

**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, June 20, 2005, in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Commissioner Stadler.

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

MOTION: Commissioner Smith moved to grant Commissioner Stadler an excused absence for the June 20, 2005 Cultural Arts Commission meeting. Commissioner Wang seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

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 Stadler).

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Smisek moved for the approval of the May 16, 2005 Cultural Arts Commission meeting minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Miller and passed by unanimous voice vote approval (absent Commissioner Stadler).

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6A. JOSLYN GALLERY CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Cultural Services Supervisor Ferguson reported that rebidding for Phase II opened on June 2, 2005 and generated three bids. She stated that General Services accepted the lowest bid and approval of consultant services would go before City Council on June 28, 2005. She advised that the exterior improvements, including landscaping, were expected to begin in July 2005, with the museum opening date now expected to be early fall.

Cultural Services Administrator Myers advised that General Services has just signed off the punch list for Phase I construction, and that the interior renovation was complete.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7A. ELECTION OF THE 2005-06 COMMISSION CHAIR

Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Smisek, nominated Commissioner Wang for the position of Chairperson of the Cultural Arts Commission; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

Commissioner Miller nominated Commissioner Stadler for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the Cultural Arts Commission. Commissioner Wang seconded the nomination; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

7B. CANCELLATION OF AUGUST COMMISSION MEETING

MOTION: Commissioner Smith, with a second by Commissioner Smisek, moved to cancel the August 2005 Cultural Services Commission meeting; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Stadler).

8. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

8A. EXCELLENCE IN ARTS

No report.

8B. COMMUNITY CULTURAL PLAN

No report.

8C. MAP I/MAP III

Cultural Services Administrator Myers related his understanding that the opening reception and initial exhibit of the Joslyn Gallery would be early October 2005.

8D. GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Cultural Services Administrator Myers reported that City Council would be considering the approval of the Commission's grant recommendations for next fiscal year on June 21, 2005 on the Consent Calendar.

9. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Senior Cultural Services Supervisor McClelland distributed flyers promoting Torrance Theatre Company's presentation of "Camelot" beginning August 6, 2005 and "The Nerd" on July 15-24, 2005, both at the George Nakano Theatre. He noted that the first read-through of the cast for "Camelot" was on June 20, 2005.

He thanked Commissioners and the Cultural Arts Center Foundation for participating in the June 18, 2005 Arts Tune-up with the Los Angeles County Arts Commission.

Cultural Arts Commission
June 20, 2005

Cultural Services Supervisor Ferguson distributed flyers for the new schedule of Mary Drobny's Artful Days lectures, beginning with "What's Up with Tut?" on July 5, 2005.

She announced that Lisa Naruko was selected as the summer Getty intern.

She reported that the summer session of classes begins next week, that registration continues, and that the Ocean Friends classes were very popular.

Cultural Services Consultant Powers reported that "O.J. Simpson Trial, 1995," the last Works in Progress," sold out and was being aired on Torrance CitiCABLE. He advised that the next Works in Progress was still in the planning stages.

At Chairperson Armstrong's request, he explained the variety of ways that actors were drafted for the performances.

He reported that the June 5, 2005 "Ooodles of Noodles Festival" was a success, with over 1,000 people attending, as well as 150 performing artists and 19 restaurants represented. He stated that there was a tremendous turn out of student and adult volunteers that made the event run smoothly. He gave credit to several organizations that included the Torrance Artists Guild, Torrance Craftsman's Guild, Torrance Chinese School, and the Torrance Library Division for their continued participation. He stated that the net proceeds of over \$500 would go to the Arts Council of Torrance.

He reported that the first "Wild Wednesdays!" opened on June 15, 2005 with Cal Bennett and had approximately 350 attendees. He mentioned that vendors were offering 2 for 1 sales to City employees.

He encouraged Commissioners to view photographs of "O.J. Simpson Trial, 1995," "Ooodles of Noodles," and "Wild Wednesdays!" on TorranceLive.us.

Cultural Services Administrator Myers thanked Commissioners, the Cultural Arts Center Foundation, the Performing Arts Consortium, and individual artists for their participation in the Arts Tune-up on June 18, 2005. He commended the 17 consultants for their excellent presentations.

He provided an update on the June 14, 2005 City Council meeting and budget hearing. He advised that City Council directed the City Manager to consider additional cuts in the amount of \$500,000 that includes the potential elimination of the Fourth of July celebration at Wilson Park next year, fee increases in Parks and Recreation programming, elimination of the Torrance Area Youth Band, elimination of the Youth Chamber Ensemble, and elimination of the summer musical in 2006. He expressed concern that if the summer musical was eliminated for a year that they would never get it back due to loss of theater space, actors, musicians, and audience. He encouraged Commissioners to attend the June 21, 2005 City Council meeting and Commissioner Smisek indicated that she would voice her support of the summer musical.

Responding to Chairperson Armstrong's inquiry, he explained that fees collected by students pay for the summer drama camp, acting classes, and theater productions to

cover the funding of Starlight Productions. He advised that Starlight Productions cover any losses in ticket revenue if they cannot generate the audiences.

In response to Commissioner Smith's inquiry, Senior Cultural Services Supervisor McClelland advised that the City's budget for 2005-06 was \$144,856,558 for the General Fund, \$78,938,000 for the Enterprise Fund, and \$32,921,000 for External Funds.

10. ORALS

Commissioner Smith stated that she was busy getting ready for the June 24, 2005 Cultural Arts Center Foundation's Eleventh Anniversary Gala featuring The Coasters and The Diamonds.

Commissioner Wang stated that she enjoyed participating in the Arts Tune-up and was looking forward to the King Tut exhibit at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

Commissioner Miller stated that she enjoyed the Arts Tune-up, the June 18, 2005 Torrance Symphony's "Broadway Revisited", the Armed Forces Day parade, and "Ooodles of Noodles Festival." She advised that Torrance Civic Chorale would be singing at Wilson Park on July 4, 2005.

Commissioner Smisek shared information about preparations for the Cultural Arts Center Foundation's Gala. She noted that she enjoyed participating in the Arts Tune-up and attending "Ooodles of Noodles Festival" and "Wild Wednesdays!" She discussed networking opportunities with the Chamber of Commerce.

Commissioner Strehler stated that she attended Art by the Beach, "Ooodles of Noodles Festival", the Armed Forces Day parade, the Arts Tune-up, and a Torrance Artists Guild meeting featuring oil painter Ray Chavez.

Chairperson Armstrong expressed appreciation to Commissioners for the opportunity to serve as Chairperson of the Commission.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 7:53 p.m., Commissioner Smisek, with a second by Commissioner Smith, moved to adjourn the meeting to Monday, July 18, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

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| Approved as Written July 18, 2005 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk |
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