

**Richmond Arts & Culture Commission**  
Special Meeting Minutes  
450 Civic Center Plaza  
Richmond Conference Room  
Richmond

**Thursday, December 20, 2018**

In attendance: Rosalie Fay Barnes, Silvia Ledezma, Nava Mizrahi, Ben Steinberg, Antonio Tamayo, and Florene Wiley

Absent: Jenny Balisle, Melissa Kirk, and Steven Robinson

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

Guests: Joshua Horne, and Steve Heminger

I. Welcome/Call to Order/Roll Call

Vice Chair Barnes called the special meeting to order at 7:08 P.M.

II. Approve Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Mizrahi, second by Commissioner Steinberg and carried unanimously to approve the agenda, as submitted.

III. Approve Minutes from August 23, September 27, October 4, October 11, and October 25, 2018 Meetings

Commissioner Ledezma requested an amendment to the September 27, 2018 minutes to correct the spelling of her name, *Silvia*.

Motion by Commissioner Mizrahi, second by Commissioner Ledezma to approve the minutes of the August 23, October 4, October 11, and October 25, 2018 meetings, as submitted, and the September 27, 2018 meeting, as amended, carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Barnes, Ledezma, Mizrahi, Steinberg, and Tamayo

Noes: None

Abstain: Wiley

Absent: Balisle, Kirk, and Robinson

IV. Public Comment

JOSHUA HORNE reported that he had applied to fill one of the vacant seats on the RACC. He described his background in art and reiterated his interest.

STEVE HEMINGER also expressed an interest in one of the two vacant positions on the RACC and described his background in art.

V. Discuss Pros and Cons of New Neighborhood Public Art (NPA) Scoring Methods

Vice Chair Barnes explained that the RACC had spent a great deal of time revising the NPA process and described the process that had been implemented this year.

Members of the RACC expressed support for the changes where the defined process was smoother and allowed an easier consensus, although there were questions related to the criteria where the highest and lowest rank was eliminated, where few muralists had been funded this year, and where there had been an increasing number of applicants for the very limited funds available. While the grants this year had been funded to a diverse group of artists, the RACC discussed the desirability of reconsidering the highest and lowest ranks, identifying categories to award and promote diverse performances, and there was consensus to consider Richmond-based applicants only due to limited funds.

Commissioner Ledezma recommended an emphasis on the fact that applicants who did not attend the workshop would not be eligible to participate in the process, and presentations should not be accepted from those applicants.

Michele Seville also recommended that the RACC consider: reviewing the proposals prior to the presentations to ensure that all mandated information had been provided to ensure eligibility; whether the RACC wanted to consider a limit of funding to the same entity year after year; whether a non-profit organization receiving funding from the city in another capacity should be allowed to apply for an NPA grant; and whether the language on the scoring sheet should be improved. She added that she would create a document that provided deadlines for each milestone.

The RACC also recommended that the design of the score card be modified for ease in scoring; some of the questions did not apply to all projects, such as the fourth bullet on No. 1, and a review of each section was recommended to consider relevancy; goals and scoring criteria should balance each other; there should be no budget amount referenced and that applicants be encouraged to look to other sources for funding; and a suggestion that the NPA funds should be provided without limiting what the funding could be used for, such as equipment, although there was another suggestion to cap the funding on equipment. It was also recommended that there be a mandatory attendance of RACC members at NPA presentations.

VI. Review NPA Mini-Grants and Confirm RACC Project Liaisons

NPA Projects

Antu Antinao  
Christy Chan  
Amanda Elliott  
Ciera Gordon  
Shantina Jackson  
Alfonso Leon  
Tracey Mitchell  
Tania Pulido  
Anna Scaiano  
Tamara Shiloh

Liaison

New Member  
Silvia Ledezma  
Steven Robinson  
New Member  
Antonio Tamayo  
Jenny Balisle  
Rosalie Fay Barnes  
Melissa Kirk  
Nava Mizrahi  
Florene Wiley

Motion by Commissioner Ledezma, second by Commissioner Mizrahi and carried unanimously to confirm the RACC Project Liaisons for the 2018 NPA Mini-Grants.

VII. NPA Mini-Grants Spreadsheet

Vice Chair Barnes reported that the spreadsheet would provide data on prior NPA grants in terms of a common tracking system, including links to media. It was recommended that the spreadsheet include whether or not the project had been completed.

The NPA Mini-Grants spreadsheet would return at a future meeting.

VIII. Social Media Committee Update

Commissioner Tamayo reported that the YouTube space was up and YouTube links could be shared; social media goals would be set up for next year; and a calendar of events had been proposed to make it easy for everyone to share events.

Vice Chair Barnes recommended consideration of a goal that the focus on social media be about celebrating the artists and the grant work being funded with better documentation of each project funded and produced, and how the social media group might connect and conduct outreach with the artists. She recommended a calendar of all the activities the RACC promoted and of all the artists that the RACC funded with significant milestones and activities.

Commissioner Tamayo recommended a weekly reminder to NPA recipients that when the NPA grant projects started recipients would provide pictures and updates so that fresh content could be provided for the site.

IX. Richmond Arts Salon Update

Commissioner Wiley reported that the December Arts Salon had not occurred and the next event had been scheduled for February, to be hosted by the Richmond Art Center in collaboration with the Art of Living Exhibit. Given a number of difficulties in putting on the event, the RACC would be asked to consider a quarterly schedule as opposed to a monthly schedule, and at some point ultimately return to monthly events. She encouraged Commissioners to attend the Richmond Arts Salon given that it was a RACC event.

Vice Chair Barnes recommended that the Salons support and embrace the funded artists and create micro events to support them and focus on their work.

X. Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) Report

Ms. Seville referred to the PAAC minutes from the last meeting. RACC members confirmed that artists could be added to the Artists Roster. The RACC requested that it be provided with the PAAC's artists' invitation language.

XI. Report on 2018 NPA Exhibition Subcommittee

Ms. Seville explained that Commissioners Tamayo and Ledezma had been going through all the photographs for each 2018 NPA project and had selected a number of photos from each for the exhibition. She was waiting for approval from the City Manager's office to have the exhibition in the lobby, which had been done the last few years, usually in January or February and would be displayed for about three months.

Vice Chair Barnes suggested a link to images in the NPA spreadsheet.

XII. Discuss RACC Presentations to City Council on 2018 and 2019 NPA Projects and Assign Subcommittee

Ms. Seville advised that the RACC would be allowed about ten minutes to make a PowerPoint presentation to the City Council, which would offer a great opportunity to let the City Council know what the RACC did.

Motion by Commissioner Wiley, second by Commissioner Mizrahi and carried unanimously to assign a subcommittee comprised of Commissioners Tamayo and Barnes to make the presentation to the City Council on the 2018 and 2019 NPA Projects, with help from Commissioner Ledezma for the images.

Joshua Horne commented that City Council meetings were recorded and televised.

### XIII. Staff Report

Ms. Seville highlighted her staff report with updates for the Port Sculpture at Pt. Sheridan, Richmond Arts Salon, the Richmond Plunge Swimming Pool, Officer Bradley A. Moody Underpass, Community Conversations Grant, Neighborhood Public Art Mini-Grants, Richmond Writes! 2019, RACC Social Media Committee, Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Percent for Art Allocations, and Private Development Public Art Allocations.

### XIV. Announcements

Commissioner Mizrahi requested an agenda item to discuss whether the RACC wanted to have a table and be a community partner with Sisters in Solidarity.

Commissioner Wiley requested a future agenda item to consider changing the name of the Neighborhood Public Art Grants, to *Neighborhood Art Grants*.

Commissioner Tamayo announced a fashion show at Bridge on January 26, 2019 presented by R&R coffee, pairing models, brands, and designers.

Ms. Seville announced for Cordell Hindler that the Contra Costa Civic Theater, musical *All is Calm, Christmas Truce of 1914* would be playing from December 14 to December 22, 2018.

Vice Chair Barnes encouraged members to visit the new interactive metal art sculpture at Pt. San Pablo Harbor, which would be displayed for a year.

### XV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 P.M. to the next meeting on January 24, 2019.