

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Carson City Cultural Commission (CC)
Tuesday, July 20, 2021 ● 5:30 PM
Community Center Robert “Bob” Crowell Board Room
851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada

Commission Members

Chair – Barbara D’Anne	Vice Chair – Karen Abowd
Commissioner – Elinor Bugli	Commissioner – Christopher Leyva
Commissioner – Stan Jones	Commissioner – Amy Clemens
Commissioner – Sierra Scott	

Staff

Nancy Paulson, City Manager
Debra Soule, Arts and Culture Program Manager
Todd Reese, Deputy District Attorney
Danielle Howard, Public Meetings Clerk

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

An audio recording of this meeting is available on www.carson.org/minutes.

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM.

(5:32:32) – Chairperson D’Anne called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. Roll was called, and a quorum was present.

Attendee Name	Status	Arrived
Barbara D’Anne, Chair	Present	
Karen Abowd	Present	
Elinor Bugli	Present	
Christopher Leyva	Present	
Stan Jones	Present	
Sierra Scott	Present	
Amy Clemens	Present	

2. PUBLIC COMMENT AND DISCUSSION (THREE-MINUTE TIME LIMIT)

(5:34:08) – Chairperson D’Anne entertained public comments. Capital City Arts Initiative (CCAI) Executive Director Sharon Rosse introduced herself and noted that the CCAI was “delighted” to present the exhibition in the Robert “Bob” Crowell Board Room, *Basin and Range*, by Carson City artist Candida Webb. She informed the Commission that the *Fresh Outlook* exhibition by 27 artists from Western Nevada College (WNC) would be displayed through late September 2021 at the Community Development Building (BRIC), and the *Callosum* by LB Buchan exhibition would be displayed in the CCAI Courthouse Gallery. She also announced the installation of Lauren Cardenas exhibition *#SueñoAmericano* at the WNC Bristlecone Gallery and indicated that a copy of the essay, written by Josie Glassberg from Reno, would be available at the reception on Thursday, July 22, 2021 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Ms. Rosse mentioned that the CCAI Nevada Neighbors Talk series is now online on the CCAI’s new YouTube channel and the CCAI’s website: www.ccainv.org.

3. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 8, 2021

(5:38:12) – Chairperson D’Anneo introduced the item and entertained corrections and a motion for the March 8, 2021 meeting minutes.

(5:38:21) – **MOTION: Vice Chairperson Abowd moved to approve the March 8, 2021 minutes with the correction on page #6 to change the email address for the Greenhouse Project to jon@carsoncitygreenhouse.org.**

RESULT:	APPROVED (7-0-0)
MOVER:	Abowd
SECONDER:	Jones
AYES:	D’Anneo, Abowd, Bugli, Leyva, Jones, Scott, Clemens
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	None

4. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: ADOPTION OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

(5:39:18) – Chairperson D’Anneo entertained requests to modify the agenda.

(5:39:34) – **MOTION: Chairperson D’Anneo moved to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried 7-0-0.**

5. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

5.a FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING UPDATING OR AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022 REDEVELOPMENT SPECIAL EVENT GRANT GUIDELINES, APPLICATION AND FINAL REPORT TO REFLECT UPDATED PROCEDURES, AN INCREASE IN THE MAXIMUM GRANT AWARD AMOUNT TO \$10,000, AND ADDING A 50% CASH MATCH REQUIREMENT.

(5:39:40) – Chairperson D’Anneo introduced the item. Ms. Paulson presented the Staff Report and the Redevelopment Special Event Grant Guidelines, Application, and Final Report, both of which are incorporated into the record, and she and Carson City Culture and Tourism (CTA) Executive Director David Peterson responded to clarifying questions.

(5:47:33) – Commissioner Bugli inquired about if an organization that is planning an event to take place before August 31, 2021 could still apply for the grant, put on its event, and complete its final report before knowing if the event was approved for the grant. Mr. Reese indicated that he could review the grant guidelines and discuss with Ms. Paulson what can and cannot be awarded. He added that it would be within the Commission’s discretion to award as it wishes as long as there is not anything that would prohibit doing so, and the key factor would be whether there is a provision in the guidelines regarding reimbursement.

(5:53:53) – Commissioner Scott pointed out the rubric values of zero to five under the “Evaluation Criteria” section even though the “community impact” was being graded from zero to 10 and suggested removing the rubric because it made the guidelines confusing.

(5:55:40) – Chairperson D’Anneo entertained a motion.

