

RACC MEETING
450 Civic Center Plaza
Richmond
Richmond Conference Room

March 23, 2017

Co-Chair Balisle called meeting to order at 7:00

In attendance:

Brenda Williams, Jenny Balisle, Rosalie Barnes, Sylvia Ledezma, Maryann Maslan
Staff, Michele Seville

Absent: Ben Steinberg

Guests: Love Your Block Grants, Stephanie Ny and kids from center; Steve Hopkins of TAOLB
and his associate Mr. Bruce; Florine Wiley, Richmond resident, radio host, and marketer

- I. Welcome
- II. Agenda was moved and approved
- III. Minutes were moved and approved
- IV. Presentation by Steve Hopkins of The Art of Living Black (TAOLB)
Mr. Hopkins and his associate Mr. Bruce gave a presentation about this history of
TAOLB at the Richmond Art Center. Discussion of how RACC might assist with this
annual event.
- V. Presentation/Action: Love Your Block Project (Stephanie Ny)
Stephanie Ny and a group of students from one of the Love Your Block projects
came to get permission from the RACC to paint on City property (a community
center). Their efforts will benefit 40-60 participants, and hundreds of community
members who live in the neighborhood and see the center every day.
- VI. **Action:** Election of Officers
The commission submitted paper ballots to elect new officers. Elected: Jenny Balisle
and Silvia Ledezma, Co-Chairs; and Rosalie Fay Barnes, Vice Chair.
- VII. Discussion: RACC Community Project (All)
How can we help get involved in certain communities in Richmond? Contact with
schools and communities is essential.
Rick Ambrose might be able to pinpoint how. 17 years, knows lots of artists
Amanda Elliott, Art in the Windows

RACC to submit grant application to Richmond Community Foundation and UC
Berkeley for \$20,000 to explore and document cultural preservation through murals

in the Santa Fe and Iron Triangle neighborhoods. Gentrification is happening all over Richmond, especially in underserved neighborhoods, and this project is focusing on preserving what is historically important there. One mural will be done in each neighborhood.

VIII. Recap: Retreat Report from Ahmad Mansur

The commission reviewed the report submitted by retreat facilitator, Ahmad Mansur. A discussion followed about the value of the topics discussed, and where to go next. Rosalie Barnes volunteered to review the RACC's Strategic P.

IX. Moody Underpass

Staff related that the City will learn on April 14th whether the State will be allocating money to Richmond for the Moody Underpass % for Art requirement. If allotted, all the money would have to go to public art near the underpass. The project will require the money be spent on art on the site; not throughout the city or at any other location. The project was state bond funded; if they say no to 1.5%, the city would have to provide the 1.5%.

X. Budget Update

Staff related that additional allocations were included in the Arts & Culture Division budget: \$30,000 for concrete surface around the future public art at Pt. Sheridan; and \$60,000 to reinstate the Neighborhood Public Art program.

Richmond Art Center MOU coming to an end. The \$375,000 going to them ends in July 2017. Renegotiations are underway, but not figured out yet. \$100,000 is in matching funds.

XI. Staff Report

Staff reviewed items not already discussed on the Staff Report.

XII. Public Comment

Guest Florine (Flo) Wiley introduced herself. She is a Richmond resident, former New Yorker, marketer, and host of Black Beat Bay Area: The Flo Wiley Show. blackbeatbayarea@gmail.com – Peralta Colleges Community Radio serving the East Bay.