



## City of El Segundo Arts and Culture Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes  
for May 25, 2020 5:30 p.m.  
Zoom

Land Acknowledgement: We acknowledge that we are holding this meeting on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Tongva. We recognize the Tongva people as the traditional land caretakers of Tovaangar (Los Angeles basin, So. Channel Islands). We also acknowledge that Los Angeles County is home to the largest Indigenous populations in the U.S.

### A. CALL TO ORDER

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Vice Chairperson Natalie Strong.

### B. ROLL CALL

1. Members present: Jeff Cason, Maureen Kingsley, Mark Knight, Michael Kreski, Brian Mitchell, Vice Chairperson Natalie Strong, Eva Sweeney
2. City Council Liaisons present:  
  
Councilmember Lance Giroux – not present  
Councilmember Scot Nicol – not present
3. City Staff Liaisons present: Community Services Director Melissa McCollum, Senior Librarian Julie Todd, and Sam Lee, Cultural Arts Coordinator.

### C. PRESENTATIONS

1. Introduction of Cultural Arts Coordinator Sam Lee.

Julie Todd introduced Sam Lee to the ACC. Sam briefly shared his professional experience with the ACC.

2. Kevin Barry Art Advisory (KBAA) and Beyond Meat (BM) share a public art concept for 888 North Douglas Street in El Segundo.

Eva Vieyra Osmand and Ken Kuller from Kevin Barry Art Advisory were present. Eva presented two concepts that Beyond Meat would like to propose for its campus: *Abundance*, a four-piece sculpture, representing an abstraction of the four eco-regions of our state. Joseph Chambers is a LA-based artist who KBAA is considering for the fabrication of the art. *Human Impact* is the 2<sup>nd</sup> concept, which is a freestanding, participatory art piece that would require the public to engage with the 4<sup>th</sup> part of this artwork. KBAA is considering James Ferrin, another LA-based artist, to fabricate this work. Ken Kuller interjected by stating that the site

where *Human Impact* is proposed to be placed will be hiding the unsightly pipes coming out of the ground. This would be a way to conceal those pipes.

Sam Lee pointed out the safety issues concerning the two sculptures and asked if the artists were already selected.

Maureen Kingsley asked if KBAA was proposing these two installations as a pair. Eva Vieyra Osmand responded that her understanding is that KBAA is considering them as a pair and that is what they are hoping to propose. Ken added that these are two viable locations for public art by the City.

Jim Carr asked about using the side street on the east side of the campus, Hornet Way and if it is possible to also provide art on the back of the building as well. Julie responded that Hornet Way is not a thoroughfare and is hidden from the public view, so it is not an ideal location for the project.

Jeff Cason asked about the accessibility, nighttime lighting, and maintenance of the artwork. Ken responded that the pieces are no more than 15 feet from Douglas Street. Eva and Ken will get back to the ACC about any parking restrictions on that street and if there is a sidewalk there. Ken responded that Hackman Capital Partners will be maintaining any artwork that is installed in perpetuity. If they sell the property, the artwork stays, and the new property owner will then be responsible for the maintenance of the art.

Maureen Kingsley asked about *Human Impact* and whether mirrors are used because it could be a reflective issue for people driving by. Eva Vieyra Osmand mentioned that she misspoke and that the rotating block consists of three sides—a triangle. The viewer is the fourth component to the artwork.

Eva Sweeney thanked Beyond Meat for hiring a professional art advisory company to develop public art that is beautiful and educational and hoped that other corporations will follow Beyond Meat's lead. Once the pieces are installed, it would be wonderful to create a barcode that can be linked back to the ACC's webpage; this can help us in creating a nice catalog about all these artworks.

Brian Mitchell circled back to Jeff's question about accessibility. Ken added that having the interactive element is one direction the concept can go in; the image may be stationary, but as viewers drive by, the effect would be that the image appears to be changing. That offers another interesting way of engaging with the artwork. The building is set at least 100 ft. back from the sidewalk, so viewers see the artwork and then a parking lot. The parking lot will be gate-guarded and card accessible only.

Natalie Strong added that the two installations contrast each other because it is viewable and the other is interactive. It is nice that visitors to the campus can touch and engage with the interactive piece.

Sam asked about the longevity of the artworks and whether the surfaces will have a UV coating or anti-graffiti layer. Eva Vieyra Osmand mentioned that these issues will be discussed with the fabricators.

No actions were needed at this time.

#### **D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS - NONE**

#### **E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES for April 27, 2021**

1. Approval of minutes of the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee Regular Meeting of April 2021.

A verbal vote was taken by Julie Todd.

MOTIONED by Michael Kreski and SECONDED by Maureen Kingsley to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2021. Motion CARRIED 7-0.

#### **F. SPECIAL BUSINESS - NONE**

#### **G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - NONE**

#### **H. NEW BUSINESS**

1. NOW Art LA's Chelsea Herman presents Anthony Howe's *Corona* kinetic sculpture as a possible donation to the City of El Segundo.  
(Chelsea Herman of NOW Art LA and Chairperson Neal Von Flue/30 minutes)

NOW Art LA's Carmen Zella, principal, and Chelsea Herman, senior project manager, were present to discuss the potential donation of *Corona* (2014), a large-scale, stainless steel, kinetic sculpture by Anthony Howe, to the city of El Segundo.

