

**Joint Special Meeting of
Richmond Arts & Culture Commission and
Public Art Advisory Committee
Minutes for June 2, 2016**

Attendees:

RACC: Denise Chandhoke, Brenda Williams, Rosalie Barnes, Maryann Maslan,
Consuelo Lara, Amahra Hicks, Silvia Ledezma

PAAC: Jessica Parker, Kate Sibley, Dayna Holz, Fletcher Oakes, Linda Kalin

Staff: Michele Seville, Arts & Culture Manager

Guests: Katy Curl, Director, Library & Cultural Services

- I. Meeting called to order
- II. Williams moved to approve the agenda; agenda approved.
- III. Williams moves to approve the RACC Minutes for both March and April;
Chandhoke seconds; minutes approved
- IV. Presentations are delayed due to traffic hold-ups
- VI Discussion & Vote on John Wehrle Mural Loan
 - a) John Wehrle has made a proposal to loan one of his large mural-sized painting to the City of Richmond to be hung in the Richmond Main Library. Staff gave a short bio of John and his many murals in Richmond. This would be a long term loan to the City. We would make an agreement whereby the piece would hang in the Library
 - b) Discussion:
The Photoshop image is to scale. Library is a great place for the piece. Discussion was held about whether to accept as a gift or a loan, and for how long. Details would be worked out in a Memo of Understanding, which Staff will begin drafting. No costs, and the piece would be insured under the City's insurance policy.
 - c) Final terms of acceptance of the mural by John Wehrle as a loan, will be decided when the MOU goes into place.
 - d) The policy is under the Percent for Art Policies & Procedures. Considerations are cost, appropriateness, aesthetics, and case by case details. Staff will distribute to RACC. All donations or loans must go before the Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC)
 - e) Dayna Holz describes the criteria:
Anyone is welcome to submit a loan or gift to the City. It must first be reviewed by PACC, which makes a recommendation to RACC. If it is a gift, then the proposal goes before City Council. A loan is easier.
 - f) Approval by PAAC:
Dayna Holz moves to accept the loan: "The PACC recommends that the RACC accept the offer from John Wehrle 'History of Flight' to the City of Richmond, to be displayed in the main branch of the

Public Library. The terms of the loan, including length and site where it will be installed, will be determined in the MOU between the City and Wehrle.” Motion is seconded, and passes unanimously.

g) Approval by RACC:

Denise Chandhoke moves to accept PAAC’s recommendation to accept John Wehrle’s mural; second by Rosalie Barnes; passes unanimously.

VII. Presentation: Creating Art/Richmond Pride’s 2nd Annual Event (Jamin Pursell)

a) Project will be a community Puzzle where people of all ages participate. It’s a four by four foot puzzle focusing on peace at the gay pride Family Day event at Marina Bay. The idea is that everybody has a place. Each puzzle piece represents each person, and they all fit together.

b) Discussion

Interesting concept as a continuing process. They want to reserve pieces for handprints for the board as well. Family Fun Day in the Park, Sunday, June 5, from 10-3 PM.

VIII. Presentation: Our City (Ray Boyle/Jake Levitas)

This is a community program based on art, design and play by the public. Our City has done projects in Oakland and other cities. They are designed to engage the public in design and play, and to get people from different walks of life talking to each other and collaborating in the process. There is a fee involved, but at this point the presentation just focused on the content.

The components of the program are:

- i) 12-18 Months in Oakland
- ii) Conception – to out in the public
- iii) Community outreach and engagement
- iv) How do we ask and engage through the entire building process
- v) The idea is to be able to test things in a light way instead of putting all the eggs in one basket; how can we do light versions so that we can prototype?

b. Gathering feedback from the visitors - What did people like the best? What worked the best? What can be delivered? What can we move forward with more permanently? 6-2 year semi-permanent installation. Invest in the design then upgrade. Engage with community. How do you do that? Use Oakland as example:

