

**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, August 18, 2008 in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

Commissioner Candioly led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL**

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

Absent: Commissioner Bunting.

Also Present: Cultural Services Manager Rappoport, Cultural Services Supervisor Ferguson, and Torrance Art Museum Curator Newhouse.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Miranda moved to grant an excused absence to Commissioner Bunting for the August 18, 2008 Commission meeting. Commissioner Rische seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**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 Smisek seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JUNE 16, 2008**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Smisek moved for the approval of the June 16, 2008 Commission meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Miranda seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**6A. REPORTS FROM SUMMER INTERNS**

Cultural Services Manager Rappoport introduced Los Angeles County Arts Commission Foundation summer intern A-lan Holt from Stanford University.

Ms. Holt provided a slide presentation describing the many responsibilities she has held this summer as an intern with the Torrance Theatre Company for ten weeks

assisting with the production of "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers." She stated that she enjoyed her time as publicity and marketing manager, researcher, database organizer, assistant stage manager, audio board operator, prop designer, Gallery assistant, and casting director for "Baby." She discussed some of the Los Angeles County Arts Commission field trips she went on and presented a short video of highlights from "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers." She expressed appreciation to staff and Commissioners for allowing her the opportunity to serve the City as a summer intern.

In response to an inquiry from Commissioner Candioly, she stated that her greatest experience was opening night of "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" and working side by side with Performing Arts Specialist Inferrera.

Cultural Services Manager Rappoport welcomed Randell Baltazar, Getty Foundation summer intern, U.C. San Diego.

Mr. Baltazar provided a slide presentation and described some of his achievements this last ten weeks as researcher, graphic designer, website developer, assistant for opening night of "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers," and Gallery preparer. He shared information about some of his accomplishments that have included establishing partnerships with local community colleges and universities and developing a Museum Educational program survey. He stated that his most challenging project has been redesigning the Torrance Art Museum website. He discussed his participation in Getty-sponsored field trips and thanked the City for his memorable experience as a summer intern.

Curator Newhouse commended Mr. Baltazar for his willingness to develop the website and, responding to Chairperson Strehler's inquiry, advised that there it will have a link to the City of Torrance website.

Commissioner Endo-Roberts suggested making the website ADA accessible.

**6B. PROPOSED REVISION OF NONPROFIT ARTS GRANTS CRITERION AND GUIDELINES**

Cultural Services Manager Rappoport reported that the Grant Review Committee, consisting of Commissioners Endo-Roberts, Candioly, and Smisek, met earlier this month to review the grant program guidelines and criteria. She noted that recommended revisions include the title, range of grant award amounts, and fiscal receiver requirement. She requested that Commissioners review the draft and provide input and, pending acceptance, she would prepare a City Council item for late September 2008.

Commissioner Candioly offered minor corrections.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Candioly moved to approve the Non-Profit Arts Grants Criterion and Guidelines as amended. Commissioner Smisek seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Bunting).

**6C. COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT**

Commissioners reviewed the draft 2007-08 Annual Report and offered minor corrections.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Candioly moved to accept the Cultural Arts Commission July 2007 – June 2008 Annual Report as amended and to forward it to City Council for consideration. Commissioner Rische seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Bunting).

Chairperson Strehler brought up the suggestion to cancel the December 2008 Commission meeting and Cultural Services Manager Rappoport offered to place an item on a future agenda for further discussion.

**7. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**7A. EXCELLENCE IN ARTS COMMITTEE**

No report.

**7B. FACILITIES COMMITTEE – TOUR OF CULTURAL ARTS CENTER**

A tour of the Cultural Arts Center facilities was scheduled for the September 15, 2008 Commission meeting following a brief meeting.

Chairperson Strehler stated that she would like to schedule a Facilities Committee meeting to discuss the proposed Wilson Park amphitheatre.

Cultural Services Manager Rappoport discussed the Levitt Foundation and its pavilion that she visited with Community Services Director Jones last week in the City of Pasadena. She stated that they met with the Vice-President of the Foundation and would bring forward additional information to the Committee meeting.

**7C. GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Previously discussed.

**8. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

Curator Newhouse reported that Joel Tauber's sycamore tree project was moving forward and that a plaque was being fabricated in honor of community patron Gerald Ronan.

She distributed postcards and discussed the next Torrance Art Museum exhibition opening September 6, 2008: Eric Johnson: *The Maize Project*, Marco Casentini: *Have a Nice Day* in Gallery Two, and Mary Pichette: *Building into Shadows* in the South Bay Focus Gallery. She noted that a catalog was being prepared for Eric Johnson's exhibition with the assistance of grant funding secured by the Cultural Arts Foundation.

Cultural Services Supervisor Ferguson reported that visual arts classes had over 4,000 students this summer. She stated that registration for fall has started and that ten classes are already filled. She stated that there was a successful volunteer orientation

last week and that she is looking forward to having several new volunteers at the Museum.

Cultural Services Manager Rappoport announced a Torrance Symphony concert on August 24, 2008 and the last Wild Wednesdays! with Orquesta Charangoa on August 20, 2008.

**9. ORALS**

**9A.** Commissioner Endo-Roberts stated that she enjoyed a Go For Broke benefit for the 442<sup>nd</sup>, “Seven Brides for Seven Brothers,” and a music concert in a Monrovia park.

**9B.** Commissioner Rische stated that she enjoyed the July 19, 2008 Torrance Art Museum opening, the Delta River water trip, “Seven Brides for Seven Brothers,” and Pageant of the Masters.

**9C.** Commissioner Miranda stated that he enjoyed “Seven Brides for Seven Brothers” and that he has been watching the Olympics.

**9D.** Commissioner Candioly discussed his Colorado River family vacation and stated that he is looking forward to seeing “Jersey Boys” in the City of Las Vegas next week.

**9E.** Commissioner Smisek also enjoyed “Seven Brides for Seven Brothers” and shared information about excursions with Kashiwa Sister City students that include a Dodger game, Disneyland, and California Adventure.

**9F.** Chairperson Strehler stated that she enjoyed the Museum exhibits, especially the children’s artwork, as well as “Seven Brides for Seven Brothers.” She mentioned that she was turned away from the ExxonMobil Open House because there were too many people there.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** At 8:41 p.m., Commissioner Candioly moved to adjourn the meeting to Monday, September 15, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall. Commissioner Miranda seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Strehler so ordered.

Approved as Submitted September 15, 2008 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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