

Richmond Arts & Culture Commission

Meeting Minutes

450 Civic Center Plaza

Richmond

Richmond Conference Room

Thursday, February 22, 2018

In attendance: Silvia Ledezma, Rosalie Fay Barnes, Nava Mizrahi, Fletcher Oakes, Antonio Tomayo, Florene Wiley, and Brenda Williams

Absent: Jenny Balisle and Ben Steinberg

Staff: Michele Seville, Arts & Culture Manager
Katy Curl, Director, Library & Cultural Services

Guests: Melissa Kirk, Ayesha Walker, Cordell Hindler, Councilmember Ben Choi, RACC Liaison to City Council

I. Welcome/Call to Order 7:05

Vice Chair Ledezma called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. New appointees were welcomed and the newcomers introduced themselves to the group.

II. Approve Agenda

Motion by Brenda Williams, second by Fletcher Oakes, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda, as submitted.

III. Approve Minutes for January 25, 2018 7:09

The minutes were not available although the meeting had been recorded and a minute taker was being pursued to transcribe the meeting.

IV. Presentation re City Proclamation (Eve Ma)

Moved to Item V pending the arrival of Eve Ma.

V. Presentation re Creative Work Fund Proposal (Kurt Wold)

Moved to Item VI given that Kurt Wold was not available at this time.

VI. Presentation re BE-IMAGINATIVE (Ayesha Walker & BJ McBride) 7:10

Ayesha Walker reported that she worked with a collection of artists, healers, activists, and teachers who were dedicated to healing black and brown communities through healing retreats and creative storytelling. She explained that the narratives were documented through different art medium and the artwork was shared out of the retreat. She presented some video footage from a recent retreat and reported that another retreat was scheduled next month with a “disrupt helplessness” art show tentatively scheduled for May 18. She sought support to publicize the event and find a location for the art show.

The RACC liked the collaborative aspect of the program and potential locations were recommended.

Ben Choi, the Commission representative to the City Council, was welcomed to the RACC.

The RACC moved back to Item IV at this time.

IV. Presentation re City Proclamation (Eve Ma) 7:32

Eve Ma requested that the RACC recommend to the City Council the issuance of a proclamation in recognition of John Wehrle, a muralist and painter who lives in Richmond, for his artistic contributions to the city. She pointed out the many murals in Richmond that he has painted.

Ms. Seville asked for points to include in a proclamation that she would draft.

Mr. Wehrle was not present at this time and the RACC moved back to Item V.

V. Presentation re Creative Work Fund Proposal (Kurt Wold) 7:39

Kurt Wold, a visual artist who has worked in the bicycle media for the last few years, expressed an interest in presenting his artwork with sound and large, bicycle-amplified instruments in an hour and a half performance. He displayed some of his ten works and their locations that had been documented by video, to be played in the background of performers who would be playing bicycle instruments. He was interested in the possibility of using the Bermuda Room and wanted to apply for a Creative Work Fund grant and needed a non-profit partner (possibly RACC) to be able to get the grant.

VII. Changes to RACC Executive Committee Titles, Number of Commissioners, and Officer Duties (Williams) 7:59

Brenda Williams referred to the RACC Officer Role and Responsibilities document in the agenda packet and noted the Nominations Committee, a committee of three, was looking for officers to fill the vacant spots on the RACC. She asked the RACC to consider going back to the Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary format as opposed to the old format that was being used with two co-chairs. If approved, the election would be

next month.

Ms. Williams asked the Board to look at the role and responsibility for each position; Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary.

Given the number of new members, Nava Mizrahi suggested it would be important that the members who had been with the RACC the longest should serve in those positions. The discussion spoke to the difficulty of finding someone to prepare the minutes of the meetings, particularly to do that and still participate in the meeting. It was also noted that the recording would be the official record and the minutes themselves need only provide a brief summary. The options available to the RACC were highlighted.

VIII. Vote on New Executive Committee Titles & Number of Commissioners on RACC

Motion by Nava Mizrahi, second by Florene Wiley and carried unanimously to adopt the concept of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary.

On the discussion of the number of Commissioners for the RACC, and the information that according to the ordinance there were to be 11 Arts & Culture Commissioners although there were currently only nine, Ms. Seville supported keeping the membership at 11 until it didn't work. At this point, the audio ended and there was no further recording for the remainder of the meeting.

- IX. Chairing Table @ 1) Sisters in Solidarity Event and 2) Co-sponsoring Film Event "She" (Williams/All)
- X. Staff Report (Seville)
- XI. PAAC Report (Balisle)
- XII. Comment Period
- XIII. Announcements
- XIV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at P.M.