



City of Sebastopol
Incorporated 1902
Planning Department
7120 Bodega Avenue
Sebastopol, CA 95472

UNAPPROVED DRAFT ACTION MINUTES

PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE
CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
MINUTES OF **APRIL 4, 2023**

PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE:

The notice of the meeting was posted on Thursday March 30, 2023
Meeting In Person Location: Sebastopol Youth Annex, 425 Morris Street, Sebastopol, CA 95472 and Remote/Virtual Zoom via Link

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Mills-Thysen called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

2. **ROLL CALL:**

Present:

Chair Mills-Thysen
Vice-Chair Stucker
Committee Member Langberg
Committee Member Brent
Committee Member Harris

Staff: John Johnson, Assistant Planning Director

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

March 7, 2023 Minutes were unanimously approved by vote.
Chair Mills-Thysen agreed to take and prepare minutes for this current meeting.

4. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:**

None

5. **STATEMENTS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** None.

6. **REGULAR AGENDA:**

A. Private Proposals for Artwork in the City

i. Painted mural on Fannen Street watertower:

Discussed briefly. No information available from proposing artist. Tabled for a Future Meeting when specific information and proposing artist are available.

ii. Climate Action Committee Bench in plaza

Sunali presented Education and Outreach information: History of their displays on Main Street and at Sebastopol Library. Their desire to engage community and share information.

Evan, originator of proposal, talked about his proposal to display and install art and include QR. Ideas presented included an 8'x8'x8' redwood bench with enclosure, propagation areas with seed trays, mural, musical instruments...

Evan suggested possible location on lawn at town Plaza. Time frame: Permanent or specific limited duration. Maintenance: Evan mentioned specific time during which project would be "nurtured by myself... or someone else."

Vice-Chair Stucker commented: Town Plaza not ideal location. Other possible sites: Ives Park, Apple Faire. He asked about Safety concerns for users, about a Budget for this project, and suggested it be a modular, transportable display.

Evan replied that they hoped to use "upcycled" material and volunteer labor and that he hoped to be financially compensated as the artist.

Committee Member Langberg recommended a Non Permanent structure; encouraged adding an element of mystery as to where it would next appear; gave an example of Cia Amorgiani's (sp?) little structures.

Committee Member Harris suggested thinking of it as a destination display with possible locations at the Community Center and the Laguna.

Committee Member Brent commented that as an Educational mission, this sort of project wants to be attended by a facilitator for discussions.

Chair Mills-Thysen said she thought their project had some fine ideas and suggested the group work on specific next steps, consider short and long term planning including long term durability of materials, maintenance, and oversight, and to come up with a more specific and detailed proposal.

B. Sculpture Garden

i. Continuation of current sculptures: Chair Mills-Thysen reported on follow up after contacting artists: With the exception of Josho Somine's sculpture, now damaged twice by vandals and removed from the CSG, all of the other CSG sculptors would like to continue to display their work for an additional year. As Beth Hartmann has two pieces

displayed, this means that 7 of 8 sculptures can continue and that 1 pedestal is currently vacant.

Chair Mills-Thysen said that an **Agreement for the one year extended display** of the 6 continuing sculptures needed to be written and agreed upon, and that a **new Call and Timeline for 5 additional sculptures** would need to be written, agreed upon, and sent out.

ii. New Pedestals: Chair Mills-Thysen suggested the PAC add 3 or 4 additional pedestals if possible. The rest of the Committee agreed that 4 new pedestals should be added and discussed procedure and funding for establish them.

John Johnson, Assistant Planning Director, agreed to look into the City's support for this.

iii. May meeting on site at CSG:

The Committee agreed unanimously to meet at the CSG site for its May 3rd regular meeting to decide on locations for the additional pedestals and when ready to put out a Call for 5 additional sculptures for the CSG.

iv. Future Stipends to Sculptors:

Committee members Brent, Harris and Langberg and Vice-Chair Stucker felt strongly that the 5 new sculptors should also be granted Stipend funds. The Committee discussed sources for these funds. Since funding for the PAC is dependent upon the 1% paid by qualifying construction projects into a Public Art Fund, it is uncertain whether the PAC will have funds for such Stipends. The Committee asked John Johnson, Assistant Planning Director, to find out and consult with Kari Svanstrom, City Planning Director, if the City Council would agree to budget \$2,000 to fund these Stipends if the PAC does not have a sufficient amount remaining in the Public Art Fund from the 1% paid into that Fund.

C. Call for artists for new City Commission

The Committee discussed the site, timeline, and Call for the PAC's #3 Public Art Commission. The PAC would like to have a Timeline Guide estimating Permits, etc., and relocation of the Bench. The Committee would like to know: who owns that bench, and can it be relocated or removed? The Committee would like a +/- 15 Minute Parking Limit posted by the City in front of the sculpture site.

Committee member Brent asked Chair Mills-Thysen to complete the Call. Chair Mills-Thysen listed the items still needed to be included, including photographs and description of the site and its history. Committee member Brant agreed to send these to her.

6. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Chair Mills-Thysen suggested edits to the proposed Agenda for May to include more immediate items not listed. The Committee unanimously agreed to:

1/ Move the following items to future meetings:

A. Introduction to ArtStart - May

B. Public Arts Committee future ideas

C. High school art project

and possibly

D. Sculpture for preschool at Garzot Building (proposal by preschool for Patrick Amoit sculpture)

2/ Include the following items in its MAY AGENDA:

A PAC Budget Report

CSG: 2023-2024 plan, new pedestals, Call, Timeline, Agreements, Security

Public Artwork Commission #3: Call, Permits, Timeline

PAC Webpage update

Possibility of the Committee meeting for 2 hours from 1:30pm to 3:30pm, instead of for 1.5 hours.

7. PLANNING DEPARTMENT'S REPORT

8. ADJOURNMENT: Chair Mills-Thysen adjourned the meeting of the Sebastopol Public Arts Committee at 3:30pm. The next regular Public Arts Committee meeting will be held on **May 03**, 2023 at 1:30 a.m.