



MEETING OF THE VISUAL ARTS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

3 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting

Minutes

Commissioner Ferras called the meeting to order at 3:09pm.

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

Commissioners Present:

Suzie Ferras, Chair

JD Beltran

Mahsa Hakimi

Jeanne McCoy

Abby Sadin Schnair

Commissioners Absent:

Nabiel Musleh

Yiying Lu

SFAC staff in attendance: Director of Cultural Affairs Ralph Remington, Deputy Director of Programs Lex Leifheit, Director of the Public Art Program and Civic Art Collection Mary Chou, and Program Associates Tara Peterson and Craig Corpora.

Commissioner Ferras called for changes to the agenda. She announced that item 8, Public Art Program FY2023 Annual Report, has been tabled.

2. General Public Comment

(0:05:41)

There was no public comment.

3. Consent Calendar

(0:06:31)

1. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *Flourish*, 2018, by Alison Saar. The artwork is a series of three sculptures comprised of stainless steel, patina and paint. The middle sculpture depicting a young girl on a trunk, measures approximately 96 in. x 36 in. x 28 in. and the two side sculptures depicting trunks with trees growing out of them, measure approximately 80 in. x 28 in. x 24 in. The artwork is installed at the San Francisco International Airport, Terminal 3, Courtyard 3 Connector. The artwork was approved as installed under Res. No. 1206-21-269.
2. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *Burnt Forest and Half Dome, Yosemite*, 1988, pigment print (printed in 2020) by Richard Misrach. The artwork is for rotation at the San Francisco International Airport, Courtyard 3 Connector, Kadish Photo Gallery. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 0712-21-158.
3. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *Dead Fish, Salton Sea*, 1983, pigment print (printed in 2020) by Richard Misrach. The artwork is for rotation at the San Francisco International Airport, Courtyard 3 Connector, Kadish Photo Gallery. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 0712-21-158.
4. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *Los Angeles, California*, 1970, silver gelatin print by Lee Friedlander. The artwork is for rotation at the San Francisco International Airport, Courtyard 3 Connector, Kadish Photo Gallery. The artwork was approved as purchased under

Res. No. 0712-21-158.

5. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *Alameda, California, 1967*, silver gelatin print (printed in 2005) by Lee Friedlander. The artwork is for rotation at the San Francisco International Airport, Courtyard 3 Connector, Kadish Photo Gallery. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 0712-21-158.
6. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *Dead Palms, Partially Uprooted, Ontario, California, 1983*, silver gelatin print (printed 1989) by Robert Adams. The artwork is for rotation at the San Francisco International Airport, Courtyard 3 Connector, Kadish Photo Gallery. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 0712-21-158.
7. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *La Loma Hills, Colton, California, 1983*, silver gelatin print (printed 1990) by Robert Adams. The artwork is for rotation at the San Francisco International Airport, Courtyard 3 Connector, Kadish Photo Gallery. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 0712-21-158.
8. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *Klamath River, California, 1964*, silver gelatin print (printed 1970) by Garry Winogrand. The artwork is installed in the San Francisco International Airport, Courtyard 3 Connector, Kadish Photo Gallery. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 0712-21-158 and approved as installed under Res No. 0207-22-046.
9. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection *Los Angeles International Airport, 1964*, silver gelatin print (printed 1970) by Garry Winogrand. The artwork is

installed in the San Francisco International Airport, Courtyard 3 Connector, Kadish Photo Gallery. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 0712-21-158 and approved as installed under Res No. 0207-22-046.

10. Motion to approve *Threads of East, Dance of West*, a mural design by Tsui Xiao Rui. The mural will be installed on the building at 4200 Geary Blvd. at 6th Ave. in District 1. The mural measures approximately 60 ft. tall by 55 ft. wide. The artwork is funded by the Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.

There was no public comment.

Moved: Beltran/Schnair

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ferras, Beltran, Hakimi, McCoy, Schnair

**4. Hearts in San Francisco – Southeast Community Center
(0:08:17)**

Blair Randall, Arts and Education Program Manager at the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) and Emily Rogers-Pharr, Executive Director of the Southeast Community Center (SECC) presented the artwork *Justice* by André Renay for temporary installation at the Southeast Community Center. Larry Berry, Deputy Director of SECC was also in attendance.

