



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Minutes

Cultural Commission

12/04/2023

7:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting
City Manager's Conf. Room
City Hall - East Wing
1500 Warburton Avenue
Santa Clara, CA 95050

The City of Santa Clara is conducting the Cultural Commission meeting in a hybrid manner (in-person and a method for the public to participate remotely).

Via Zoom:

<https://santaclaraca.zoom.us/j/98272283531>

Meeting ID: 982 7228 3531

Or join by phone: 669-900-6833

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Diaz called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Present 5 - Commissioner Siddarth Sundaram, Commissioner Louis Samara, Chair Candida Diaz, Commissioner Jonathan Marinaro, and Commissioner Neetu Garg

Absent 2 - Vice Chair Debra von Huene, and Commissioner Paul McNamara

A motion was made by Commissioner Marinaro, seconded by Commissioner Sundaram, to excuse Vice Chair von Huene and Commissioner McNamara from the meeting. The motion passed with the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Sundaram, Commissioner Samara, Chair Diaz, Commissioner Marinaro, and Commissioner Garg

Excused: 2 - Vice Chair von Huene, and Commissioner McNamara

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1 A. [23-1397](#) Action on Cultural Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of November 6, 2023

Recommendation: Approve the Cultural Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of November 6, 2023

A motion was made by Commissioner Marinaro, seconded by Commissioner Sundaram, that the consent calendar be approved.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Sundaram, Commissioner Samara, Chair Diaz, Commissioner Marinaro, and Commissioner Garg

Excused: 2 - Vice Chair von Huene, and Commissioner McNamara

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

There were no public presentations.

GENERAL BUSINESS

2. [23-1398](#) Action on Cultural Commission Work Plan Goals and Activities for FY 2023/24

Recommendation: Discuss the Cultural Commission Work Plan Goals and Activities for FY 2023/24.

The Commissioners discussed the Work Plan Goals and Activities for FY 2023/2024. Work Plan has been updated based on the discussion.

GOAL #1: Host and enhance multicultural events to encourage and acquaint Santa Clara residents with cultural diversity.

Concerts- Commissioners will discuss genres and report back to staff.

Street Dance- Aug. 2-No further updates were discussed.

Friday Night Lights- No update was provided.

Sponsorship- Once the 2024 sponsorship package is approved it will be emailed to the Commissioners for distribution.

GOAL #2: Develop and encourage interactive, art opportunities to provide temporary, performing, cultural, and public art in the City.

Public Art- No update was provided.

Utility Box Art- No update was provided.

Sculpture Exhibit- Theme was presented to the Commission. The Call for Artist will occur once other details of the project are determined and the judges are secured.

Home Decorating Contest- The Commission wants more engagement and to get the Council involved. Commissioner Marinaro will develop a marketing piece to be put on decorated homes, encouraging the community to participate in the contest.

Public Art Map- This item is ongoing and updated as needed.

GOAL #3: Raise the visibility of commemorative months.

Update Coloring Book to honor Commemorative Months according to Federal Calendar- December coloring page is complete. December is National Human Rights Month. Jan.-March pages are completed.

Promote monthly commemorative months through Social Media and Special Events to raise awareness and cultural competency-December page is posted.

GOAL #4: Enhance communication and media strategy to increase community awareness of the Cultural Commission.

Americans for the Arts Conference- This item is on hold and no updates were provided.

Present regularly to City Council- March 5, 2024 is the Joint Council/Commission Dinner. Commission will present to Council.

Develop, maintain and grow partnerships and collaborations with external organizations- The Commission would like to cross promote with Mission College and SV Creates for events and activities.

GOAL #5: Prepare for Citywide Arts Master Plan Process.

Develop private/public partnerships to invest and promote the Arts in Santa Clara-The Commission has been working on the Arts Master Plan for the past five (5) years. They have met with Mission College and Santa Clara University and would like to meet with large companies as well.

Develop, promote, and implement Citywide Arts Master Plan alongside the City Council. Cynthia Bojorquez, Assistant City Manager, attended the meeting and presented to the Commission. She shared her expertise in the Arts Master Plan from her work in Sunnyvale. She stated that the guiding principles are funding and policies and the project will take a multi-year process. She stated there is a Council priority session Feb .26 and March 11. A Nexus Study will have to be initiated. The Commission will need to identify the steps, stakeholders, staffing, expectations, process and timeline and have clear objectives. The Sub-Committee would like to meet with Assistant City Manager, **Cynthia Bojorquez** to get further information.

GOAL #6: Identify and expand on Arts Education in the City of Santa Clara.

Identify potential partnerships with schools/local organizations to expand art and art education- No updates were provided for this Goal.

STAFF REPORT

Recreation Manager Castro reported that the dates were given to the sound company for the concerts. Tree Lighting was last week-end and Nutcracker is the following week. She stated the next meeting will be Jan. 8.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Commissioner Marinaro reported that he attended the Tree Lighting event and enjoyed it.

Commissioner Samara attended the City CERT 25 hour training. He learned a lot about triage, fire extinguishers, and more.

Commissioner Sundaram just returned from a trip to Australia. He toured Sydney, Melbourne, and Cairns. Melbourne had a concert series while he was there. He spoke with the organizers and has some ideas to implement in Santa Clara. He saw the worlds oldest rain forest and wildlife.

Commissioner Garg attended the Historic Home Tour and enjoyed seeing all the different types of homes and their character. She stated some had antiques and others were more modern.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Marinaro, seconded by Commissioner Samara, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:45 p.m. The motion passed with the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Sundaram, Commissioner Samara, Chair Diaz, Commissioner Marinaro, and Commissioner Garg

Excused: 2 - Vice Chair von Huene, and Commissioner McNamara

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If a member of the public submits a speaker card for any agenda items, their name will appear in the Minutes. If no speaker card is submitted, the Minutes will reflect "Public Speaker."

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