-18 had excellent attendance and reviews. He stated that they had auditions for "Nunsense" which will be at the Nakano Theatre November 2-11, 2007. He noted that the excursion to the Hollywood Bowl was a successful event.

In response to a question asked at the August 20, 2007 meeting, he stated that the consultant has been paid \$9,000 to prepare a basic design concepts study for the proposed Wilson Park amphitheatre.

Cultural Services Senior Supervisor McClelland stated that he was waiting for agenda topics before scheduling a joint meeting with City Council.

Commissioner Strehler stated that she wanted to ask City Council what they hoped to achieve at the Museum and how the Commission could help to achieve those goals and Commissioner Armstrong stated that a topic for the meeting should be Museum accreditation.

Chairperson Smisek requested that Commissioners e-mail suggestions for agenda topics to her or to staff.

Cultural Services Senior Supervisor McClelland stated that Hot Fun Sunday at Wilson Park on September 16 had a good turnout and was the last summer concert.

## **9. ORALS**

**9A.** Commissioner Strehler stated that she enjoyed Symphony at the Park, the last Wild Wednesdays!, the Employees Variety Show, and "Proof."

**9B.** Commissioner Armstrong stated that she enjoyed the gypsy music at Wild Wednesdays!, the Symphony in the Park, and the Employees Variety Show.

**9C.** Commissioner Endo-Roberts stated that she has been very busy with her job.

**9D.** Commissioner Armstrong initiated a brief discussion regarding other accredited museums in the area, attracting traveling exhibitions, and expenses involved with the accreditation process.

Cultural Services Supervisor Ferguson offered to provide a list of accredited art museums and estimated that accreditation would cost \$4,000 over the two-year process. She noted that accredited museums interviewed by Hazel Alamares included Long

Beach Museum of Art, University of Long Beach, Downey, and Riverside, and that responses about benefits varied.

Cultural Services Senior Supervisor McClelland stated that the presentation last month was for informational purposes only. He reiterated that staff is still evaluating the pros and cons of accreditation and has not decided if it wants to proceed with it. He noted that one benefit of accreditation is that the City would commit to maintain and run the facility at that level.

**9E.** Commissioner Miranda shared information about his visit to the Philippines.

**9F.** Commissioner Stadler stated that she enjoyed the gypsy music at Wild Wednesdays!, "West Side Story," and "Rumors."

**9G.** Commissioner Stadler regretfully announced her resignation from the Commission because she is temporarily relocating out of the City.

**9H.** Chairperson Smisek stated that she enjoyed the concert at El Retiro Park and has been dealing with plumbing problems.

**9I.** Acting Cultural Services Manager Kelso thanked Commissioner Stadler for her seven years of dedicated service to the City and stated that he has enjoyed the opportunity to move-up as Acting Cultural Services Manager.

**9J.** Acting Cultural Services Manager Kelso stated that he enjoyed "Proof" and the opening of the Torrance Art Museum exhibition.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** At 7:55 p.m., Commissioner Stadler moved to adjourn the meeting to Monday, October 15, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Smisek so ordered.

Approved as Submitted October 15, 2007 Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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