- i) Do a public event invite the public
- ii) Generally, partnerships are formed and created
- iii) Public design workshop. Teams were formed
- iv) Some teams are working together.
- v) Building new relationships and make-shops

c. Including community through process

- i) when you do an open call
 - ii) through a festival
 - iii) ask the designers to go to the street, incorporate the feedback
 - iv) give us updated design that demonstrates it listens to the community
 - d. How do you make sure that you don't miss groups? Four months to fund the Oakland project. Short timeline. Prioritized that this was a first festival; we will be able to show everyone what is possible and build relationships. 5,000 people came out - incredible response. Getting out there and knocking on every door.
 - e. Buy in at the City level. Who comes up with the funds?
 - i) Atlanta – A university had a grant
 - ii) Rochester - Cross sector partnership
 - iii) Oakland – Grants from the 50 Fund; Kaboom
 - iv) First seed. It gets easier to fund in the work.

City of Oakland wrote letter of support on strategy from leadership. They think it's really rich and great. Discussion about how to support and engage everybody. Katy Curl mentioned that it's going to take some behind the scenes work to get everyone on board.

- IX. Approval of Keiko Nelson's project

Keiko Nelson received seed NPA grant money for the Peace Dove project. The goal was to install it in City Hall or somewhere in or around the city center. Richmond's Sister City, Shimada, Japan was involved in painting some of the doves, as were community members from Richmond. Mayor Tom Butt wrote a Letter of Support for the site location.

 - a) PACC moved to approve the project initially, with a site TBD. Updated motion was made: PACC MOTION: "The PAAC recommends the RACC approve the selected installation site for Keiko Nelson's Peace Dove project in Richmond City Hall in the stairwell between the second and third floor." Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.
- X. RACC moved to approve the PAAC recommendation about the Peace Dove project; motion by Maslan; second by Hicks; approved unanimously.
 - a. RACC Retreat: Staff gave direction to Commission about review of General Plan, Strategic & Cultural Plan for Retreat Discussion. Shared documentation with RACC. At retreat, we will discuss Arts and Culture General Plan, Strategic Plan (which has expired), and the General Plan, which gives us the direction for how arts and culture in the city are seen as part of the plan. It includes the Five Year Business Plan: 2016-2020.

- b. RACC to request to send the link of the Five Year Strategic Business Plan 200x-2016.
- c. Kate: Is there some value in thinking about the Our City proposal with our Arts and Culture General Plan?

XI. Call for Artists and Family Justice Center
\$25,000 in budget for completing this piece. PAAC is meeting this month to begin reviewing artists for this particular site. The PAAC will review a short list of artists; the Call will be invitational.

Staff asked PAAC/RACC to submit names of artists they would like included. Environmental, Sculpture, Water elements. There was discussion on putting out a general Call for Artists. The reason to keep the Call limited is partly based on budget, which is very small. Putting out a general Call takes time: Staff time, process, a selection panel, etc.

Dayna Holz (PAAC member for 10 years) spoke on the process: been on PACC for 10 years. We've worked on so hard to make steps to expand the projects and to get buy in from city agencies.

Williams asked that we insure that artists of color be placed on the "Invite List." It was agreed to move forward with Short List, build out race and gender diversity, and rely on expertise of PACC and RACC.

XII. Action: Discussion & Vote on Letter to Council re: NPA Budget Cut
Discussion on draft letter: \$65k cut in 2016-17 budget for entire NPA program. City council will decide. Staff has applied for a \$50k grant from ECIA; not sure when results will be available. Right now Katy and Staff are trying to brainstorm on revenue generation. Next Tuesday they will be having a discussion on the total 6% cut recommendations.

- a) MOTION: "The RACC moves to direct staff to finalize the draft letter by commissioner Barnes and send it to the mayor and councilmembers on behalf of the PAAC and RACC." Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

XIII. Action: RACC Retreat Planning and Vote on Facilitator
Sheella Mierson and Ahmad Mansur are the two facilitators who have applied for the RACC retreat.

- a) MOTION: to approve Ahmad Mansur as facilitator; seconded, and unanimously approved.

XIV. Meeting Adjourned at 9:20 pm.