

**Richmond Arts & Culture Commission**

**Meeting Minutes**

450 Civic Center Plaza

Richmond

Richmond Conference Room

**Thursday, April 26, 2018**

**In attendance:** Jenny Balisle, Rosalie Fay Barnes, Silvia Ledezma, Nava Mizrahi, Fletcher Oakes, Antonio Tomayo, and Florene Wiley

**Absent:** Melissa Kirk and Ben Steinberg

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

**Guests:** Tom Herriman (Public Art Advisory Committee), and Kyle Schmolze (GroupMuze)

**I. Welcome/Call to Order**

Chair Balisle called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

**II. Approve Agenda 7:02**

Motion by Oakes, second by Barnes, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda, as amended, to split the announcements for guests and Commissioners.

**III. Approve Minutes for March 22, 2018 7:03**

Motion by Barnes, second by Mizrahi, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2018 meeting, as amended to include Mizrahi's name on Page 2, Item 9 as one of those present at Sisters in Solidarity.

**IV. Split Announcements 7:03**

Tom Herriman spoke to Groupmuse, an on-line community designed event to bring musicians and music lovers together.

Kyle Schmolze, one of the founders of GroupMuze, described the mission for long-term sustainable community building through the power of the classic musical art form. He wanted to work with the RACC to help gather the Richmond community together.

Given that it was not agendaized, the item could not be discussed at this time but could be agendaized for another meeting.

#### V. Discuss Social Media Committee Guidelines & Vote 7:14

Tomayo stated that he, Balisle, and Kirk had served as the RACC Social Media Committee with a mission to connect and engage with the various communities in Richmond with a number of goals, as shown in the report in the agenda packet, which he highlighted and which included a policy overview, basic user guidelines process and posts, and a social media commissioner removal process.

The RACC offered the following recommendations: Concern expressed for No. 2 under Basic User Guidelines where commissioners shall not use RACC social media platforms to promote organizations in which they are directly involved, and requested a clarification; change the word "overseer" to *supervisor* throughout; instead of a staff member making a final decision on a removal of a Social Media Commissioner, the Social Media Committee shall make a recommendation to the RACC, which would make the final determination; asked for City Attorney and IT Director review of the document; each section to be marked by Roman numerals for easier reference; and the document to return to the Commission with edits, as recommended.

#### VI. Discuss RACC Agenda Reporting Guidelines & Vote

After a presentation by Barnes, the RACC discussed simple guidelines and a timeline for getting items on the agenda for any upcoming meeting.

RACC meetings are held the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month. The agenda is posted on the Friday of the week before the meeting. Agenda items must be submitted to the Arts & Culture Manager by the Monday before posting. The agenda will be shared with the Chair by the Arts & Culture Manager the Tuesday before posting; any adjustments will be made and a final version will be agreed upon. Barnes will make edits to the Agenda Reporting Guidelines in preparation for a RACC vote in May.

#### VII. Staff Report

Michele Seville (Staff) presented the April 2018 staff report.

#### VIII. Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) Report

Chair Balisle reported that last week former PAAC members Sibley and Holz and current PAAC member Kalin had met to review policies and procedures, budgets, loans and gifts, and the public arts board change ordinance, and expected to meet in mid-May to go over the details and complete the work over the next six months.

#### IX. NPA Project Review 8:19

Tomayo identified the progress with Hector Ortiz' *In the Shadows*, and noted that Hector was reaching out to places where there was an amphitheater to be able to film a scene. He reported that he had seen the rough draft of the script, the funding was available,

almost all the equipment was ready, and there was a good timeline.

Staff and Barnes reported on *A Ripple of Love* from Ross Holzman, who had asked to use the parking lot side of the Richmond Art Center for a mosaic, which had been put to city staff and the Planning Department to get their feedback. Mr. Holzman had to either find another site or get approval for that site, which has been approved by the Art Center but not the Planning Department.

Wiley reported that the *Debunking Stereotypes* Mural by Cristian Munoz was moving along, she was encouraged by what they were doing, and the owner of the wall would be provided a sketch which had been requested prior to approval. She requested a press release to better involve the community.

The Chair and Mizrahi offered an update to *Painting Richmond's Wounds* (Richmond Museum of History) and described the proposal which was dealing with gun violence and trauma in the community.

Ledezma spoke to *Assemblies in the Schools* (Los Cenzontles). She explained that Los Cenzontles was an award winning group, and assemblies would begin May 1 at four schools. She would attend two of the four performances, photograph them and seek responses from the schools and teachers.

Staff explained that the *Rancho Market Mural* (Richard Muro) had a paint day on Saturday and Sunday and the market was being completely transformed by the mural; the painters were accompanied by food and music. The mural was expected to be finished by next weekend.

#### X. Comment Period 8:31

Wiley presented the Richmond Arts Connection, a once-a-month gathering of artists working in, living in, and presenting in Richmond; identified the venues under consideration; and sought a first launch on October 1; an opportunity to push arts and economic development for the city and to bring the community together.

The proposal was well received by the RACC.

#### XI. Announcements 8:44

An event at Winehaven last weekend was described with the notation that with a resolution of litigation the Winehaven site would be renovated, with public talks about how to utilize the space; 70 percent to be retained for public open space and the existing housing would be renovated, to include additional building.

Ledezma described a recent student art show she had been invited to at Clayton Valley High School in Concord.

Given that April is National Poetry Month, the meeting ended with a poem written by Staff.

XII. Adjournment 8:51

The meeting adjourned at 8:51 P.M.

Next meeting scheduled for May 24, 2018