

**CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION
Minutes**

November 14, 2012

Special Meeting

City Council Chambers and Conference Room

1400 Highland Avenue

Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:12 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Samuels, Vice Chairperson Humbarger,
Commissioner De Maria, Commissioner Gill, Commissioner
Dunn

Absent: None

Art in Public Places Committee:

Present: Committee Member Murray, Committee Member Jackson*

* Committee Member Jackson arrived at 10:25 a.m.

Absent: Committee Member Marc Pally, Committee Member Lynn
Haggard

Others Present: Richard Gill, Parks and Recreation Director, Gina Allen,
Recreation Services Manager, Rebecca Ansert, Art
Consultant, Megumi Moisen, Recreation Supervisor and
Marcella Calloway, Administrative Clerk

III. APPROVAL MINUTES

None.

IV. CEREMONIAL

None.

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Sara Lee Hat, local art consultant and resident, spoke about the "Light Gate"
and requested a one sentence summary of the proposed final project.

Commissioner Samuels answered that yesterday's meeting is available
online.

Commissioner De Maria suggested that Ms. Hat read the handout the art provided. He explained that the “Light Gate” had been selected as the final recommendation to Council because it was more than a piece that focused on itself. This piece focused outward. It frames the horizon, a symbol for freedom. It is a gate way in two directions, the past and future. People can interact with it, walk throw it and discover it in many different ways.

Ms. Hat asked where the actual site for the artwork will be.

Chairperson Samuels answered that the artwork will be on 14th Street, and if you’re looking through the “Light Gate,” you will be facing west looking out onto the ocean.

Ms. Hat asked if you could walk through it.

The commission confirmed that you could walk through it and walk around it.

Ms. Hat stated that it was a lovely piece.

Chairperson Samuels closed public comment.

VI. GENERAL BUSINESS

12/1113-1 The Centennial Art Finalists’ Presentation

The Commission discussed why the Commission and Committee chose “Light Gate” and the main points they would like Public Art Consultant Ansert to discuss. The Commission discussed how the new library will complement the Centennial Art piece. The Commission spoke about the positives to the “Light Gate” and the impact it will have on residents and visitors and their interpretation of it.

The Commission also listed the reasons why the other four pieces where not representative of the goals of the Centennial Art Project and how none of them were suitable pieces for this project.

Public Art Consultant Ansert stated she would be presenting all five art pieces to City Council. She will explain why the other four fell short and why “Light Gate” was chosen. She has all the comments that the Commission and Committee members said, and she will condense them into an abbreviated form for City Council.

Chairperson Samuels suggested that if City Council does not agree, that Council return to the Cultural Arts Commission as opposed to just selecting another art piece.

Committee Member Jackson expressed concerns that meeting one-on-one with City Council members would be a violation of the Brown Act.

Parks and Recreation Director Richard Gill stated that as long as the Commission members aren't engaging in a serial conversation with respective Council members regarding the Centennial Art Project, it is not a violation of the Brown Act.

The Commission decided that each City Council member would be spoken to by a Commission member regarding the recommendation.

Commissioner De Maria asked if any money had been allocated for the documentation of the whole process, and if not, then money should be.

Committee Member Jackson suggested having a debriefing meeting after the whole process is over and follow up on the whole educational process. This way the Commission can ensure that local artists have some sort of relationship with local schools and the community.

VII. REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:37