

**MINUTES**  
**PUBLIC ART COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Thursday, April 21, 2016**  
City Hall Community Meeting Room  
250 Hamilton Ave  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Commissioners Present:** Mila Zelkha, Amanda Ross, Ben Miyaji, Loren Gordon, Nia Taylor joined the meeting at 7:05

**Commissioners Absent:** Jim Migdal, Dara Silverstein

**Staff Present:** Elise DeMarzo, Public Art Program Director  
Nadya Chuprina, Public Art Program Assistant

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Miyaji called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA CHANGES, REQUESTS, DELETIONS – Vice Chair Miyaji proposed to move Non-Action Item 3 to be the first order of business after the Staff Comments.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 17, 2016 PAC Special Meeting Minutes **Moved:** Commissioner Gordon, **Second:** Commissioner Zelkha. **All in favor.** March 17, 2016 PAC Study Session Minutes **Moved:** Commissioner Gordon, **Second:** Commissioner Zelkha. **All in favor.**

FINANCIAL REPORT: Staff provided a detailed overview of the Maintenance and CIP Budgets.

STAFF COMMENTS: Staff reported on a new video created by Narduli Studio about the new media installation for the City Hall lobby. Staff presented the “Conversation” video to the Commissioners. Staff announced the upcoming artist talk with Bruce Beasley and Roger Stoller to discuss the use of technology in their art. Staff also reported on the installation of *Chime*, an interactive sound sculpture, scheduled for May 16.

NON-ACTION:

- Fire Station 3** – Staff provided an introduction of the Palo Alto Fire Station #3 project and public art opportunities associated with the development. Public Works staff presented the background to the development project and shared the visuals of the three preliminary building designs with the commissioners. The estimated project budget is \$5Million, creating an estimated public art budget of \$50,000. Proposed optional designs provide numerous opportunities for incorporation of public art with the design of the new building and/or immediate surroundings. Commissioners provided feedback for possible options to integrate public art into the new Fire Station and encouraged Staff to bring an artist on board in early stages of the project development.

ACTION:

1. **Creative Seating Pilot Project** – Staff updated the Commission on the project background.. The Public Art Program partnered with City’s Department of Public Works and Downtown Business and Professional Association to find a creative solution to replace existing benches in critical condition with new seating elements. Artist Colin Selig is in the City’s pre-approved artist pool and creates outdoor seating elements out of upcycled propane tanks. City staff identified five seating elements to be loaned for a year with the option to purchase them. Staff requested the approval of funds for temporary placement of art benches by artist Colin Selig on University Avenue in the amount of \$6,665 associated with the delivery and installations costs, as well as a small stipend for the artist. Commissioners reviewed the images of the selected seating elements and inquired whether other project partners would contribute funds for the future purchase of the benches. **Moved:** Commissioner Taylor moved to approve the funds to cover the costs associated with the 12-month loan of the seating elements. **Second:** Vice Chair Miyaji. **All in Favor.**
2. **Comprehensive Condition Report and Protection of the Arnautoff Frescoes** – Staff provided background information about the original commission of the Victor Arnautoff frescoes for the former PAMF building (Roth Building) located in Heritage Park on Homer Avenue. The building is presently owned by the City of Palo Alto. The Palo Alto History Museum is leasing the building from the City and intends transform it into their museum with the construction anticipated to begin in Summer 2016. Public Art Program wishes to ensure the protection of the frescoes during the construction project, and restore and preserve the frescoes for years to come. Staff recommended the approval of funds in the amount of \$3,600 to hire an art conservator to produce an expert condition report based on on-site tests and analytical work to produce recommendations for treatment, and conservation for the artwork; and the approval of funds in the amount of \$2,825 to contract ARG/CS to conduct a review of the Roth building construction documents and make comprehensive recommendations for the protection and monitoring of the artworks during construction. **Moved:** Commissioner Ross moved to allocate the funds to hire an art conservator to produce an expert condition report and to contract ARG/CS to conduct a review of the Roth building construction documents. **Second:** Commissioner Zelkha. **All in Favor.**

NON-ACTION:

4. **Public Art Master Plan Policy Documents** –Staff and commissioners reviewed Deaccession, Gift, and Temporary Public Art policy documents for the Public Art Master Plan.
5. **PAC Retreat** – Staff and Commissioner discussed Retreat dates with the purpose of creating a work plan for the next 2 years. Staff requested that the commissioners submit their availability in August and September.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Staff announced the upcoming Silicon Valley Open Studios on May 14-15. 19 CASP artists will participate in the annual open studios.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

Artist Talk with Bruce Beasley and Roger Stoller: May 11, 2016 at 7PM, Mitchell Park Library

Next Meeting: May 19, 2016 – Regular Public Art Commission Meeting

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:43 PM by Vice Chair Miyaji.