

RICHMOND ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION MEETING NOTES

Thursday, February 25, 2016
Richmond Conference Room
450 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond

In attendance: Jenny Balisle, Amahra Hicks, Silvia Ledezma, Maryann Maslan, Denise Chandhoke, Kit Pappenheimer, Brenda Williams, Ben Steinberg, and Rosalie Barnes

Guest: Jiajun Lu (JJ)

Staff: Michele Seville, Staff; and Katy Curl, Director of Library & Cultural Svcs.

- I. Welcome/Call to Order at 7:02 by Silvia Ledezma
 - a. Action: Approve Agenda
 - i. Added new agenda item: Jiajun Lu: Art teacher in Richmond asking for support and partnership with RACC regarding an application for a grant from the Creative Work Fund
 - ii. presentation by JJ; moved and approved by Jenny Balisle and Amahra Hicks
- II. Action: Approve past minutes
 - i. moved and approved by Brenda Williams and Maryann Maslan
- III. Action: Discussion and Final Confirmation of Allocation of Neighborhood Public Art (NPA) Grants (All):
 - i. To date twelve NPA grants (totaling \$54,500) have been moved forward with funds from the General Fund. leaving \$10,500 for the Little Free Libraries (\$5,000); and Rich City Rides Video (\$3,000). This leaves \$2,500 to apply to one of the remaining grants that are on hold until the CDBG funds come in.
 - ii. CDBG grant funds in the amount of \$19,000 were cut to \$7,500; these funds have not yet been received.
 - iii. Options for making up for the shortfall were discussed. Staff will either be seeking additional grant funds to bridge the gap, or will carry the remaining grant projects forward to next fiscal year.
 - iv. *Assemblies in Schools* is requesting to be held over to till next year. This is a time-sensitive project that must take place between September and June.

- v. Rosalie and Ben moved and seconded recommendations from Curl and Seville.
- IV. Commissioner Updates & Discussion of NPA Grants
- i. Proposal to have NPA project notes and updates in the week before the RACC meeting so that we can spend time at the meeting in discussion instead of reading our notes out loud. Staff now has help doing meeting preparation, and is requiring commissioners to get info to her 72 hours before the meeting.
- V. Update of Richmond Writes! Poetry Contest (Williams/Staff)
- i. 255 poems (down from last year because a limit of two entries per student was enforced this year.) Lots of ideas about how to include more student poetry next year (libraries, Boys and Girls Club, Writers/Coach Connection...)
- VI. Update of Sisters in Solidarity Event (All)
- i. Everyone is invited to this event, which will be from 10 am – 2 pm on March 5th in the Richmond Auditorium
- VII. Staff Report (Seville)
- i. Percent for Art debate discussed; Richmond is holding off presenting this to City Council pending the outcome of a lawsuit against the City of Oakland on its Percent for Art in Private Development ordinance.
 - ii. Ford Point public art project is on hold pending BCDC permits
- VIII. Announcements
- April 7th, 4-6 pm Richmond Main Street Art in Windows
 - March 23rd, 6:30 Whittlesey Room at Library: Presentation about Cuba by Michele Seville (art, music and dance) & Doria Robinson (sustainable agriculture)
 - Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin wants RACC to do a presentation to Council on our activities. Committee formed to work on presentation.
- IX. Adjourned at 8:25 pm

Next meeting on April 28, 2016