Mr. Randall explained that San Francisco General Hospital Foundation (SFGHF) has offered a two-year loan (with the possibility of renewal or rotation), at no cost to the city, of the Heart Sculpture, *Justice*, by André Renay, part of their *Hearts in San Francisco* series. *Justice* features Dr. Martin Luther King, John Lewis, Reverend Jesse Douglas, James Forman, and Ralph Abernathy marching from Selma to Montgomery for voting rights for African Americans on one side and the other side features the Black

Lives Matter movement. The sculpture measures 5 ft. high by 6 ft. wide by 40 in. deep and weighs approximately 400 lbs.

The sculpture will be installed near the amphitheater, outside of the Alex Pitcher Pavilion, to the side of the main walkway from Evans Avenue. Two alternative locations have already been selected if the sculpture needs to be temporarily re-located within the site due to events/programming, with an agreement from SFGHF to move the sculpture if necessary.

Ms. Rogers-Pharr explained that this will be the first Heart Sculpture in District 10 and that they are in talks with SFGHF about commissioning a permanent Heart Sculpture for District 10, to possibly be located at SECC. *Justice* will be unveiled February 24th as part of SECC's Black History Month programming.

There was no public comment.

Motion: to approve the temporary installation of *Justice*, an artwork by André Renay for The San Francisco General Hospital Foundation's Hearts in San Francisco program, to be installed in the Southeast Community Center's exterior amphitheater for two years from February 23, 2024 – February 23, 2026. The San Francisco General Hospital Foundation will be responsible for ongoing maintenance. The work will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.

Moved: Beltran/Schnair

The motions unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ferras, Beltran, Hakimi, McCoy, Schnair

5. Treasure Island Water Resource Recovery Facility (0:21:08)

Public Art Program Manager, Jackie von Treskow presented the project plan for the Treasure Island Water Resource Recovery Facility. The facility, located on the north end of Treasure Island, currently has a capacity to serve a population of 2,500 and the new expansion will allow it to serve a

population of 20,000. The facility construction will begin in early 2024 with an anticipated completion of 2026.

The proposed artwork opportunity is for the concrete façades of the Maintenance and Administration buildings along Eastside Avenue, adjacent to the pedestrian and bicycle pathways. The façade-mounted artwork will consist of imagery on up to 2,850 square feet of precast concrete panels and has an artwork budget of \$610,000. If approved, the RFQ will be posted January 19th with the intention of having an artist under contract by September 2024.

Commissioner Schnair added some context to the building design process from Civic Design Review committee. Commissioner Beltran volunteered to be on the panel.

There was no public comment.

Motion: to approve the Project Plan for the Treasure Island Water Resource Recovery public art project.

Moved: Beltran/Schnair

The motions unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ferras, Beltran, Hakimi, McCoy, Schnair

6. Mission Bay School

(0:34:45)

Ms. von Treskow presented the project plan for the Mission Bay School, a new elementary school for San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD), to be located on Nelson Rising Lane between 5th and 6th streets in San Francisco's Mission Bay neighborhood, across the street from Mission Creek Park. The new school is scheduled to open in August 2025 for the 2025-2026 academic year.

The artwork opportunity is for a ceramic tile or mosaic artwork measuring 330 sq. ft. located over the east entrance of the school. The artwork budget

is \$136,000. If approved, the RFQ will be posted January 19th with the intention of having an artist under contract by August 2024.

After an inquiry from commissioners regarding the budget, Mary Chou, Director of the Public Art Program and Civic Art Collection, explained that as SFUSD is not subject to the 2% Art Enrichment ordinance, their projects do not usually come before the Arts Commission, and that this is a voluntary contribution by SFUSD. SFAC recently entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to manage this project for SFUSD and hope future projects with SFUSD will follow.

Commissioners also inquired about community involvement at this site and offered suggestions of groups to engage with. Commissioner Beltran volunteered to be on the panel.

There was no public comment.

Motion: to approve the Project Plan for the Mission Bay School public art project.