Carmen stated that *Corona* is currently owned by Lincoln Property Company, a commercial developer/real estate company in El Segundo. Anthony Howe is an American kinetic sculptor who uses computer-aided design and a plasma cutter to create his wind-activated sculptures. He uses traditional metalworking techniques, creating the work himself and without any assistants. *Corona* is representative of Howe's signature style, in which it depicts a floral pattern blossoming. Howe currently lives and works on Orca Island, Washington. *Corona* is 184" height, 90" wide, 80" in depth. The proposed location for reinstall is El Segundo Civic Center with an estimated timeline between 14 to 22 weeks, if accepted. *Corona* in need of some restoration due to rust. The budget for the complete reinstallation (including project management, plaque, documentation, permits, restoration, maintenance manual/plan, transportation, installation, engineering, and legalities) is \$47,500.

Michael Kreski noted that the City is in the process of evaluating the current location of the civic center.

Sam Lee asked about the current condition of the artwork and the line item costs. Carmen mentioned that she will send a follow up of the line item costs and PDF of the proposal to Julie.

Eva Sweeney asked about the continuous maintenance and any deaccession clauses. She also asked about the possibility of working with another corporation to donate land or share the cost of maintenance. Eva was concerned with the maintenance costs. She suggested contacting Raytheon for possible collaboration.

Natalie Strong asked about the budget for the ongoing maintenance.

Jeff Cason asked if the ACC would be able to see line item costs and be involved with the understanding the restoration process such as surface coatings. He also asked about the possibility of discussing a name change of the artwork with the artist based on current health situation. Jeff is open for the ACC to spend a nominal fee to investigate the ongoing maintenance cost. Brian Mitchell concurred. Eva Sweeney would be willing to invest a little bit of money to figure out the cost.

Melissa McCollum reminded the ACC that this presentation was to gauge the interest of the ACC in the potential donation. If so, then City staff would do further research and work with a consultant in defining final costs and completion of the donation. She also suggested that Sam and Julie reach out to other entities that currently have sculptures by Howe and to see what issues they have encountered with maintenance or conditions. Melissa confirmed that ACC will be responsible for maintenance costs of all public arts owned by the city.

Sam Lee brought up the issue of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and how this donation would fit within the city's recent development of DEI Committee. Maureen Kingsley did not see this to be an issue. Jeff raised questions about the background of the artist. Natalie Strong suggested that the ACC should reach out to the DEI Committee for feedback.

Michael Kreski mentioned that it is a beautiful piece of art and that is the only criteria to judge it.

Eva Sweeney mentioned that it is always good to include the DEI Committee and important to get as much information as possible before making the final decision. She made a motion to ask City staff to further research the maintenance and installation costs and for the individual ACC member to get touch in with DEI Committee and get their feedback about the potential donation. Brian seconded the motion.

A verbal vote was taken by Julie Todd.

MOTIONED by Eva Sweeney and SECONDED by Brian Mitchell to have City staff further research maintenance and installation costs, and have a member of the ACC reach out to the DEI committee for their feedback about the potential donation. Motion CARRIED 7-0.

## **I. GOVERNANCE**

Julie Todd had a brief email with Mishia Jennings to conduct the ACC interviews in June. There are over 20 applications. Kristen Dorsey gave notice and will not be able to continue until someone replaces her.

Sam Lee expressed his appreciation for the ACC and hopes to help facilitate the vision of the ACC.

## **J. ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Natalie Strong – Thank you to all for everyone’s attendance. She congratulated Mark Knight on his documentary.

Jeff Cason – Welcomed Sam. He was excited to see presentations of public artworks.

Maureen Kingsley – Congratulated Mark on his documentary *Black in Mayberry*. She welcomed Sam to El Segundo.

Mark Knight – Thanked Natalie, Maureen and everyone who participated in the *Black in Mayberry* premiere. He welcomed Sam and is excited to see projects move forward.

Michael Kreski – Presented a brief presentation of *Desert X*, a biennial of artworks in Palm Springs and Palm Desert. Michael will show Graham Clark’s work during the next meeting.

Brian Mitchell – Congratulated Mark Knight on his documentary.

Eva Sweeney – Eva welcomed Sam. Thanks to Mark Knight for his documentary. Eva suggested a temporary installation like *Desert X* in El Segundo. She announced Crystal Chang’s new installation at ESMoA. Thanks to everyone.

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS – NONE

Councilmember Lance Giroux – not present

Councilmember Scot Nicol – not present

## **K. CITY LIAISON UPDATES**

Julie Todd shared with the ACC that the Art-o-Mat vending machine has arrived and is now installed in the library. The machine accommodates 22 artists and their name cards show a sample of their style. The purchase is \$5 per original artwork. The idea behind the Art-o-Mat is to make art accessible to everyone. Julie also mentioned eventually including art by local artists in the machine.

**L. ADJOURNMENT** – Meeting adjourned at 7:07PM.

NEXT MEETING: on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 5:30 p.m., held virtually on Zoom.

Posted by: Julie Todd

Date & Time: