

CITY OF MARTINEZ
ARTS AND LIBRARY COMMISSION

March 14, 2007

Approved May 9, 2007

A regular meeting of the Arts and Library Commission was called to order by acting Vice Chair Karen Bell-Patton at 7:05 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Dorrie Langley (arrived 7:15 p.m.)
Commissioners Marta Van Loan, Karen Bell-Patten, Donald Pallotta, Michael Gandy and Carol Wiley

Absent: Commissioner Cheryl O'Brien

Staff: Joann Tool, Recreation Division Services

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 10, 2007

Commissioner Gandy requested the following corrections to the minutes of January 10, 2007:

Page 1: Under Absent: change to Michael Gandy and Cheryl O'Brien

Page 3: Forth line down, #2: change the word "work" to the word "worth".

Commissioner Van Loan requested the following corrections of the minutes of January 10, 2007:

Page 2: Under Old Business; Item 1: Second paragraph, second to last sentence: change the word "survey" to "surveyed" and add the word "who" after surveyed.

Page 3: Paragraph two: change "100,000" to "10,000". Two more paragraphs down, sentence 5: change the word "put" to "be". Four more paragraphs down: change "Chair Langley" to "Commissioner Bell-Patten".

Commissioner Wiley requested the following corrections to the minutes of January 10, 2007:

Page 3: The paragraph that begins with John Fuller talked about how libraries are changing: change the "comma" after information to a "semi-colon".

Commissioner Van Loan moved the motion to approve the minutes of January 10, 2007, seconded by Commissioner Gandy, with corrections. The motion was approved by the following vote: All Ayes

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

It was agreed to move Library Issues under Old Business to the first item on the agenda:

John Fuller, president of Friends of the Library, spoke on how the backyard is coming along nicely and they are meeting on Friday, March 16, 2007, at 3:30 p.m. to identify a landscape rotation.

Mr. Fuller demonstrated metal cut outs that would be approximately 3 foot high to be placed along the back library wall with 3 or 4 story boards. He is asking the permission of the commission to pursue this and then he will go to City Council to request approval for the extra funds and ask the City to hang them.

Commissioner Van Loan asked for clarification on what Mr. Fuller was asking the City for, as it was her understanding he was asking for the cost of the mounting and the manpower to hang them.

Mr. Fuller stated that was correct. He also said that all the materials are being donated and would like the commission to come out to Paul Craig's house and assist in the cutting of the metal.

Chair Langley asked who is Paul and is he going to be doing all the cutting?

Mr. Fuller stated that Mr. Craig has indicated that he would be doing the framing and only providing supervision. Mr. Craig believes that the cutouts can be done under his instruction by volunteers.

Chair Langley stated she had concerns about rusting of the metal.

Commissioner Van Loan talked about a solution for the oxidation through the mounting. She also indicated that there are funds left over from the survey money previously allocated that may be utilized towards the mounting costs.

Mr. Fuller stated that someone from Diablo Valley College and Mr. Craig is assisting with the solution of any proposed rusting problems with the metal.

Mr. Fuller stated that at this time the mural is not being further explored due to the lack of funds for this project. He said he received an estimate of \$25,000 for the mural.

Commissioner Pallotta stated that he believes it would be a good idea if Mr. Fuller had at least a rough estimate of the mounting costs before going to City Council with his request.

Mr. Fuller stated it would be approximately \$1,000 to \$3,000 for the mounting and manpower costs.

Ms. Tool reiterated that Commissioner Van Loan's suggestion of reallocating the remainder of the survey funds towards the costs of mounting is a good idea.

Commissioner Van Loan moved to authorize, John Fuller, President of Friends of the Library, to work with Joann Tool, Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation, on the issue of additional artwork for the back wall and mounting, with the idea that some of the approximately \$6,000.00 carryover from the library survey, might be utilized for that and

they would then work it out with the City, seconded by Commissioner Gandy. The motion was approved by the following vote: All Ayes

Back to the regular agenda new business items:

- a. Grants
 - 1. Friends of the Library

John Fuller, President of Friends of the Library, spoke on the request for a \$1,000 grant in order to present a series of outdoor concerts in the new Reading Garden at the Library.

At 7:28 p.m., acting Vice Chair Bell-Patten handed the meeting over to Chair Langley.

Chair Langley asked if they were asking for the money to pay for the musicians.

