

MINUTES
PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
MEETING
Thursday, February 20, 2020
Palo Alto City Hall
Community Meeting Room
7:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present: **Ben Miyaji, Nia Taylor, Hsinya Shen, Ian Klaus, Jim Migdal**
joined at 7:11

Commissioners Absent: **Amanda Ross, Loren Gordon**

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

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Miyaji called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

AGENDA CHANGES, REQUESTS, DELETIONS – None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November 21, 2019 PAC Meeting Minutes **Moved:** Commissioner Shen;
Second: Commissioner Klaus. **All in favor.** December 19, 2019 PAC Meeting Minutes **Moved:**
Commissioner Taylor; **Second:** Chair Miyaji. **All in Favor.**

STAFF COMMENTS: Staff provided an update on the launch of the cleaning project for the *Blue Trees* environmental temporary installation in King Plaza. The blue colorant will be gently washed by a contractor in close consultation with the City’s Urban Forester and CSD Parks staff. Staff informed the Commissioners that City Council had scheduled to discuss Boards and Commissions at the February 24th Council meeting. Staff also announced that the City is recruiting community volunteers to serve on four Boards and Commissions, including four vacancies for the Public Art Commission with terms ending May 31, 2023. Staff also informed the Commissioners that the Public Art Program would be opening recruitment for an intern to join the program during summer – fall 2020.

ACTION:

1. **Engineering Services** – Staff provided a rationale behind releasing an open solicitation for a structural engineer to provide on-call consulting services in connection to future temporary public art installations. The City’s Public Works staff engineers do not have the capacity to work on temporary public art projects, while limited temporary public art budgets often prevent artists from including structural engineering services in their scopes. Working with a consultant would enable the staff to realize a variety of temporary installations throughout the City and Code:ART2 new-media festival, and work with a more diverse artist pool. There was some discussion whether

more funding should be allocated to specific temporary public art projects, rather than hiring a consultant engineer. Staff recommended the approval of funds up to the amount of up to \$50,000 for on-call engineering services for the next three years. **Moved:** Commissioner Shen moved to approve the funding in the amount of up to \$50,000 for the on-call engineering services for the next three years. **Second:** Commissioner Klaus. **Motion passed: 4 – 1.** Commissioner Migdal
No

2. **California Ave Public Art Master Plan** – Staff articulated the purpose for the California Avenue Master Plan and provided a summary of the consultant selection process. Barbara Goldstein and Associates was identified as the group with the most desirable qualifications and level of experience. Staff recommended the approval of Barbara Goldstein & Associates to create a public art plan for the California Avenue corridor. Funds in the amount of \$15,000 were approved by the PAC on September 19, 2019 to develop the California Ave. Master Plan. **Moved:** Commissioner Migdal moved to approve Barbara Goldstein & Associates as the project consultant. **Second:** Commissioner Taylor. **All in Favor.**
3. **Allocation of funds for Code:ART2** – Staff provided an overview of the Code:ART2 new media festival and the selection process for its Urban Interventions. A selection panel held in early March will review and rank applications to recommend finalists. As a funding model, staff proposed to utilize the public art in private development in-lieu funds to fund the Urban Interventions. Commissioners welcomed this idea and discussed whether the developers could be recognized for supporting Code:ART2 programming. Staff recommended that the Public Art Commission allocate funds in the amount of \$36,000 for up to 6 Urban Interventions for Code:ART2. **Moved:** Commissioner Taylor moved to approve the funds. **Second:** Commissioner Migdal. **All in Favor.**
4. **Allocation of funds for Code:ART2** – Staff provided an overview of the scope of services staff would require assistance from an event coordinator leading up to and during the new media festival in October 2020. Staff recommended that the Public Art Commission allocate funds in the amount of up to \$11,500 for the Event Coordinator services. **Moved:** Commissioner Shen approved the allocation of funds. **Second:** Commissioner Klaus. **All in Favor.**
5. **Collection Maintenance** – Staff provided an overview of the commissioning history, previous preservation treatments and condition assessments of the mural titled *Boy Fishing* by artist Greg Brown. After a recent painting and gutter repair project at the post office building at 380 Hamilton Ave., staff contacted a fine art conservation team to provide a condition report and treatment proposal to stabilize the stucco behind the artwork and conserve the mural. Staff recommended that the Commission allocate maintenance funds for the conservation treatment of the mural in the amount up to \$8,810. **Moved:** Commissioner Migdal moved to approve the funds in the amount up to \$8,810. **Second:** Commissioner Shen. **All in Favor.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS – None.

CALENDAR: Next PAC Regular Meeting – March 19, 2020 at 7 pm.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:47 pm by Chair Miyaji.