



MEETING OF THE VISUAL ARTS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, August 17, 2022

3 p.m.

Remote meeting via video and teleconferencing

DRAFT Minutes

Commissioner Ferras called the meeting to order at 3:02pm.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Changes, Land Acknowledgment

Commissioners Present:

Suzie Ferras, Chair

JD Beltran (joined at 3:40pm)

Mahsa Hakimi (joined at 3:04pm)

Yiying Lu

Nabiel Musleh

Abby Sadin Schnair

Commissioner Ferras announced that item 13, 49 South Van Ness Video Wall was tabled and that due to the length of the agenda that public comment would be limited to two minutes.

2. General Public Comment

(0:07:33)

There was no public comment.

3. Consent Calendar

(0:08:45)

1. Motion to approve *Robin Williams*, a mural design by Andrés Igelsias. The mural will be installed at 1105 Market St. in District 6.

The mural measures approximately 10 ft. by 50 ft. The project is funded by a Community Challenge Grant and the Mid-Market Community Benefit District. The artwork will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.

2. Motion to approve *Saltwater Fishtank*, a mural design by Mike Ritch. The murals will be installed on two utility boxes on the southwest corner of Ocean Ave and Junipero Serra in District 7. The murals measure approximately 4 ft. by 2 ft. by 6 ft. and 1 ft. by 1 ft. 4.5 ft, respectively. The project is funded by Participatory Budget Funding, held as a grant with the Arts Commission. The artwork will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.

3. Motion to approve Design Development Phase deliverables (revised Final Design) by FutureForms for the Potrero Gateway Project.

4. Motion to approve *SF City Clinic Mural Project*, a mural design by Elaine Chu and Safi Kolozsvari. The mural will be installed on the San Francisco City Clinic at 356 7th St. in District 6. The mural measure approximately 47 ft. by 49 ft. The project is privately funded. The artwork will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.

Commissioner Ferras asked for any commissioner recusals. She stated that she knows the artist Safi Kolozsvari and has worked with her in the past but currently has no financial ties to her as an artist.

There was no public comment.

Motion: Motion to approve consent calendar.

Moved: Schnair/Musleh

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ferras, Hakimi, Lu, Musleh, Schnair

4. SFAC Galleries

(0:11:25)

Manager of Education and Public Programs, Maysoun Wazwaz, presented the SFAC Galleries upcoming Winter 2022 Main Gallery exhibition. The exhibition, currently untitled, is a partnership between SFAC Galleries and LOOP Alternative Space in Seoul, South Korea. The exhibition explores climate change and sustainability, touching on ancestral connections to places in flux, and alternative models of local agriculture. The exhibition expands on LOOP's yearlong programming around climate change and includes artists from the Bay Area and South Korea. Ms. Wazwaz gave a brief introduction to each artist and shared images of their past work. Bay Area artists in the exhibition are Heesoo Kwon, Cristine Blanco, Sun Park, Binta Ayofemi, and Emma Logan. South Korean artists in the exhibition are Eunbi Kwon, Jong-Heon Bae, Da-seul Lee, Nagyoungi & Gregory Maass, and Go-Eun Im.

The commissioners were excited by the collection of artists included in this exhibition and the idea of working with artists in other countries.

There was no public comment.

Motion: for the Director of Cultural Affairs to approve artist honorarium for the following artists to develop artwork for the SFAC Main Gallery exhibition, title to be determined (December 9, 2022-February 11, 2023): Binta Ayofemi, \$4,000; Cristine Blanco, \$5,000; Heesoo Kwon, \$3,800; Emma Logan, \$3,500; and Sun Park, \$3,500.

Moved: Schnair/Musleh

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:
Ayes: Ferras, Hakimi, Lu, Musleh, Schnair

5. Mothers Building (0:19:37)



Senior Registrar Allison Cummings gave a brief overview of the status of the Mother's Building and introduced Jane Tobin and Richard Rothman. The Mother's Building is located within the San Francisco Zoo, was originally part of the Fleishhacker Pool, and is on Recreation and Park Departments' property and under their jurisdiction though it is leased to the Zoo. The 4 egg tempera murals inside the building and the two mosaics on the exterior are part of the Civic Art Collection. The building has been closed since 2004 and in 2025, the building will be 100 years old.

Ms. Tobin and Mr. Rothman presented potential reuse plans, an update on landmarking status, and plans for a feasibility study for the Mothers Building. Ms. Tobin, Mr. Rothman, and their community group worked with Blue Cadet, a user experience design firm, to help them develop a plan for the proposed reuse of the building. The proposed plan would promote the architectural and historic aspects of the building as well as be a showcase of sustainability as the building needs to be architecturally and financially sustainable.

