

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Cultural Arts Commission convened in a regular session at 7:01 p.m. on Monday, November 16, 2009 in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Smisek led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Bunting, Candioly, Endo-Roberts, Rische, Smisek, Strehler, and Chairperson Miranda.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Cultural Services Manager Rappoport and Cultural Services Senior Supervisor Bell.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Endo-Roberts moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda. Commissioner Candioly seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5A. MINUTES OF OCTOBER 19, 2009

Commissioner Endo-Roberts noted a scrivener's error on page 4.

MOTION: Commissioner Rische moved to approve the October 19, 2009 Commission meeting minutes as corrected. Commissioner Candioly seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

Richard Whitehorse, Torrance Artists Guild, presented a \$500 donation from Torrance Artists Guild to support Torrance Art Museum.

7. ON-GOING BUSINESS

7a. PROPOSAL TO INSTALL PERMANENT SCULPTURE IN MIRAMAR PARK

Manager Rappoport noted that this item was continued from the October 19, 2009 Commission meeting at which time a 3-3 vote was taken. She distributed correspondence from Kathleen Fisher, Vice-President of Vista Bahia Home Owners Association, and informed Commissioners that neighbors within 300 feet were noticed about this meeting.

Commissioner Smisek stated that she happened to visit a unit in Vista Bahia and observed that the sculpture would be barely visible.

Commissioner Rische stated that objections are silly and the donation and location request should be accepted.

Commissioner Strehler stated that she is puzzled why there is opposition and is satisfied that the sculpture is not dangerous. She expressed support for accepting the donor's request and noted that it is important for the City to receive as many donations of art as possible.

Commissioner Endo-Roberts offered her observation that the dolphin is more dangerous than the frog sculpture but expressed concern about upkeep.

Commissioner Candioly stated that he has changed his initial opinion and is now in favor of placing the sculpture at Miramar Park. He stated that it is safe piece of sculpture and hopes to see more art in parks.

Commissioner Bunting cautioned against accepting all donations, especially with placement strings attached. She stated that it gives the City no "wiggle room" later on and that the City needs to look out for its own best interests. She stressed the importance of accepting works of art based on esthetic merits.

When she suggested writing a contract stating that the sculpture could be moved if necessary, Manager Rappoport advised that the Deed of Gift would allow that.

Hope Witkowsky, Mesa Street, stated that she learned at Madrona Marsh that at one time there were frogs all over Torrance. She recommended having juried opinions on what art works are chosen, noted that Kim Kori is a famous artist, and emphasized the importance in art in public places.

MOTION: Commissioner Endo-Roberts moved to recommend installation of the sculpture "Dreaming of the Kiss" at Miramar Park in location #2. Commissioner Candioly seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

8. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

8A. EXCELLENCE IN ARTS COMMITTEE

December 7, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at Torrance Art Museum was selected as the next Excellence in Arts Committee meeting date.

8B. FACILITIES COMMITTEE

December 7, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at Torrance Art Museum was chosen for the next Facilities Committee meeting.

8C. GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE

No report.

9. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Manager Rappoport noted that the Cultural Services Division Report for October 2009 was included in agenda materials. She distributed fliers for "A Christmas Story" and Torrance Art Museum's (TAM) exhibition on November 21 – December 19, 2009. She encouraged Commissioners to attend the opening reception at TAM on November 21, 2009.

She informed Commissioners that the third Monday in January 2010 is a holiday so the Commission meeting has been changed to January 25, 2010. She noted that this was Commissioners Smisek and Strehler's last meeting as the Commission will be dark in December. Commissioners discussed having a dinner in their honor in January.

Cultural Services Senior Supervisor Bell announced that City Council is recognizing the Kendo Club on December 22, 2009 for winning the 14th world championship.

10. ORALS

10A. Commissioner Bunting stated that she enjoyed visiting the Santa Monica Museum of Art and an exhibition at UCLA's Hammer. She announced that she has a new position at the Architecture and Fine Arts Library at USC.

10B. Commissioner Smisek stated that she enjoyed opening night of "The Christmas Story" and was busy planning a casino night for Switzer Center.

10C. Commissioner Candioly stated that he enjoyed the opening of an art exhibit at a gallery on Melrose.

10E. Commissioner Endo-Roberts stated that she enjoyed the Almost Great Pumpkin Street Fair in Old Torrance and the Autumn Fest at Aquarium of the Pacific.

10F. Commissioner Strehler stated that she enjoyed the anniversary celebration and exhibit at TAM last month. She announced that she is moving to Grants Pass, Oregon and that she will miss the City and working with fellow Commissioners.

10G. Chairperson Miranda stated that he enjoyed Ben Cabrerra's performance and expressed appreciation to Commissioners Smisek and Strehler for their years of service to the City.

12. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:47 p.m., Chairperson Miranda adjourned the meeting to Monday, January 25, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

Approved as Amended January 25, 2010 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
