

CARSON CITY CULTURAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting of June 18, 2013

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Cultural Commission was held on Tuesday, June 18, 2013, at 5:30 p.m., in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Commissioner Karen Abowd
Commissioner Danielle Cook
Commissioner Jaswinder (Jesse) Singh Dhami
Commissioner Eugene Paslov

STAFF: Roger Moellendorf, Parks and Recreation Director
Tina Russom, Deputy District Attorney
Vern Krahn, Park Planner
Tamar Warren, Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary

NOTE: A recording of these proceedings, the Commission's agenda materials, and any written comments or documentation provided to the recording secretary during the meeting are public record, on file in the Clerk's Office. These materials are available for review, in the Clerk's Office, during regular business hours.

ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (5:33:30) – Mr. Krahn called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. and noted that because both the Chair and the Vice Chair were absent, and per the bylaws, the Commission would select a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson after the roll call. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Chairperson Scott, Vice Chairperson Stansbury, and Commissioner Barton were absent. Commissioner Paslov volunteered to act as Chair and Commissioner Abowd volunteered to act as Vice Chair.

CITIZEN COMMENTS (5:35:17) – Chairperson Pro Tempore (Tem) Paslov entertained public comments. Chris Bayer introduced himself as a board member of the Brewery Arts Center (BAC) and presented a proposal, incorporated into the record, requesting the placement of an item on a future agenda to discuss that the Commission request funds from Carson City for the BAC, as Carson City's Local Arts Agency. Sharon Rosse of the Capital City Arts Initiative noted that during the Board of Supervisors' (BOS) approval of the Redevelopment Authority Citizens Committee (RACC) special events fund allocations, it was discussed that the Cultural Commission would be responsible for the allocation of the funds in the future.

1. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES (5:38:18) – Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov entertained a motion. **Vice Chairperson Pro Tem Abowd moved to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2013. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cook. Motion carried 4-0.**

2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA (5:38:51) – Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov introduced the item. Mr. Krahn suggested discussing agenda items 4A and 4B immediately after item 3E. **Vice Chairperson Pro Tem Abowd moved to approve the agenda modifications as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cook. Motion carried 4-0.**

3. MEETING ITEMS

A. INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW AND RE-APPOINTED CULTURAL COMMISSION MEMBER JESSE SINGH, CARSON CITY CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU REPRESENTATIVE. (5:40:33) – Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov introduced the item. Mr. Moellendorf welcomed Commissioner Jesse Singh Dhami, who gave background about himself. Commissioner Dhami noted that he had been a Carson City resident for 17 years, and the CEO of the Holiday Inn Express hotels in Carson City, Minden, Reno, and Winnemucca. He also stated that he was a member of the Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau (CCCVB).

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B. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO SUPPORT INCLUDING ART AND CULTURAL COMPONENTS IN THE CARSON CITY DOWNTOWN 20/20 ACTION GROUP'S PLAN FOR DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION. (5:42:30) – Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov introduced the item. Mr. Krahn presented the agenda materials. Dana Lee Freund, President of Downtown 20/20, gave background on the Carson City Downtown 20/20 Action Group's plan for the revitalization of the City's downtown. Linda Ritter introduced herself as a former City Manager of Carson City and a current consultant to the Downtown 20/20 Group, and gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Group's mission statement, goals, and objectives. She also discussed several partnership activities with local businesses. She emphasized the importance of assisting businesses that depended on traffic through downtown Carson City to "redefine" themselves, attracting new businesses, and supporting local events. She also stressed the importance of helping new businesses overcome roadblocks. She discussed several planned events to draw attendees, and stressed the importance of incorporating art and culture into their plans. Ms. Ritter shared marketing, public relations, and advertising ideas, and encouraged businesses and the public to become members. Commissioner Cook observed that downtown seemed darker during this year's Taste of Downtown and was informed that it was the lack of the Holiday lights. Ms. Ritter acknowledged Commissioner Cook's comments and mentioned that the Group would do a safety walk and would take lighting into consideration at that time. Vice Chairperson Pro Tem Abowd noted her appreciation of the Group's efforts to revitalize downtown. Discussion ensued regarding making Carson City a tourist destination. **Vice Chairperson Pro Tem Abowd moved to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to support including art and cultural components in the Carson City Downtown 20/20 Action Group's plan for downtown revitalization. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cook.** Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov entertained public comments. John Shelton, Executive Director of the BAC and Chairperson of the Carson City Arts and Culture Coalition, noted that the Group was addressing "as many community issues as we can" and that they would "define this community". He also noted that "the long term goal the Coalition is looking at, is trying to provide a process for how cultural activity will be designed, what infrastructure will be set up, and how economic opportunities can be generated, as well as creating an aesthetic and programming that makes a real difference". **Motion carried 4-0.**

C. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO SUPPORT IN CONCEPT THE BREWERY ARTS CENTER'S PLANNING EFFORTS TO BRING THE ARTS INCUBATOR OF THE ROCKIES WORKSHOP TO CARSON CITY, NEVADA. (6:18:12) – Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov introduced the item. Mr. Shelton referred to the agenda materials, incorporated into the record, and noted that he was seeking the Commission's support for the BAC's planning efforts to bring the Arts Incubator of the Rockies Workshop to Carson City, tentatively scheduled for November 1-3, 2013. Mr. Shelton noted that half of the \$15,000 program cost would be funded by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the other half would be funded through tuition payments. He also stated that the Carson City location had not been finalized, although he was confident it would be chosen. Vice Chairperson Pro Tem Abowd received clarification that the event was different from the Arts at the Heart Conference, which, according to Mr. Shelton, was more of an information sharing opportunity versus generating a commitment and a process that involved the community, creating a hub in Carson City to mentor other Nevada communities. In response to a question by Commissioner Cook, Mr. Shelton clarified that representation may include individuals from communities other than Carson City; however, participants would primarily be from Carson City. In the form of public comments, Sharon Rosse, representing Capital City Arts Coalition, noted that this activity would dovetail with the Downtown 20/20 activities, calling it "a real grass roots thing that needs lots of cheerleading". Vice Chairperson Pro Tem Abowd received confirmation that tourism would be included in the discussions. Mr. Shelton explained that the Commission's endorsement was important to "convince the State Arts Council that this is the right place" for the workshop. **Vice Chairperson Pro Tem Abowd moved to support in concept the Brewery Arts Center's planning efforts to bring the Arts Incubator of the Rockies Workshop to Carson City, Nevada. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dhami. Motion carried 4-0.**

D. DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE'S FINAL ACTION TO PRESERVE THE DECOMMISSIONED NEVADA STATE PRISON. (6:29:04) – Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov introduced the item. Mr. Krahn gave background and presented the agenda materials which are incorporated into the record. He also announced that a bill to preserve the decommissioned prison had unanimously been passed in both the State Assembly and Senate and had been signed by the Governor. Tom Porada, representing the Nevada State Prison Preservation Society (NSPPS), noted that AB356 had been signed by Governor Sandoval on May 21, 2013 and would become effective on July 1, 2013, specifying that the prison would be preserved and directing all organizations to work

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closely with the Department of Corrections. Mr. Porada acknowledged the efforts of Lee Radkey, who had passed away 13 days after the bill was signed. He also stated that the next step would be to work with the necessary State agencies and develop a plan, in addition to undergoing the required volunteer training. Vice Chairperson Pro Tem Abowd inquired about State funding for the preservation efforts and was informed that such a request had not yet occurred, although the Department of Corrections did have a small fund for “some maintenance”. District 40 Assemblyman Pete Livermore outlined the process by which the bills were introduced and either “died” or were sent to the Governor for signature. He was pleased that the presentation had been done in a very positive manner and had included Mayor Crowell, noting that the next step was to utilize the prison structure for the benefit of Carson City as one of the most historical buildings in Nevada. Assemblyman Livermore affirmed the Prison’s potential for generating revenue, and hoped that the Society’s 501(c) status could generate some grants as well. Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

E. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVAL OF A PUBLIC ART PROGRAM ORDINANCE. (6:47:13) – Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov introduced the item. Mr. Krahn gave background and reviewed the agenda materials, noting that a press release had been issued on April 15, 2013 outlining the Commission’s actions to seek public comments on amending Title 2, Chapter 2.41 of the Carson City Municipal Code, to create a Public Art Program. Mr. Krahn also noted that in an interview with a local radio station he had confirmed that adoption of this ordinance would not result in tax increases, but would be using “leftover City funds”. He referred to Exhibit B in the packets, incorporated into the records, which included all public comments received to date regarding the ordinance. Mr. Krahn also noted that an edited draft of the ordinance was included in the agenda packets and incorporated into the record. Ms. Russom confirmed that the ordinance had been written by Chief Deputy District Attorney Randy Munn. Mr. Krahn clarified that he had corrected the minor typographical errors and explained why some of the changes were not incorporated. Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov entertained public comments. Mr. Shelton indicated that the Coalition felt that “this was an incredibly significant move” towards funding, and was pleased that funds would be dedicated to public art. Ms. Rosse noted her agreement with Mr. Shelton and Mr. Bayer explained that the “performance side” could be addressed separately. Elinor Bugli, representing the Mile High Jazz Band Association and Carson City Symphony Association, noted that the two organizations she represented approved of the ordinance, adding that public art would enhance other art components as well. **Vice Chairperson Pro Tem Abowd moved to recommend to the Board of Supervisors a Public Art Program Ordinance, as presented – including approval of all the redline track changes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cook. Motion carried 4-0.**

F. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVAL OF THE CULTURAL COMMISSION’S MISSION STATEMENT AND BYLAWS. (7:15:30) – Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov introduced the item. Mr. Krahn reviewed the agenda items and thanked Ms. Russom for her role in authoring the document and incorporating the changes discussed in the previous Commission meeting. Ms. Russom explained that duplications, redundancies within the document and with the BOS policies which govern this Commission, had been removed to eliminate errors. Vice Chairperson Pro Tem Abowd was informed that new Commission members would receive a binder with the Mission Statement, Bylaws, and Open Meeting Law and contact information. Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov entertained public comments and when none were forthcoming, a motion. **Vice Chairperson Pro Tem Abowd moved to recommend to the Board of Supervisors approval of the Cultural Commission’s Mission Statement and Bylaws, as presented with revisions suggested. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dhami. Motion carried 4-0.** Vice Chairperson Pro Tem Abowd thanked Staff for their hard work.

G. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO SCHEDULE A TOUR OF THE CITY OF RENO’S PUBLIC ART FOR CULTURAL COMMISSION MEMBERS. (7:23:02) – Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov introduced the item. Mr. Krahn gave background and noted that during the Arts at the Heart Convening event, he had observed that the “City of Reno had made very significant milestones related to how they developed their arts and culture community”. Mr. Krahn praised Reno’s Public Arts and Cultural Master Plans and suggested that the Commission embark on a fact-finding tour. Discussion ensued and it was agreed by the Commissioners to agenda a presentation by Christine Fey, City of Reno Resource Development and Cultural Affairs Manager, prior to organizing a tour. Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov entertained public comments. Mr. Shelton suggested that the Commission plan on a tour to see public art on site on a later date. Ms. Rosse suggested requesting an inventory of public art in Reno during that presentation.

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4. STAFF UPDATES – DISCUSSION ONLY

A. UPDATE ON THE CARSON CITY ART-SLAM PRESENTED BY THE BREWERY ARTS CENTER AND THE CARSON CITY ARTS AND CULTURAL COALITION AT THE ARTS @ THE HEART CONVENING ON APRIL 22 AND 23, 2013, IN RENO, NEVADA. (7:01:03) – Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov introduced the item. Mr. Krahn explained that during the Arts at the Heart Convening event he had attended, different communities had the opportunity to briefly present their activities during the Art-Slam session. Mr. Shelton presented a four-minute video, prepared by the BAC and the Carson City Arts and Cultural Coalition, to the Commissioners.

B. CARSON CITY ARTS AND COALITION ACTIVITIES. (7:09:12) – Mr. Krahn introduced the item and invited Mr. Shelton to update the Commission on the Coalition activities. Mr. Shelton noted that the Coalition was “active again”, adding that the BAC had offered to help facilitate the meetings and manage many of the other aspects of the Coalition such as membership drives. He also stated that dialogue had begun with members of the community “who have programs that represent things that may impact us”. Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov entertained public comments. Ms. Rosse noted that all the arts and culture organizations in Carson City encouraged memberships and she invited everyone to join. Mr. Bayer thanked Mr. Krahn for attending the Coalition meetings. Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov thanked Mr. Shelton for his continued leadership.

C. FYI ITEMS. (7:31:28) – Mr. Krahn thanked Commissioner Barton for providing information on the State’s sesquicentennial celebration, and referred to several FYI items included in the Commissioners’ packets.

5. MEMBERS’ ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

A. CULTURAL COMMISSION STATUS REPORTS ON PROJECTS AND COMMENTS. (7:33:47) – Vice Chairperson Pro Tem Abowd updated the Commission on the Greenhouse Project and announced that the second annual plant sale was very successful, noting that they were planning to support the Farmers’ Market as well. She stated that an Azerbaijani delegation was scheduled to tour the facility on Thursday to learn about sustainable methods. Vice Chairperson Pro Tem Abowd also announced that the Greenhouse Project fund raiser on July 9, 2013 would take place at Adele’s Café and would feature the band “War”.

1. UPDATE ON “THE WILD HORSES OF CARSON CITY EVENT”. – This agenda item was postponed.

2. UPDATE ON THE NEVADA ACADEMY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS. (7:34:52) – Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov explained that the Nevada Academy for the Performing Arts was scheduled to open in August, on 238 Division Street. He also thanked Mr. Shelton and the BAC Board, Stephanie Arrigotti of Western Nevada College, and the Carson City Public Library for their support.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS. (7:40:49) – Vice Chairperson Pro Tem Abowd suggested viewing a DVD titled “Conversation with the Greenhouse” during the next meeting. It was also agreed to continue updating the Commission on the Wild Horses of Carson City project and on the Nevada Academy for the Performing Arts, in addition to agendizing the Reno Public Art Program and the BAC request by Mr. Bayer.

7. CITIZEN COMMENTS (7:42:13) – Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

8. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (7:42:30) – Chairperson Pro Tem Paslov entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cook moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairperson Pro Tem Abowd. The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

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The minutes of the June 18, 2013 meeting of the Carson City Cultural Commission are so approved this 17th day of September, 2013.

EUGENE PASLOV, Chairperson Pro Tempore