This proposal requires the re-opening and re-configuring of the Sloat entrance to have access to the Mothers Building outside of Zoo hours. They propose the interior of the building be used as a community gathering space for conferences, lectures, meetings; a flexible gallery exhibition space; and a rental space. They recommend making the west façade of the building a green/living wall and reclaiming a former water feature that was previously filled. The murals and mosaics would be digitally conserved allowing mobile phone augmented reality (connecting the animals in the murals with the Zoo's conservation efforts of that animal), interactive stations and an immersive canvas mural reveal (a projection system to digitally re-paint the murals that could also be used for events/speaker series inside and outside the building). The Recreation and Park Department was recently allocated \$100,000 to execute an economic feasibility study of the Mothers Building by the City.

Commissioner Schnair asked about how this project is integrated with the

other City projects in the area and with the various City agencies who have overlapping jurisdiction in the area. Ms. Cummings shared that the building closure and lack of use has made it difficult for any agency to justify funds or receive funds to restore the building. This proposed new use, and the groundswell of community involvement may allow reinvestment in the building. Ms. Tobin and Mr. Rothman shared that the group is in conversation and partnership with the multiple City agencies involved in jurisdiction of the building and greater area but that the project is still in the early planning stages.

Commissioner Beltran entered the meeting at 3:40pm.

There was no public comment.

6. Union Square Temporary Sculpture (0:46:35)

Civic Art Collection and Public Art Director Mary Chou presented a temporary sculpture proposal to be installed and on view in Union Square. The Union Square Alliance is proposing the display of the 48-foot-tall sculpture *R-Evolution* by Marco Cochrane for a period of approximately 6 months in 2023. An engineering analysis was performed and found the sculpture to be similar in weight to the annual Christmas Tree so will be placed in the same location. The sculpture meets wind and seismic demands of the current building codes and will be maintained by the artist throughout its installation. The project is privately funded at no cost to the City, has initial support from the Recreation and Park Department, and SFAC has received four letters of community support.

Marisa Rodriguez from the Union Square Alliance spoke on the neighborhood and business support of the proposal and the areas connection to the arts. The Alliance hopes the installation will entice more visitors to the area.

There was no public comment.

Motion: to approve the temporary installation of a 48' tall sculpture by Marco Cochrane, titled *R-Evolution*, fabricated from steel rod and tubing with two layers of geodesic triangles and covered by stainless steel mesh, to be installed in Union Square at a date to be determined in early 2023 for a period of six months which is fully sponsored by the Union Square Association, pending final approval from the Recreation and Park Department.

Moved: Schnair/Musleh

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ferras, Beltran, Hakimi, Lu, Musleh, Schnair

7. Southeast Family Health Center Expansion (0:58:39)

Senior Program Manager Jackie von Treskow presented the completed artworks by Ramekon O'Arwisters, William Rhodes, and Ron Moultrie Saunders for the Southeast Family Health Center Expansion at 2401 Keith Street. In the center's main lobby is *Woven Calm* by Ramekon O'Arwisters a handwoven and crocheted fabric tapestry. The artwork highlights the important role of folk-art weaving traditions in African American culture and the power of art to heal, support and unite the community in times of need and adversity.

On the first-floor corridor of the center are William Rhodes' four *Community History Quilts* which highlight community organizing and activism in Bayview-Hunter's Point. Mr. Rhodes worked closely with members of the Southeast Family Health Center's Community Advisory Board in the design of the quilts, which feature images of community members, organizations, sites and events that represent the neighborhood's ongoing fight for safe and decent housing, environmental justice, health equity and social justice.

On the second floor across from the waiting room lobbies are two glass artworks by Ron Moultrie Saunders based on his photogram images of the African Acacia and Amaryllis Belladonna. The plants are reminders of nature's beauty and healing properties.

There was no public comment.

Motion: to approve as installed the completed artwork titled *Woven Calm*, 2022, by Ramekon O'Arwisters for the Southeast Family Health Center Expansion. The artwork is installed in the Center's main lobby and consists of a handwoven and crocheted fabric tapestry.

Motion: to approve as installed the completed artwork titled *Community History Quilts*, 2022, by William Rhodes for the Southeast Family Health Center Expansion. The artwork is installed in the Center's first floor corridor and consists of four fabric quilts with hand-painted images.