(5:55:49) – MOTION: Commissioner Scott moved to approve the Redevelopment Special Event Grant, Guidelines, Application, and Final Report with the following changes: removing the zero-none to five-outstanding line of the scoring rubric and extending the application period by one month. Chairperson D’Anneo entertained comments and, when none were forthcoming, called for a vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED (7-0-0)
MOVER:	Scott
SECONDER:	Jones
AYES:	D’Anneo, Abowd, Bugli, Leyva, Jones, Scott, Clemens
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	None

6. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY ITEMS:

6.a FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION REGARDING AN UPDATE ON THE TASKS COMPLETED BY THE CARSON CITY CULTURE AND TOURISM AUTHORITY (“CTA”) ARTS & CULTURE PROGRAM SERVICES CONTRACTED VENDOR, THE BREWERY ARTS CENTER, AND INTRODUCTION OF DEBRA SOULE, THE NEW CTA ARTS AND CULTURE PROGRAM MANAGER.

(5:56:40) – Chairperson D’Anneo introduced the item. Mr. Peterson introduced Debra Soule as the new Arts and Culture Program Manager, and Chairperson D’Anneo welcomed Ms. Soule on behalf of the other Commissioners and stated that she looked forward to working with Ms. Soule as well as the CTA. Ms. Soule stated that she had “great hopes for what we can accomplish together, and I’m going to draw on my background and also the input of everyone to try and to put together the roadmap using the existing [Arts and Culture] Master Plan as a base document.” She believed it would be “timely and pertinent” to revisit the Master Plan and obtain some input from the community and from the cultural organizations regarding the recommended activities listed in the Master Plan, get a sense of what the biggest priorities are, a timeline, and who should be involved as partners and lead agencies. She wished to restructure the plans, and she was looking forward to getting to know community members. Ms. Soule also provided an overview of her background.

(6:03:36) – Chairperson D’Anneo entertained Commissioner comments and discussion, and Mr. Peterson responded to clarifying questions.

6.b FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION REGARDING THE CARSON CITY CULTURE AND TOURISM AUTHORITY (“CTA”) ARTS & CULTURE PROGRAM BUDGET.

(6:07:00) – Chairperson D’Anneo introduced the item. Ms. Paulson presented the Staff Report and the Arts and Culture Program Budget, both of which are incorporated into the record, and she and Mr. Peterson responded to clarifying questions.

(6:13:27) – In response to Chairperson D’Anneo’s question regarding the strategy for the Carson Street roundabout sculpture, Mr. Peterson indicated that “the plan is to have [Ms. Soule] be the point person for us working with the

City departments, [Ms. Paulson] and her team, to put out a bid request to call for a sculptor or call for an artist. ... We need to put something out ... and solicit folks to respond to that.”

(6:14:02) – Vice Chairperson Abowd inquired about encouraging community engagement and excitement for participation with the sculpture, and she noted the opportunity to capture segments of the community’s input, including the lodging properties’ input. Vice Chairperson Abowd proposed a suggestion box to gauge community members’ thought processes on the sculpture and “the rest falls from there.” Chairperson D’Anneo believed that a “vehicle” to solicit suggestions and thoughts from the community should be established because “you just don’t want something to show up in that roundabout and go who did that and who cares?” Mr. Peterson had a similar thought and commented that the sculpture was important for the business community at large, as the sculpture is a “cool feature for Carson City” to act as a “brand or identity” to show off the City for visitors arriving from, particularly, the south. He proposed soliciting feedback ahead of the bid process through social media, and he suggested that the City could also “get something out to the residents.” Ms. Paulson stated that the City could always release a survey to the public.

(6:18:23) – Mr. Peterson proposed having a scaled model version of the sculpture for visitors to get their picture taken.

(6:19:35) – Commissioner Jones brought to the Commission’s attention that he was a member of a committee that was trying to obtain the old arch from the Virginia and Truckee (V&T) Railroad roundhouse to place it in Mills Park. Mr. Peterson added that, as a member of the same committee that Commissioner Jones mentioned, perhaps an element from the other half of one of the roundhouses could be incorporated into the sculpture.

(6:21:18) – Commissioner Leyva mentioned that the Carson Street roundabout was initially a hot-button issue, so he believed that there should be a lot more community engagement and “a lot more pizzazz” with whatever concept for the sculpture is decided on.

(6:23:55) – Based on what he had learned from working with the Carson City Public Works Department, Commissioner Jones commented that “anything that has significance, you want it to where people can stand by it and take a picture,” which was why he believed that the sculpture would not work at the roundabout and should be placed somewhere else.

(6:24:17) – Vice Chairperson Abowd recommended using an influence that is iconic for branding purposes and believed that the project team should “maximize” the use of the roundabout, as it is a “very visible” location in the City. Mr. Peterson indicated that he and his team intended to incorporate the sculpture into the CTA’s brand positioning.

(6:27:09) – Commissioner Bugli commented about leaving the potential artist out of the discussion regarding ideas for the sculpture.

(6:28:17) – Vice Chairperson Abowd proposed allowing the public to make suggestions using the two campaigns introduced by the CTA, “the heartbeat of Nevada” and “where history lives, and adventure awaits.”

