

CITY OF MARTINEZ  
ARTS AND LIBRARY COMMISSION

November 14, 2007

**APPROVED February 13, 2008**

A regular meeting of the Martinez Arts and Library Commission was called to order by acting Chair Dorrie Langley at 7:03 p.m. on November 14, 2007 in City Hall Council Chambers, Martinez, CA.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Dorrie Langley  
Commissioners Karen Bell-Patten, Carol Wiley, Marta Van Loan and Donald Pallotta

Absent: Commissioner Michael Gandy

Staff: Joann Tool, Recreation Division Services

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 8, 2007

Commissioner Van Loan requested the following corrections to the minutes of August 8, 2007:

Page 2: Under Item C; First paragraph: change the word “Van Loan” to “Bell-Patten”.

Commissioner Pallotta moved the motion to approve the minutes of August 8, 2007, seconded by Commissioner Bell-Patten, with above stated corrections. The motion was approved by the following vote: All Ayes

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Kristen Henderson spoke on the how the Library is now on the National Historic Registry List. She spoke on the art deco of the building. She provided a website for ADA tax breaks suggestions of [www.maha94553.multiply.com](http://www.maha94553.multiply.com) and a website for the history of the library of [www.tileofmartinez.multiply.com](http://www.tileofmartinez.multiply.com).

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Grant request from Martinez Historical Society

Ms. Tool said that this event has already taken place, but due to the last two meetings not being held, this item is still on the agenda.

Commissioner Pallotta moved the motion to approve the \$1,000 grant to the Martinez Historical Society for the home tour, seconded by Commissioner Van Loan. The motion was approved by the following vote: All Ayes.

Commissioner Bell-Patton questioned the approval of grant requests when the submitted paperwork from a request is showing a profit. The commission discussed their concerns and the issues on an event that is making money. Commissioner Bell-Patton would like to see that at the next meeting the commission discusses putting an advertisement in the paper for grants. The

commission discussed that grant monies should be utilized for events for existing structures and for new events.

## V. OLD BUSINESS

### a. Library Issues

Commissioner Van Loan spoke on the fencing project to be completed, by Wells Fargo Bank, in the backyard garden and how City will do gates when the fencing is complete. When the fencing is complete, benches and seating will be explored. The Library is hoping to utilize the original monies outlined for the fencing for benches and the seating project.

Commissioner Van Loan said that the music event that was held on October 17, 2007, was rained out, so they had to move the event inside, which was very disappointing. Musical group, Spinning Wheel is coming on November 16, 2007 and there is another musical event scheduled for December 15, 2007.

They are trying to coordinate events to when the library is open in hopes of bringing the 40-60 age group to these events and hopefully increase the library use in this age group by doing so. They are hoping for more adult programming in the future.

Commissioner Van Loan said she sat in on the special meeting held with City Council and the Park and Recreation Commission regarding the 2008 bond issue.

The Commission discussed how the backyard garden butts up to the side garage to an ally way on the side of McDonalds. They would like to see if the owner would give them permission to paint some type of landscape mural on this corrugated wall.

Commission Bell-Patten would like some type of announcements of the library events at the Amtrak station.

### b. JMFC

Ms. Tool said they meet once a month, but there is no direction at this time. The Campbell Cabaret is doing well.

### c. Community Art Plan

George Bell, board member, and Leanne Peterson, executive director, of Main Street spoke on the Main Street Organization. The Commission had asked them to attend Commission meeting in hopes of working with organizations regarding community art in Martinez. They talked about how their mission is to promote the revitalization of small downtowns.

They informed the commission of the following events that have been held or are going to be held:

- Santa's House - Snow Park Event
- Bicycle Race- Spring 2008 (February 9, 2008)
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade
- Car shows throughout the summer
- Halloween "Spooktacular"
- Collaboration of Earth Day and John Muir's Birthday
- Eco Fashion/Art scheduled for April 19, 2008

Commissioner Bell-Patten asked if the commission can obtain the quarterly reports what Main Street is providing to the City.

**VIII. COMMISSIONERS' MATTERS**

Chair Langley spoke on an e-mail, from Commissioner Gandy, regarding the art the Pleasant Hill library displays and wanted to know if the Martinez library could do the same. The Commission asked the librarian, Jan Aaronian, if she would be interested. Ms. Aaronian said that there is no free standing room available. The Commission discussed placing permanent hooks up on the walls so that exhibits would be able to be easily changed. The commission discussed asking the Art Association of having a possible rotating art exhibit.

Chair Langley spoke on the Veterans Commission and possibly having an exhibit of art displayed by Veteran Artists. The commission spoke on how the Art Association has a rotating art display with a guest artist in City Hall.

Commissioner Pallotta spoke on the Tom Greerty Martinez Life videos and wanted to know if the VHS tapes could be made into DVD's and made available to check out at the library.

Ms. Tool explained that Comcast should be able to do this and they might even be willing to donate these services to the Historical Society. She told Commissioner Pallotta to contact Charlie Shepler of Comcast. Ms. Aaronian said she would catalog them as well.

Commissioner Bell-Patten spoke on the Art on the Streets and said that this event was well participated. She would like to see if the Martinez Art Association would be able to host something similar to this type of event.

Commissioner Van Loan asked about the "Community of Culture" and where they are going with this and if there was development towards a culture plan. The Commission discussed that at this time, they are inviting other groups, like Main Street, to explore what type of events they are putting out.

Ms. Tool talked about the possibility of the Art and Library Commission, Marina Commission and the Park and Recreation Commission merging as there is a great deal of overlapping within these three commissions.

Commissioner Van Loan stated that she would like to see the library put into the Master Plan under Leisure Services.

**IX. CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Arts Benicia Galley Looking Glass

**X. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Commission agreed there will be no meeting held in December.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Chair Langley, seconded by Commissioner Van Loan, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:24 p.m.

Karen Jennings  
Minutes Clerk