

**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 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 26, 2007 in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

Commissioner Armstrong led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Armstrong, Endo-Roberts, Miranda, Smisek, Wang, and Chairperson Stadler.

Absent: Commissioner Strehler.

Also Present: Cultural Services Manager Myers, Cultural Services Senior Supervisor McClelland, Cultural Services Supervisor Ferguson, and Cultural Services Consultant Powers.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Wang moved to grant an excused absence to Commissioner Strehler for the February 26, 2007 Cultural Arts Commission meeting. Commissioner Smisek seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

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

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Armstrong moved for the approval of the January 22, 2007 Cultural Arts Commission meeting minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Endo-Roberts and passed by unanimous voice vote approval.

**6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**6A. 2007 EXCELLENCE IN ARTS AWARDS**

Cultural Services Manager Myers offered a recommendation that the deadline for submitting Excellence in Arts awards nominations be extended from March 7, 2007 to March 14, 2007. He advised that Committee chairpersons could establish their own

subcommittees to review nominations and submit their recommendations in their categories at the March 19, 2007 Commission meeting. He reminded Commissioners to bring all supporting materials to the meeting for the Commission's review and that the 2007 Excellence in Arts ceremony is April 29, 2007 in the Toyota Meeting Hall.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Wang moved to extend the deadline for submitting a nomination for an Excellence in Arts award to March 7, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. at staff's discretion. Commissioner Miranda seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Strehler).

Commissioner Endo-Roberts asked Cultural Services Manager Myers to review a nomination in the Literary Arts category.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**7A. 2007 NON PROFIT GRANTS FOR ARTS ORGANIZATIONS**

Cultural Services Manager Myers reported that grant applications were mailed out and that review and selection of recipients will take place at the May 21, 2007 Commission meeting. He reminded Commissioners that applicants needed have 501c3 proof of non-profit status and that an organization can only receive a grant two years consecutively.

Chairperson Stadler, Chair of the Grants Committee, confirmed that Commissioners Armstrong and Endo-Roberts and Dr. Owen Griffith would also serve on the Committee. She requested that staff provide a list of the last two years awardees.

**8. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**8A. EXCELLENCE IN ARTS**

Previously discussed under Item 6A.

**8B. COMMUNITY CULTURAL PLAN**

Commissioner Armstrong discussed the possibility of giving an architectural community improvement award. She requested that staff redefine a Commissioner's role in the Community Cultural Plan.

Cultural Services Manager Myers stated that traditionally a community cultural plan is a community wide plan to plan the culture of the community and involves needs assessment, a strategic plan, management, funding, programming, and staffing.

At Chairperson Stadler's request, Cultural Services Consultant Powers provided background information about how the Community Cultural Plan began 12 years ago when the Cultural Arts Center received a component community plan grant from the Los Angeles County Arts Commission. He stated that the Plan became a guiding document for City Council and that most elements that were identified have been achieved. He advised that the Cultural Arts Commission established a standing committee that would take concerns into the community and formally inform community members about what

was happening at the Cultural Arts Center, noting that the strategy was never carried out.

Chairperson Stadler requested that staff provide the Community Cultural Plan document so that the Commission could become more involved in supporting staff and projects.

**7C. GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Previously discussed at this meeting.

**9. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Cultural Services Consultant Powers reported that more than 500 people attended the February 19, 2006 "Executive Order 9066" film presentations and panel discussion. He stated that there would be a meeting in early March 2007 to discuss ways that involved organizations can continue to support upcoming events at the Library, the Torrance Historical Society Museum, Go For Broke, and the Torrance Art Museum summer exhibition of artists who attended the Manzanar "Paint Out." He noted that the next Works in Progress series were almost sold out.

Commissioner Armstrong stated that the event was informative, interesting, and had excellent speakers and offered the suggestion that there be time limits for individual panel speakers.

Cultural Services Supervisor Ferguson reported that registration for spring programming begins on February 27, 2007 and that exhibitions of *It Figures* at the Torrance Art Museum will close on March 10, 2007. She encouraged Commissioners to attend a participatory conversation with artist Eric Golo Stone and Curator Kristina Newhouse on March 3, 2007. She reported that the last Stories in Art session is March 8, 2007 and the next Museum exhibition will open on March 31, 2007. She announced Ruby Wang's farewell reception on April 14, 2007.

Senior Supervisor McClelland distributed brochures and discussed "The Spitfire Grill" at the Nakano Theatre March 9-18, 2007 as well as the benefits of purchasing season tickets. He thanked City Clerk Herbers for her generous donation of funds to help purchase microphones for Torrance Theatre Company's productions. He stated that he enjoyed the Cultural Arts Center Foundation's New Orleans Jazz Orchestra on February 25, 2007.

Cultural Services Manager Myers reported that Cultural Services and the Cultural Arts Center Foundation, at the request of Congresswoman Harmon, hosted a visit by Dana Gioia, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. He noted that the Chairman was impressed with the Museum and Cultural Arts Center and discussed future programming.

**10. ORALS**

**10A.** Commissioner Smisek stated that she enjoyed "Quilters," the New Orleans Jazz Orchestra, "Wicked," the Zamperini birthday party, and the South Bay Cities Council of Government annual general meeting.

**10B.** Commissioner Wang stated that she went to a National Museum and Library Commission meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio and shared information about the Freedom Center there.

**10C.** Commissioner Armstrong discussed the Cable TV awards and stated that she enjoyed the Foundation performances of "Frederick Douglas," the Spirit Chorale of Los Angeles, and the Paul Smith Trio. She noted that marine biologist John E. Heyning passed away.

**10D.** Commissioner Endo-Roberts stated that the February 19, 2006 "Executive Order 9066" film presentations and panel discussion was excellent.

**10E.** Chairperson Stadler stated that she enjoyed the Paul Smith Trio and "Sophisticated Ladies."

**10F.** Cultural Services Manager Myers distributed budget information for the Cultural Services Division and Cultural Arts Center.

**10G.** Commissioner Miranda discussed future Filipino American programs in the City.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** At 7:58 p.m., Commissioner Miranda moved to adjourn the meeting to Monday, March 19, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall. Commissioner Endo-Roberts seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Stadler so ordered.

|   |
|---|
| Approved as Submitted<br>March 19, 2007<br>s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk |
|---|