Mr. Fuller said yes they are.

Commissioner Van Loan asked the balance of the commission's fund.

Ms. Tool stated **the balance** is approximately \$4,000, but this does not include the carryover of funds from the library survey.

Commissioner Pallotta spoke on an article he read in the paper about the new requirements of submitting a grant proposal.

Ms. Tool said this budget year will continue to function as usual. The process of grant request remains the same. The changes are to ensure that duplicate funding does not occur. Should the City provide funding for a request, any request for the same project could not be requested from an individual to the commission. This would also require that request be submitted twice a year.

Jan Aaronian, Librarian, stated that the grant request is from the Friends of the Library to put on summer concerts to attract the 40-65 year old demographic.

Commissioner Van Loan moved the motion to support the grant request, seconded by Commissioner Bell-Patten. The motion was approved by the following votes: All Ayes.

Chair Langley said she would recommend to the City Council that the Friends of the Library receives this grant.

Ms. Aaronian stated the library questionnaire is getting a good response.

Commissioner Van Loan reminded the commission that the survey questionnaire was a result of the January 10, 2007, meeting. It was a short questionnaire distributed to actual library users. It listed out 5 basic, straight forward questions. She has received 31 completed questionnaires and 20 out of the 31 said yes to all five questions.

Ms. Aaronian stated she had to make more copies of the questionnaire due to the amount of them being completed.

Ms. Van Loan said she will compile the data received from these questionnaires to see how the actual library users feel about the renovation of the library and/or a new library.

2. Alhambra High School Band

Commissioner Pallotta moved to withdraw the proposal providing \$500 to the Alhambra High School Band as the newspaper indicated the band had reached their goal.

The commission discussed the fact that the band did in fact receive \$5,000 from the City towards the uniforms. They discussed writing a letter to Julianne George congratulating the band on the donation from the City and reaching their goal and their regrets of being unable to provide the \$500 request that was made.

Ms. Tool stated she would write a letter on the commission's behalf.

Commissioner Pallotta moved to withdraw the proposal of providing \$500 to the Alhambra High School Band, seconded by Commissioner Van Loan. The motion was approved by the following vote: All Ayes.

V. OLD BUSINESS

a. Library Issues

Already discussed - discussion under New Business.

b. JMFC

Ms. Tool spoke on the rough construction being completed at the Cabaret Theater on Ward Street. You can now peek through the windows and see the stairways and construction outline for the bathrooms. They are asking for volunteers to help with the finish work. Ms. Tool said "Save the Day" cards for a completion date of May 11, 2007, were sent out.

The commission spoke on all the different advertising that has been conducted to date in hopes of trying to get more volunteers for this project.

c. Community Art Plan

Nothing to report at this time, will be placed on the next agenda.

VIII. COMMISSIONER'S MATTERS

Commissioner Van Loan spoke on the letter from the White Rabbit. The commission spoke on the correct meaning of "Merchant" and how this event will be better organized next year.

Ms. Tool said that hopefully Main Street will have a new executive director for the next holiday season and this will be taken over by them.

Commissioner Bell-Patton excused herself at 8:05 p.m.

IX. CORRESPONENCE

- a. Port of San Diego-Urban trees
- b. Artsbenicia
- c. Kristen Henderson
- d. Newspaper Article
- e. Letter to the Editor
- f. Innovation group Conference
- g. Letter from Contra Costa Historical Society
- h. Library Commission Main Street Holiday Window Decorating Contest Winners

Commissioner Pallotta commented on the tile comment on Kristen Henderson's library information.

Commissioner Van Loan spoke on the tiles being stored in her garage and the possibility of having the moved to the depot. She also said she had additional information from Ms. Henderson on the historical information on the library.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Langley announced the Martinez Arts Association Art Show will be held at the Bank of America from March 23, 2007, through April 5, 2007. There will be a reception on March 23, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. for the artists.

Chair Langley announced that on April 21, 2007, there will be a celebration for John Muir's birthday at the John Muir House.

April 21, 2007, is also Earth Day and Chair Langley announced that the Martinez Arts Association will have a booth set up "Paint a Mural". The theme will be butterflies.

The commission discussed the \$25,000 for the costs of the mural and believe the material costs for this project would be approximately \$500 and they will consider other avenues for the mural.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Chair Langley, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Karen Jennings
Minutes Clerk