

CITY OF MARTINEZ
ARTS AND LIBRARY COMMISSION

April 9, 2008

APPROVED JUNE 11, 2008

A regular meeting of the Arts and Library Commission was called to order by acting Chair Dorrie Langley at 7:04 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Dorrie Langley
Commissioners Marta Van Loan, Donald Pallotta, Carol Wiley, Michael Gandy

Absent: Commissioner Karen Bell-Patten

Staff: Joann Tool, Deputy Director - Parks & Community Services

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 13, 2008

The following changes were requested:

Page 2, item a under Old Business: Verbal report by Martinez (Librarian)

Page 3, under Commissioner's Matters, fourth paragraph: Commissioner Pallotta wanted to know how (one goes about being on the combined Commission)

Page 3, under Commissioner's Matters, fifth paragraph: Ms. Tool explained that if a Commissioner's term has not expired, they are guaranteed a seat, but there are some Commissioners (who would not)

Commissioner Pallotta moved the motion to approve the minutes of February 13, 2008 seconded by Commissioner Van Loan, with above stated corrections. The motion was approved by the following vote: All Ayes

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

IV. NEW BUSINESS

None

V. OLD BUSINESS

a. Library Issues

Ms. Aaronian, the Martinez Librarian, reported that there will be a library reading festival throughout the County May 16th through May 18th. Every library will have two authors that will be speaking. Expect lots of publicity. There is not a lot of material as of yet.

On Friday of the May event, Ethan Revick, who wrote books on Pat Brown and the Donner party will be speaking at 6 p.m. Acting Director of the UC Berkeley Political Institute for Political Studies, John Blasquez, will be speaking at 5:15 p.m. There will be Blue Grass music and chili

and cornbread. On Saturday the library will open at 10 a.m. with stories, crafts and face painting. David M. Schwartz will be the speaker. Pizza will be served.

Commissioner Van Loan met with Jan Aaronian and Frank Kluber last week to reposition the library backyard benches so that they could be permanently affixed as requested by the City Council. The original idea was to have them mobile, since that is not the case, the new configuration will allow for flexibility in bringing out chairs to compliment the benches.

Commissioner Van Loan reported that she had gotten permission from the owner of the garage adjacent to the library backyard for placement of a mural. The mural will add depth and closure to that end. The Friends of the Library have the money to do the mural.

Commissioner Gandy asked who had been hired to do the mural and Dorrie Langley raised her hand. The actual mural will be a blue background depicting the sky with clouds and a tree.

~~January 1st~~ A concert was held in the backyard with the Martinez Community Chorus performing.

The capacity of the backyard is approximately 40.

b. Art Displays at other venues

Commissioner Wiley stated that she was sad that sculptures could not be placed on top of the bookcases at the library. Downstairs would be a possibility if it becomes accessible.

c. JMFC

Staff reported that a contract was being finalized for a loan from the City to the Willows to complete the interior of the Kenney Building. Also reported was the fact that the Willows would have a season at the amphitheater this year from the end of June through August. Performances would include, Muirfest, Annie Get Your Gun and Sacagawea.

d. Philosophy of the Arts and Library Grants

Commissioner Van Loan suggested that grants be given out in a similar fashion to the Community Foundation that asks for applications in April and October of each year. She sees this as an efficiency or fairness issue.

An inquiry was received from the Historical Society regarding requesting a grant again this year for their home tour.

A suggestion was made to put an announcement in the newspaper stating that final applications for 2008 will be made at the June 2008 meeting.

Commissioner Langley reminded the Commission that the criterion for the grants was not only for requests coming into the Commission. The grants could also fund ideas from the Commission itself.

e. Community Art Plan

This item was held over until the June 2008 meeting.

Commissioner Pallotta shared that Florence, Italy was wonderful. He had an incredible "Art Experience."

Commissioner Langley stated that she had seen a *Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Dean Leshner Center in Walnut Creek. The performance was really cool.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE

A brief discussion of articles included in the agenda packet.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Langley announced that there is new art hanging at 651 Pine Street. Several Latin artists including Sally Ann Roriquetz and Tom Zamaria. The art will be up until May 3rd.

Martinez gallery will be celebrating one year at the Sharkey building on May 2nd.

May 3rd there is the Art and Wine Stroll downtown. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at 603 Marina Vista, at the gallery and at Attic Child.

Pepino D'Agostino will be playing at the gallery on May 3rd, tickets are \$50.

April 19th is Earth Day. The Arts Association will have a booth where painting on Tyvek will take place once again. There will be a trashy fashion show at 12 noon at the downtown plaza.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Joann de Graef Tool
Deputy Director - Parks & Community Services