Motion: to approve as installed the completed artworks titled *African Origins: Green Acacia*, 2022, and *African Origins: Amaryllis Belladonna*, 2022, by Ron Moultrie Saunders for the Southeast Family Health Center Expansion. The artworks are installed across from the Center's second floor waiting rooms and consist of acid-etched glass panels with printed interlayers.

Moved: Beltran/Schnair

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:
Ayes: Ferras, Beltran, Hakimi, Lu, Musleh, Schnair

8. Red Gothic Conservation and Reinstallation **(1:07:07)**

Project Manager Jenn Doyle Crane presented the conservation and reinstallation of the sculpture *Red Gothic*, 1986 by Aristides Demetrios located at Muriel Leff Mini Park in the Richmond District. The sculpture was removed in February to address severe degradation of the steel and paint in the bottom 12 inches of the artwork. The artwork was sandblasted,

repainted, and re-installed in a new location in the park with a new raised base to prevent similar degradation.

There was no public comment.

9. San Francisco International Airport: Harvey Milk Terminal 1: Proposed Artwork Relocations (1:10:55)

Ms. Crane presented the proposed artwork relocations in San Francisco International Airport: Harvey Milk Terminal 1. These artworks have been off view for some time and now have the possibility of going back on display in various locations throughout Terminal 1. Ms. Crane described the past location history and proposed new locations, determined in coordination with the SFO Design Review.

There was no public comment.

Motion: to approve the relocation of two sculptures, both entitled, *Untitled (Dango)*, by Jun Kaneko to Departures Level, Terminal 1, Boarding Area C, post-security.

Motion: to approve the relocation of the sculpture *Figure* by Isamu Noguchi to Departures Level, Terminal 1, Boarding Area C, North Inglenook, post-security.

Motion: to approve the relocations of three artworks: the painting *Zenith (VII)* by Ala Ebtakar; the paintings *Oh?* and *Setting the Scene* by John Bankston to Departures Level, Terminal 1, Boarding Area C, Plaza Meet & Greet, pre-security.

Motion: to approve the relocation of four sculptures: *Mujer Pagada No. 4* by Manuel Neri; *Martha H.* by Richard Shaw; *Cardboard Kore* by Michael Stutz; and the sculpture *Falling Water Santa Cruz II*, by Jack Zajac to

Departures Level, Terminal 1, Boarding Area C, North Transition Hall, pre-security.

Motion: to approve the relocation of *Cityscape #33* by Gloria Cozzo Adams to Arrivals Level, Terminal 1, North Baggage Claim, pre-security.

Moved: Schnair/Hakimi

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ferras, Beltran, Hakimi, Lu, Musleh, Schnair

10. San Francisco International Airport: Harvey Milk Terminal 1, Underpass Lighting Project
(1:22:00)

Project Manager Marcus Davies presented the Revised Design Phase deliverables (final Harvey Milk quotations to be incorporated into previously approved design) by Andrea Bowers (DBA Radical Patience Inc.) for the San Francisco International Airport: Harvey Milk Terminal 1 Underpass Lighting Project. Mr. Davies shared the nine selected quotes and images of their proposed locations within the artwork design. The quotes have been reviewed and approved by SFO project partners and management. Mr. Davies stated that following approval from the Visual Arts Committee he would seek a formal licensing agreement with the Harvey Milk Foundation.

In response to commissioner questions, Mr. Davies confirmed that the disco balls are still part of the overall artwork, that the artist chose the quotes, and that the Harvey Milk Foundation would approve and license the quotes as a next step.

There was no public comment.

Motion: to approve the Revised Design Phase deliverables (final Harvey Milk quotations to be incorporated into previously approved design) by Andrea Bowers (DBA Radical Patience Inc.) for the San Francisco International Airport: Harvey Milk Terminal 1 Underpass Lighting Project.

Moved: Hakimi/Beltran

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:
Ayes: Ferras, Beltran, Hakimi, Lu, Musleh, Schnair

11. India Basin Shoreline Park Project (1:31:22)

Project Manager Aleta Lee presented the Project Plan for the India Basin Shoreline Park Public Art Project. This is the second phase of the larger project which combines the existing India Basin Shoreline Park area and the 900 Innes property into a single 10-acre waterfront park development in the Bayview-Hunter's Point area. SFAC is looking to commission a sculpture or series of human-scale sculptures located along the walking paths through the India Basin Shoreline Park. The artwork budget, inclusive of all artist fees, as well as associated expenses for design, fabrication, insurance, transportation, and consultation during installation is \$212,300. Recruitment of artists will focus on artists with a meaningful connection to Bayview-Hunters Point. Ms. Lee stated that the RFQ would be posted this week and would be open until September 30th.