6.c FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION REGARDING AVAILABLE GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ARTS AND CULTURE PROGRAMS THROUGH THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (“ARP”).

(6:35:28) – Chairperson D’Anneio introduced the item. Ms. Paulson explained that she initially intended to present on the American Rescue Plan (ARP) grant, for which the accompanying documents are incorporated into the record, for potential funding. Commissioner Scott had pointed out that the Nevada Arts Council could not grant directly to the CTA because of the CTA’s status, as it is not a nonprofit or a unit of government. Furthermore, the grants that go to the CTA, even for arts and culture, would need to be applied for directly from Carson City. She added that the applying entity needs to have a mission based in the arts in order to apply for the ARP grant, so the City would be unable to apply. Ms. Paulson stated that the Board of Supervisors (BOS) discussed there possibly being some opportunities from ARP funding coming into the State that could be distributed through a different path, and the City received \$20.8 million in ARP funds, some of which were unallocated. She believed that research would need to be conducted on how these unallocated funds could be used. Ms. Paulson and Commissioner Scott also responded to clarifying questions.

(6:38:46) – Commissioner Scott had made public comment at the BOS meeting discussing the grant and pointed out that, under the “eligible uses,” the first eligible use was “recovery for industries that were hardest hit by COVID-19.” She wished to create a workgroup due to the numerous things that could be done with the funds that would “check all of the boxes” after having taken workshops that discussed how the ARP block grants specifically can be used for the arts.

(6:42:03) – Vice Chairperson Abowd suggested using the funds for the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center and Museum and the on-site theater that needs to be restored, which she believed would “support the arts for the entire community and be an attraction.” Mr. Peterson added that Vice Chairperson Abowd’s idea for the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center and Museum would technically fall under historic preservation, and there may be a different direction the Commission could work with if there is a provision for historic preservation once the guidelines from the National Education Association (NEA) are released. Commissioner Jones commented that Congressman Amodei is a major proponent of the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center and Museum, and there may be additional funding. Commissioner Scott proposed agendizing the matter and possibly going to the State in coming sessions.

(6:46:10) – Chairperson D’Anneio noted that she had urged the BOS to dedicate some of the ARP funding to the arts and culture sector to help rebuild the community. She commented that the arts bring in a lot of revenue and opportunities.

(6:47:05) – Commissioner Scott believed that the next step would be to create a proposal in collaboration with the Commission and the CTA with Ms. Paulson’s assistance and to figure out timelines.

7. FOR DISCUSSION ONLY:

a. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

(6:48:07) – Chairperson D’Anneio introduced the item. Ms. Paulson did not have any additional items to report.

b. COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS

(6:48:28) – Chairperson D’Anneio introduced the item and entertained Commissioner reports and comments. Vice Chairperson Abowd noted that the Greenhouse Project initiated from the Commission to “forward horticultural arts in Carson City,” and the flower baskets viewable down the center of the City are business sponsored. She stated that the Greenhouse Project is a nonprofit with the following mission: “growing, giving, teaching for a greater, healthier, more sustainable community.” She added that, due to the current “COVID climate,” the Concert Under

the Stars event was no longer “a sustainable way to go,” and a two-fold program was launched that includes a campaign to achieve \$1 million in investments to put away and collect an annual dividend for support. The Greenhouse Project was also expanding a vermiculture program and working with the local nurseries and landscapers because native plants are difficult to obtain, so this would provide an expanded teaching scenario for the Carson City School District, which the School District was “thrilled” with. She announced that the Greenhouse Project would be having its Grateful Harvest Dinner on Monday, September 27, 2021, and she stated that Mark Estee had graciously stepped up and is collaborating with five other chefs within his organization as well as with Vice Chairperson Abowd’s husband, who also was a chef, to create the menu for the evening. The event would include a raffle, an auction, and an Angel Donor match. Vice Chairperson Abowd noted that Congressman Amodei was one of the sponsors of the event, and the tickets for the event would cost \$275 per person. She mentioned that there would be gratitude cards at the Greenhouse Project’s booth at the Carson City Farmers Market.

(6:51:45) – Commissioner Bugli announced that the Carson City Symphony was doing live and in-person concerts, and the Carson City Symphony Association organized a summer music camp with three days for string instruments and a concert that was free and open to the public. There would also be a two-day bootcamp before the start of school for string players with two sessions consisting of one for beginning students and one for all ages, from beginners through senior citizens. She informed the Commission that all of the other programs, including the orchestra and chorus, would start again in August 2021 around when school started. Commissioner Bugli mentioned that the Mile High Jazz Band was back to in-person rehearsals and monthly live performances, with the next live performance scheduled for Tuesday, August 3, 2021. She added that one of the quarterly Jazz and Poetry events would take place in September 2021, which would be held outdoors (and potentially indoors later) at Living the Good Life. Commissioner Bugli announced that the Mile High Jazz Band Association was planning another Jazz and Beyond Festival. She mentioned that the Carson City Open Studios Tour would be held on August 13 to 29, 2021.

