

CITY OF MARTINEZ
ARTS AND LIBRARY COMMISSION

October 8, 2008

APPROVED DECEMBER 10, 2008

A regular meeting of the Arts and Library Commission was called to order by Chair Dorrie Langley at 7:10 p.m. on October 8, 2008, in Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, California 94553.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Dorrie Langley

Commissioners Marta Van Loan, Michael Gandy Carol Wiley and Donald Pallotta

Absent: Commissioner Karen Bell-Patten

Staff: Joann Tool, Deputy Community and Economic Development Director -
Recreation, Community Services & Marina

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 13, 2008

No changes.

Commissioner Pallotta moved the motion to approve the minutes of August 13, 2008, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Van Loan. The motion was approved by the following vote: All Ayes

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Sandy Sherwood and Roberta Steel of the Martinez Arts Association were present to speak on behalf of a grant request they are looking to obtain from the Art and Library Commission. Ms. Sherwood spoke on the Holiday Art Show they are looking to hold during the month of December called, "Shoes, Stepping Into the New Year". She indicated that the grant would be used mainly for advertising costs and these are quite costly.

The Commission asked questions of Ms. Sherwood regarding the show and her request and explained to her that a grant request application needs to be submitted at least two weeks prior to a regular scheduled meeting in order to be placed on the agenda in order to provide discussion and recommendations. Ms. Sherwood said she will have this completed and submitted prior to the December regular meeting.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

None

V. OLD BUSINESS

a. Library Issues

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

Commissioner Van Loan said the library backyard garden is now up and running and is open the same hours of library business hours. Maintenance Supervisor, Bob Cellini, and Public Works crew has mounted the metal sculptures donated by Paul Craig and you are able to see these from a distance when walking down Ward Street.

Commissioner Van Loan said the bricks continue to be added and at this time there are 10 on order. This will be an ongoing thing.

She said there is a new Teen Librarian who is inputting a lot of new ideas to the library which included programs for teens for "How to Get Into College" and "About SAT's". The library programs have also been getting attention in the Gazette.

Commissioner Van Loan spoke on the hard work that has been put into the bond, Measure H, and spoke on the flyers that were being circulated as well as the signs around the city.

Chair Langley said that there will be four classrooms doing field trips in the month of October to the library which will also include trips to the Gallery. There will be events such as homemade bookmarks, water coloring and clay pottery making for these field trips.

Commissioner Pallotta reminded everyone about project READ and that they are seeking volunteers for this event. At the end of the event, each child that participated is presented with a book that is signed by the volunteer. You may contact Ann Fink if you are interested in this fulfilling event.

Chair Langley asked about the empty walls at the library that used to display children's art and wanted to discuss what could be put there. Commissioner Van Loan said that during the holidays these walls would include art made by children such as turkeys during Thanksgiving and red and green art during December.

b. Community Art Plan

Ongoing discussion of a possible Art's plan for the community

Nothing new to report on this item at this time, but would like to bring this up more after the election.

VIII. COMMISSIONERS' MATTERS

Chair Langley asked about the status of the combined commissions and Ms. Tool said that nothing has been heard regarding this issue yet, but that the Mayor does have the new ordinance. She is unsure of status and due to the fact that we have a new City Manager, we don't know the direction of this yet.

Chair Langley asked about the Old Train Depot and the possibility of the gallery moving into it along with the Historical Society.

Ms. Tool explained that everyone agrees that this would be a good idea, but does not know when the Train Depot will be renovated. The art would be in the lobby portion only. However, a letter a intent is required by both the Martinez Arts Association and the Historical Society outlining that they would like to use the Depot for, what they are going to do (paint, clean, etc.) and the fact they are in agreement with each party and their use.

The Commission spoke on the \$1.2 million transportation monies that were once believed they were going to be able to use for the renovation of the Train Depot. Ms. Tool explained that this will not be the case and they are currently working with the City of Hercules to exchange the

\$1.2 transportation funds for \$800K that would not be earmarked to a specific department so they can put these monies towards cleaning up the Train Depot for use.

Commissioner Van Loan thought that once the New Year arrives, the Commission should put together a list of items they would like to facilitate and accomplish during the year of 2009.

The Commission spoke on the donations cans that are around town for The Rotary regarding sending volunteers to the alternative school and asking for donations for art supplies. It was discussed if the Commission can make a donation without one begin requested by the organization. Chair Langley asked that this item be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Hearst Art Gallery

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Wiley announced that Arts Alive in Walnut Creek holds a meeting every month and the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 14, 2008.

Chair Langley announced the variety reception parties that are upcoming at the Gallery:

October 17, 2008 - Artist Members of Martinez Arts Association

November 21, 2008 - Show ~~Jay~~ Joy

December 12 or 19, 2008 - First Nights, "Shoes, Stepping into the New Year"

Commissioner Pallotta said that Shell and Martinez Education raised \$44K which will be used for grants for the local schools.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Langley adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Karen Jennings
Minutes Clerk