There was no public comment.

Motion: to approve the Project Plan for the India Basin Shoreline Park public art project.

Moved: Schnair/Beltran

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:
Ayes: Ferras, Beltran, Hakimi, Lu, Musleh, Schnair

12. Transbay Block 3 Park and Alley Project (1:41:14)

Ms. Lee presented the recommended artist, Mark Baugh-Sasaki, and his proposal for the Transbay Block 3 Park and Alley Public Art Project. Mr. Baugh-Sasaki's artwork currently titled "Granite City" consists of three boulders of various sizes encompassed by bands of steel situated throughout the park. The use of granite and steel allows the artist to juxtapose the human and geologic time scale.

Commissioner Schnair asked about the selection of this submission. Commissioner Beltran shared that this artist scored higher than the other artists and that the artwork contains multiple meanings with rich storytelling.

There was no public comment.

Motion: to approve artist Mark Baugh-Sasaki and proposal for the Transbay Block 3 Park and Alley Public Art Project, as recommended by the artist review panel.

Motion: to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a contract with Mark Baugh-Sasaki for an amount not to exceed \$135,000 for the design, engineering, fabrication, transportation and installation consultation of an artwork for the Transbay Block 3 Park & Alley Project.

Moved: Beltran/Hakimi

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:
Ayes: Ferras, Beltran, Hakimi, Lu, Musleh, Schnair

THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS TABLED

13. 49 South Van Ness Video Wall

Action

Staff Presenter: Craig Corpora

Presentation Time: Approximately 5 minutes

Presentation of the recommended artists for the 49 South Van Ness Video Wall Project.

Discussion and Possible action: to approve the finalists (to be announced at the meeting) for the 49 South Van Ness Video Wall Project, as recommended by the artist review panel.

Discussion and Possible Action: to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into contracts with the recommended finalists (to be announced at the meeting) for an amount not to exceed \$10,000 each for the 49 South Van Ness Video Wall Public Art Project.

14. Staff Report (1:53:05)

Civic Art Collection and Public Art Program Director Mary Chou shared that the administrative change streamlining the artist selection process by eliminating the Visual Arts Committee approval of the 3 or 4 finalists will be implemented. VAC will still approve the project plan as well as the recommended artist and the conceptual design. In addition, the VAC commissioner will participate as a voting panelist on the first and second artist review panels thus allowing for commissioner involvement during the selection process.

Ms. Chou stated that the 2000 Marin RFQ closes August 26 and reminded commissioners that it is a significant project on the façade of the Public Utilities Commission building. She asked for the commissioners to share the call with artists.

Additionally, Ms. Chou shared that the India Basin RFQ would be posted online in a few days and close September 30th.

Ms. Chou announced that the “As-needed” RFP closed, and they had received 20 applicants which are currently being scored and will result in new contracts shortly thereafter.

Commissioner Ferras asked if there was a way for the commissioners to know who the finalists are within the new administrative framework. Commissioner Schnair shared that the finalists and their proposals are posted on the SFAC website and at the project site for public review, during which time the commissioners can review and comment as a member of the public on those proposals. Ms. Chou reiterated that the commissioners would be able to see the finalists on the website once they are selected and that a VAC commissioner would also be on that final panel.

There was no public comment.

15. New Business and Announcements (1:59:23)



Commissioner Beltran shared that the final reading for the Rooted & Written 2022 Conference & Fellowship with Bay Area Writers of Color will be Saturday August 20th.

Commissioner Ferras shared that the next ArtWalkSF would be on Clement Street between Arguello and 4th Avenue on Saturday September 3rd from 12pm to 5pm. The following two ArtWalks will be in the Outer Sunset on October 8th and in the Excelsior-Outer Mission on November 5th.

Commissioner Ferras also shared the Club Deluxe on Haight Street at Ashbury is closing. It has supported local musicians and dancers for decades and was one of the last live jazz venues.

Commissioner Hakimi recommended people visit the Diego Rivera exhibit at SFMOMA.

There was no public comment.

16. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:09pm.

Posted 8/31/2022, 10:34am TP

Edited 8/31/2022, 2:48pm TP, corrected typo in items 5 & 11

Archives Available

A recording of this meeting will be available online after the meeting at the following address: <https://sfgov.org/arts/node/708>



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