(6:54:34) – Chairperson D’Anneo commented that the Carson City Brewfest event would take place on August 28, 2021, starting from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Square in Carson City and on Curry Street. Commissioner Clemens added that there would be 30 brewers participating in the event along with cider and food trucks. She mentioned how the event had started out “very small” and has since grown over the years, and there have been discussions at the Carson City Rotary Club about possibly turning the event into a Brewfest/music festival. Chairperson D’Anneo encouraged those who were interested to become a sponsor for the event.

(6:57:03) – Commissioner Jones informed the Commission that Brewery Arts Center (BAC) Executive Director Gina Lopez would continue adding a popular addition to the Carson City Wine Walk. He also stated that the Carson City Downtown Business Association (CCDBA) teamed up with the Order of the Eastern Star and had a big car show while the CCDBA had a big cornhole tournament after having ended up with 62 signups. He mentioned that the car show had approximately 350 entries.

(6:58:00) – Commissioner Scott provided an update regarding Wild Horse Productions, which included that the shows that had been postponed during the previous year would be returning. She stated that *Alice in Wonderland, Jr.* was in rehearsals at the moment and had two shows taking place on August 1, 2021 outside of the BAC as well as the show with the “bigger kids.” *Heathers* would also be brought back at the Community Center Bob Boldrick Theater on August 5 through 8, 2021.

c. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

(6:58:35) – Chairperson D’Anneo entertained requests for future agenda items. Commissioner Scott requested agendaizing further discussion on the theater referenced during Item 6.c.

(6:59:00) – Chairperson D’Anneo added that she wished to continue researching the ARP grant and the opportunity for funding as well as considering what could be done for the community.

(6:59:16) – Vice Chairperson Abowd wished to “finetune” the Carson Street roundabout discussion and where the Commission plans to go with it.

d. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

(7:08:36) – Chairperson D’Anneo introduced the item. Ms. Paulson indicated that she would review the Board Room calendar as well as find out the availability of the CC and CTA for a joint meeting possibly in September 2021 or October 2021.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION (THREE-MINUTE TIME LIMIT)

(6:59:32) – Chairperson D’Anneo entertained public comments. Ms. Rosse requested that the Commission add to the budget that the artist would be funded for the Carson Street roundabout sculpture. She addressed the unappointed safety committee and, concerning the sculpture, commented that people should be paying attention to their driving and not looking at the roundabout, as she believed the Commission should be cognizant about “where people’s eyes are.”

(7:00:42) – Chairperson D’Anneo commented about the “lovely event” for the mural at Washington Street and Carson Street during the previous Friday, at which the Carson City Supervisors and the Chamber of Commerce were present as well as many people “who really do care about this community.” She added that she looked forward to many more murals and opportunities for art. In response to Chairperson D’Anneo’s inquiry, Ms. Soule proposed putting together some guidelines for artists who may have less experience in bidding on public art projects and responding to calls.

(7:03:48) – Commissioner Jones stated that he and three other individuals had started the CCDBA fourteen years ago, and the CCDBA had spent some money to have a mural created across from Commissioner Jones’ business on Curry Street as well as the mural at the BAC. He had inquired about artist guidelines for murals and noted that he had “dropped it” after Former Director of Arts and Culture Mark Salinas had indicated that “this is the way it is.” Mr. Peterson noted that there is a public art policy that has not yet been adopted by the BOS that would likely answer the questions concerning guidelines on “public art, private property, or somewhere in between.” He stated that the policy would be addressed after the Commission has finished with the Arts and Culture Master Plan. Commissioner Jones was concerned about whether the Commission should care about if private enterprises have murals created and what they choose to have created, and he believed this was an item that needed to be addressed.

(7:06:49) – Commissioner Bugli commented about the Commission, herself included, taking part in a tour in Reno to view the public art several years prior, which had given the Commission many great ideas at the time, and the former Nevada Arts Council Executive Director Susan Boskoff was supposed to give the Commission a tour of Carson City’s public art. She suggested that this could “be in our future.”

(7:07:26) – Commissioner Scott stated that there was a \$1,000 ARP grant through the Nevada Arts Council for individual artists that was intended to support artists with any arts project. She added that there was no need for an

exhibition plan and requested sharing this information with friends. She also mentioned that the piece of art, which could also be music, must be a product with tangible outcomes. Commissioner Scott clarified that Cycle A included projects from this date to December 31, 2021 and Cycle B would go from January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022.

9. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: TO ADJORN.

(7:16:21) – Chairperson D’Anneo adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

The Minutes of the July 20, 2021 Carson City Cultural Commission meeting are so approved this 21st day of October 2021.