

CITY OF MARTINEZ
ARTS AND LIBRARY COMMISSION

June 11, 2008

APPROVED AUGUST 13, 2008

A regular meeting of the Arts and Library Commission was called to order by Chair Dorrie Langley at 7:04 p.m. on June 11, 2008, in City Hall Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, California 94553.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Dorrie Langley

Commissioners Carol Wiley, Marta Van Loan and Donald Pallotta

Absent: Commissioners Karen Bell-Patten and Michael Gandy

Staff: Joann Tool, Recreation Division Services

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 9, 2008

Commissioner Van Loan had the following corrections on the minutes of April 9, 2008.

Page 2: Paragraph 5: Delete the date of "January 1".

Commissioner Van Loan moved the motion to approve the minutes of April 9, 2008, as amended, seconded by Commissioner Pallotta. The motion was approved by the following vote: All Ayes

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Robin Moore, Executive Director of AC5, spoke on the art recognition awards that they provide to individuals or organizations in Contra Costa County. This is their 13th year and she says she is encouraging Commissions in the County to place a nomination for someone in their City. She provided the Commission with a brochure and told them a nomination form can be found on their website. The winner gets a newspaper article as well as a video and an awards assembly is held in October. Last year the assembly was held at St. Mary's College and they are looking into holding it again this year. Approximately 100-200 people attend this ceremony.

Commissioner Pallotta asked if they hand out one award per year.

Ms. Moore explained that there are five awards per year. She also added then when submitting a nomination form, up to four pieces of documentation can be submitted to strengthen the nomination.

Commissioner Van Loan asked about the July 15th deadline and wanted to know is that for hard copy submission and not just electronically.

Ms. Moore explained that they do not accept electronic at this time and that yes, hard copy nominations and attachments need to be submitted by 5:00 on July 15th.

Commissioner Wiley asked if this is for adults only.

Ms. Moore explained that at this time it is for adults only as the nomination is for people who have made an impact on the art community. They may be considering one of the awards go to a younger person if they have done something to impact the art community, something like an aspiring award, but this will not be in place for this year.

Ms. Moore told the Commission about the new free Arts Directory and Calendar on their website. This has been up for five weeks and there are 66 entries on it at this time.

Commissioner Van Loan asked how Ms. Moore and AC5 works with organizations in the County.

Ms. Moore said organizations send information to AC5 and she then puts in their newsletter. You may sign up for the Art Beat Newsletter on their website as well.

Ms. Moore also explained her idea of possibly having quarterly meetings for groups to get together at coffee shops for an informal networking session. Each group would have five minutes and hopefully would provide one good thing they have done and one thing that they tried, but just did not work out.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

a. Meetings every other month

Discussion and approval of holding meetings every other month as outlined in the Martinez Municipal Code

The commission discussed the monthly meetings and the fact that many have been canceled due to lack of quorum. They discussed the fact that meetings outlined in the Municipal Code require they hold a meeting every other month. Therefore, the Commission agreed this would be a good idea and would now begin this, with the next meeting being held in August, 2008.

Commissioner Van Loan moved the motion to approve holding Art and Library Commission meetings every other month as outlined in the Municipal Code, seconded by Commissioner Pallotta. The motion was approved by the following vote: All Ayes

V. OLD BUSINESS

a. Library Issues

Verbal report by the Martinez or a Commissioner member regarding current activities at the library

Commissioner Van Loan wanted to thank Commissioner Pallotta for doing such a great job on coordination of delivery of the benches for the library backyard and coordinating with Shell. She said they were originally supposed to be shipped on June 6th and take 5-6 days to arrive, but they arrived on June 2nd. She was out of town and unable to take care of the delivery and Commissioner Pallotta was available to assist and did a wonderful job. They are all assembled and the last item is to have PJ MacDamera (sic) to get footings put on and have them bolted down. She said DB Arts did a wonderful job on the mural on the wall. It turned out fabulous.