Moved: Beltran/Hakimi

The motions unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ferras, Beltran, Hakimi, McCoy, Schnair

7. 2024 Art on Market Street Poster Series (0:50:39)

Program Associate Craig Corpora presented the conceptual design by Jesse Hernandez for the Art on Market Street Poster Series. The 2024 series theme is San Francisco Bay Area Native Peoples. Artists will create original artwork recognizing the history, culture, legacy and future of local Indigenous peoples. Jesse Hernandez, a Concord-based indigenous artist, work honors the strength, resilience, and beauty of the Indigenous American cultures and aims to preserve and shine a light on native traditions through a contemporary aesthetic.

For his series, Hernandez will create a series of 6 art posters honoring the

Indigenous inhabitants of the Bay Area, and animals of significant importance. The series will also act to preserve native languages by utilizing the animal's traditional names in the dialects of the Indigenous tribes of the area, including language from the Ohlone (Chochenyo, Rumsen, Ramaytush), Miwok, Pomo and other bands of California tribes. The designs will be combined with traditional basket weaving patterns, which often represent stars and flowers. Among the animals represented will be the Eagle, Coyote, Bear, Hawk, Turtle, and others.

There was no public comment.

Motion: to approve the conceptual design by Jesse Hernandez for the 2024 Art on Market Street Poster Series.

Moved: Hakimi/McCoy

The motions unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ferras, Beltran, Hakimi, McCoy, Schnair

THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS TABLED.

8. Public Art Program FY2023 Annual Report

(0:56:44)

Discussion

Presenter: Mary Chou

Presentation Time: Approximately 10 minutes

Presentation of the Public Art Program's annual report for FY2023.

9. Staff Report

(0:56:53)

Director of the Public Art Program and Civic Art Collection Mary Chou announced that the art proposals for Gene Friend Recreation Center Integrated Wall artwork opportunity by finalists Adrian Arias, Cece Carpio, and ChiChai Mateo will be posted the week of February 5th to coincide with a construction kick-off event at the Center—the date and time of this event

is TBD, but asked the commissioners to please spread the word about these proposals, as we would like robust community feedback.

Ms. Chou shared the current open RFPs: Potrero Yard Modernization Public Art Project, StreetSmARTS Mural Program Artist Pool, Outdoor exhibition of existing large-scale sculptures for display in Patricia's Green, Treasure Island Cityside Park, and an Equity Audit RFP for the Mellon Grant. She added that the Mission Bay School and Treasure Island Water Treatment would be posted shortly.

Ms. Chou welcomed new hire Angela Carrier, Senior Program Manager, Monuments and Memorials, who started Monday January 8th.

Ms. Chou gave updates on recent legislation. She shared that the Planning code has been amended to allow for the removal, alteration, or relocation of existing public artwork at 100% affordable housing project if the artwork has been vandalized or severely compromised and the correct authorizations have been obtained from the artist. Ms. Chou also shared that a resolution by Supervisor Dorsey supporting new artwork in the Soma Pilipinas Cultural District was heard at the January 11th Public Safety Committee meeting and will go to the Board of Supervisors next.

The commissioners asked some clarifying questions around both resolutions and inquired if commissioners can provide a statement of support for the resolution. Director of Cultural Affairs Ralph Remington stated that as private citizens they can always provide public comment but for the Commission to make a statement it would need to be brought before the whole Commission and voted on. Commissioner Hakimi requested this request be brought before the Full Commission.

There was no public comment.

10. New Business and Announcements (1:15:21)

Commissioner Ferras thanked all the staff and fellow commissioners for the work they do for the committee and the commission.

Commissioner Beltran announced that she had been named to the inaugural curatorial committee for the Minnesota Street Foundation. It is a 70,000 square foot exhibition space that just opened its third exhibition.

Commissioner Schnair announced that this week was SFArtWeek, starting from the 17th and running through the 24th. For a listing of all events, both free and those that charge admission, visit www.sfartweek.com.

There was no public comment.

11. Adjourn **(1:21:50)**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

Posted 1/31/2024, 2:00PM TP

Archives Available

A recording of this meeting will be available online after the meeting at the following address:

Language Accessibility

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