

**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, May 16, 2005, in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Stadler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Miller, Smisek, Stadler, Strehler, Wang,
and Chairperson Armstrong.

Absent: Commissioner Smith.

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

MOTION: Commissioner Smisek moved to grant Commissioner Smith an excused absence for the May 16, 2005 Cultural Arts Commission meeting. Commissioner Wang seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Miller moved to grant Commissioner Stadler an excused absence for the April 18, 2005 Cultural Arts Commission meeting. Commissioner Smisek seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Smith).

4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Miller moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda. Commissioner Smisek seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Armstrong so ordered (absent Commissioner Smith).

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES--APRIL 18, 2005

MOTION: Commissioner Miller moved for the approval of the April 18, 2005 Cultural Arts Commission meeting minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Strehler and passed by unanimous voice vote approval (absent Commissioner Smith).

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6A. EXCELLENCE IN ARTS AWARDS

Cultural Services Administrator Myers reported that the April 24, 2005 Excellence in Arts Awards ceremony was very successful, with over 200 people in attendance at the event and reception that followed. He welcomed suggestions and comments from Commissioners and they provided positive input about this year's event.

6B. JOSLYN GALLERY UPDATE

Cultural Services Administrator Myers reported that the April 28, 2005 bid opening for Phase II exterior improvements produced no bids. He advised that General Services has changed the contracting license requirements, with a new bid opening date scheduled for June 2, 2005. He informed Commissioners that the name of the Gallery has been changed to the Torrance Art Museum at the Joslyn Center. He advised that there was a legitimate cause for the Joslyn name to be attached to the building, but not necessarily to the title of the operation.

Cultural Services Supervisor Ferguson reported that the May 14, 2005 ceramics workshop was very successful and that on May 15, 2005 there was an afternoon salon of the Fellows of Contemporary Art. She added that the group toured the Gallery and was impressed with it, and hopes they may become potential sponsors for a curator or exhibition at the facility.

She stated that planning for fall classes was underway, with registration for summer classes beginning May 17, 2005.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7A. 2005 GRANTS TO NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Commissioner Stadler reported that nine grant applications were received and that the Grant Review Committee met on May 16, 2005 to make their recommendations for funding.

MOTION: Commissioner Stadler moved to approve five \$1,000 grants for recommendation to the City Council for the following organizations: El Camino College Foundation, Ted Tanouye Memorial Foundation, Torrance Cultural Arts Center Foundation, Torrance Historical Society, and Torrance Symphony Association. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Miller and passed by unanimous voice vote approval (absent Commissioner Smith).

8. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

8A. EXCELLENCE IN ARTS

Previously discussed at this meeting.

8B. COMMUNITY CULTURAL PLAN

No report.

8C. MAP I/MAP III

Previously discussed at this meeting.

8D. GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE

No report.

9. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Senior Cultural Services Supervisor McClelland reported that registration for summer classes begins May 17, 2005. He discussed future programming that includes author Ray Bradbury on May 27, 2005, the youth production of "Oliver! the Musical" on June 10-12, 2005, and Torrance Theatre Company's presentation of "The Nerd" on July 15-24, 2005.

Cultural Services Supervisor Ferguson reported that staff has been interviewing candidates for the Getty internship position and that selection would be made on May 17, 2005. She encouraged Commissioners to view the artwork in the Armstrong Theatre lobby.

Cultural Services Administrator Myers reported that Cultural Services, in cooperation with the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, would be co-hosting a training and orientation on June 18, 2005 at the Toyota Meeting Hall. He advised that 12-20 consultants would be at tables covering topics such as grant writing for the non-profits art community, as well as tables staffed by non-profit organizations from Torrance to provide information.

In response to Commissioner Wang's inquiry, he stated that the primary function of the Los Angeles County Arts Commission was funding grants.

Commissioners indicated that they would also be interested in staffing a table to represent the City.

Cultural Services Consultant Powers reported that "O.J. Simpson Trial, 1995," the last Works in Progress," would be presented on May 25, 2005. He stated that the season has had growing audiences and discussed the possibility of adding a second performance on the same night as demand increases. He stated that he was been working with Torrance CitiCable to tape and air the performances, that tapes are available for purchase, and that they intend to increase the number of cameras the next fiscal year.

He distributed flyers for the 9th annual Ooodles of Noodles on June 5, 2005 from noon to 4:00 p.m. He thanked Commissioner Miller for soliciting restaurants and stated that they were making sure there would be sufficient student volunteers for the event.

Referring to Wild Wednesdays!, he advised that information for this event and others was available on TorranceLive.us and that two performers would be sponsored by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission this year.

Dr. Owen Griffith thanked the Commission for the successful Excellence in Arts Awards ceremony. He distributed flyers announcing The United States Coast Guard Band performances on May 20, 2005 and noted that the Rusty Steel band would be providing entertaining at the luncheon on May 21, 2005.

He discussed the awards given to graduating Torrance high school students by the Arts Council. He stated that in this 9th year there were 72 applicants in 11 different areas, and that awards would be presented on June 4, 2005.

He encouraged Commissioners to attend Torrance Symphony Association's annual FUNdraiser "Broadway Revisited" on June 18, 2005.

Former Commissioner Betty Kohler reported on Art by the Beach at Miramar Park held the first Sunday of the month, noting that 12 artists participated this month. She stated that she enjoyed the Excellence in Arts Awards ceremony and that plans were underway for Arts Alive!

10. ORALS

Commissioner Wang stated she enjoyed "Driving Miss Daisy" presented on April 29-30, 2005. She shared information about museums that she visited in New York that included the Modern Museum as well as the National Museum of the Shaanxi History on her trip to China. She distributed a book featuring 150 artists that was given to her by the president of the Los Angeles Chinese Art Association.

Commissioner Miller stated that she enjoyed the May 7, 2005 Torrance Civic Chorale's "A Salute to Music," "Driving Miss Daisy," and Dr. Joanna Nacheff at El Camino College. She also attended presentations of "McMartin Pre-School Trial," the Richard Sherman Trio, and Cheryl Anne Roach. She encouraged Commissioners to attend the Torrance Symphony's fundraiser "Broadway Revisited" on June 18, 2005.

Commissioner Stadler stated that she enjoyed the South Bay Master Chorale's "Lights, Camera, Action!" and a concert at Royce Hall on May 15, 2005. She stated that the Choral Festival went well and thanked the Foundation for their continuing support.

Commissioner Smisek shared information about Foundation programming and stated that they were getting ready for the June 24, 2005 Gala that will feature the Coasters and the Diamonds.

Commissioner Strehler stated that she attended Art by the Beach, a meeting of the South Bay Watercolor Society, a photo exhibit at Madrona Marsh Nature Center, and meetings of the Torrance Artists Guild and Torrance Historical Society. She stated that she enjoyed "McMartin Pre-School Trial, 1987-1990."

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:02 p.m., Commissioner Smisek, with a second by Commissioner Stadler, moved to adjourn the meeting to Monday, June 20, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

Approved as Written June 20, 2005 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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