Commissioner Pallotta said that Shell has stated that Paul Craig's metal storybook characters for hanging on the wall need to be sealed with a plastic coating as they will provide rust stains down the wall if not properly coated. He also said that volunteers from the work site across the street from the library assisted in bringing the delivery to the backyard as they could see the children's librarian struggling with some of the boxes.

Commissioner Van Loan said that walking by the Ward Street side of the library, you can see how wonderful the garden is.

Commissioner Pallotta said that all the benches are currently chained to the fence and the two tables are chained together. Shell bought the chain to go with the locks we had in order to secure the benches and tables at this time. Shell provided the \$85.00 for the chain.

Commissioner Van Loan said that it appears PJ MacDamera (sic) also has a key to the backyard gate as PJ has been doing routine maintenance in the garden.

Commissioner Pallotta stated that he had tried to clean the graffiti off of the window, but the job is too much for a razor blade. Ms. Tool told him to call Public Works and ask what they use.

Commissioner Van Loan said that the last thing to complete the garden is ordering the remaining bricks for the pathway and the plaques for the mural and podium. She said that the bricks are a cost of \$250.00 each which includes 4 lines of 20 characters each. Once this is done, they will be ready for the ribbon cutting.

- b. JMFC
Verbal report by staff or Commissioner member

Ms. Tool said the interior of the Kenney Building will hopefully be completed within the next 1 ½ weeks. The Willows Theatre in Concord will be at the Kenney Building and in late June and through July will be at the amphitheater. They are looking into performing "Annie Get Your Gun" as a late afternoon performance rather than in the evening. They are thinking about 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. so the performance will be done by dark. The high school will be performing the first and second week of August premiering "Sacagawea". At this time, every weekend in September is booked and they still have openings for August. You can look on the City's website for the list of events.

- c. Community Art Plan
Ongoing discussion of a possible Art's plan for the community

This item appears to remain on the "back burner". Chair Langley encouraged the Commission however to individually nominate a person or group for the AC5 nomination. As the Commission will not be meeting again until August and the deadline for this nomination is July 15th, there is not time this year to nominate as a Commission. They will consider this on a future agenda in the Spring for next years nomination.

VIII. COMMISSIONERS' MATTERS

Commissioner Pallotta stated that he needs new cards.

Commissioner Van Loan wanted to know when the Park Bond would be on the City Council agenda.

Ms. Tool explained that they are currently waiting on park estimates. Park and Recreation Commission will be holding a special meeting on June 18th at 5:00 p.m. to discuss park estimates and recommend the amount of the bond and the bond language. This amount of bond and language of bond will go to City Council on July 2nd and then the legal aspects of it will go to City Council on July 16th and final approval would be at special City Council meeting either July 23rd or July 30th.

Commission Van Loan stated that Rankin Park's appearance looks good despite all the problems they are having and commented on how staff has done a good job at keeping it up even though this will be the last year for the pool.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. ArtsBenicia, John Muir Association "The View"
- b. John Muir Association "The View"

Commissioner Pallotta wanted to know if the venue had changed and if they are still coming to Martinez. Chair Langley said yes they are in the second week of August.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Langley said that the art gallery is going well and hopefully they will be there until December or maybe even through the Spring.

Commissioner Van Loan said that the next Friends of the Library meeting will be held on June 23rd.

Chair Langley reminded everyone of Art in the Park being held in Susana Street Park on Sunday, June 17th. This is their 39th annual event.

Commissioner Van Loan spoke on the May 16th-18th Contra Costa County Read. She said that Ethan Revick who wrote books on the Donner Party was very interesting.

Ms. Aaronian, the librarian, stated that Alhambra High School students read poetry and there was a guitarist, John Blasquez, who played right before dinner. There was also a descendent of the Donner Party who attended the event. The next day was children's activities where David Schwartz spoke.

Chari Langley said that the Gazette Art Contest hung the art from the children in the grids at the Gallery and kids, parents and even teachers attended. One picture from a child was actually sold during this time.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Commissioner Van Loan, seconded by Commissioner Pallotta, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Karen Jennings
Minutes Clerk