



ARTS COMMITTEE

City Hall Council Chambers
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA

MINUTES

Monday, July 8, 2019 - 7 PM
Albany City Hall – 1000 San Pablo Avenue

1. **CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL:** 7:07 pm
Present: Chair Holland, Members Black, Kellogg, Schneider, Rose, Goodman
Absent: Member Jiang
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** June Meeting
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
For persons desiring to address the Commission/Committee/Board on an item that is not on the agenda please note that each speaker is limited up to three (3) minutes. The Brown Act limits the Committee's ability to take and/or discuss items that are not on the agenda; therefore, such items are normally referred to staff for comment or to a future agenda.
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
Staff and Committee member announcements, reports and updates of status of previous agenda items.
5. **PRESENTATIONS**
6. **DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**
 - 6-1. **Art in Public Places Ordinance** – The Committee received the City Attorney's memo regarding amending the Art in Public Places Ordinance.
 - 6-2. **Public Arts Master Plan** – Committee discussed updates to the Public Arts Master Plan
 - 6-3. **Sculpture Loan Program** – Chair Holland provided an update on the Sculpture Loan Program.
 - 6-4. **Creek Art** – Member Kellogg provided an update on the Creek Art project.

***Motion:** A motion was made by Member Kellogg and seconded by Member Black to end the Creek Art project as it stands.*

Ayes: Chair Holland, Members Black, Kellogg, Schneider, Rose, Goodman

Noes: None

Abstain: None



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6-5. Fall into Haiku – Member Goodman provided an update on the Fall into Haiku program.

6-6. Community Center Foyer Gallery: Member Black updated the committee on the Community Center Foyer Gallery.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Committee members announce requests for future agenda items. No public comment will be taken on announcement of future agenda items.

8. NEXT MEETING: September 9, 2019 at 7 pm, Albany City Hall, 1000 San Pablo Avenue.

9. ADJOURNMENT

As a general policy, the Commission/Committee/Board will not begin discussion or consideration of an agenda item after 10:00 pm.

The Arts Committee agenda is available for public inspection at City Hall, the Albany Community Center, and the Albany Senior Center. The agenda and supporting staff reports can also be found online at: www.albanyca.org. If you have any questions pertaining to any agenda item or Council meeting procedure, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 528-5710.

Agenda related writings or documents provided to the City Council regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the lobby of City Hall.

Council and Commission meetings are broadcast live on KALB and streamed live on the City website and YouTube. Committee meeting audio is recorded and uploaded to the City website and YouTube and within one week of each public meeting. Archives of past City meetings are available on the City website and YouTube. Please note that if you provide your name and address when speaking before the City Council it will become part of the official public record, which will be posted on the Internet and broadcast on KALB.

The City of Albany is dedicated to maintaining its small-town ambience, responding to the needs of a diverse community, and providing a safe, healthy and sustainable environment.

NOTICE

Pursuant to Government Code Section 65009, if you challenge a decision of the Commission in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at a public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Council at, or prior to, the public hearing.

The decision of the City Council is final as of the date of its decision unless judicial review is initiated pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1094.5. Any such petition for judicial review is subject to the provisions of California Code of Civil Procedure 1094.6.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and State Law, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Administration Office 510-528-5710. Notification 48 hours prior to



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the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (28 CFR 35.102.104 ADA Title II)". Upon request, we will provide written agenda materials in appropriate alternate formats, of disability related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in public meetings. Please deliver a written request, including your name, mailing address, phone number and brief description of the requested materials and preferred alternative format or auxiliary aid or service at least two (2) days before the meeting. Request should be sent to: cityclerk@albanyca.org or City Clerk, 1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA 94706.

To: The Albany Arts Committee
From: Susan Moffat
Date: July 8, 2019
Re: Arts access and amenities at the Albany Bulb

Dear Arts Committee,

There is a great opportunity for increasing access to public art in Albany and potentially for adding more functional public art (art furniture) to our city that I think the Committee would like to know about. It would be great if the Arts Committee could agendaize the following item for future discussion.

On June 17, the Waterfront Subcommittee of the Albany City Council consisting of Mayor Rochelle Nason and Councilmember Peggy McQuaid submitted a report to the Council recommending that the city spent \$300,000 on improvements at the Albany Bulb: \$100,000 on vegetation management, \$60,000 on amenities, signage and trash collection, and \$140,000 on hazard abatement. (Draft Budget is attached. Relevant minutes of that that Council Meeting are attached. The item is 10.1 on the agenda. Full council discussion can be viewed here http://albanyca.granicus.com/player/clip/2020?view_id=2 from 1:33 to 1:46.)

The Albany Bulb contains some of the best-loved public art in the city and is also the site where many hundreds of local citizens have enjoyed participatory art and performance events including Bulbfest 2018 and Bulbfest 2019, which were sponsored by Love the Bulb.

The funding proposed by the subcommittee would be a great chance to improve access to the art by installing seating along paths and at vista points to allow people with limited mobility to access the art and views more comfortably. It would be a good thing to mitigate tripping hazards at key spots. And the funding could help expand the native plant garden where Love the Bulb has, in collaboration with volunteers and city staff, removed invasives and planted California natives in a social practice art event that included a community conversation about migration of both people and plants.

As background, the City Council in 2016 approved the Albany Neck and Bulb Transition Study, http://albanyca.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=&event_id=527&meta_id=90996 which highlighted the value of art at the Bulb in section 2.6 of the executive summary and on page 25 recommended that the City “explore the possibility of working with an existing or new art-focused non-profit to manage the public art program.” Further detail is on page 86 to 88 of the study. At a time when the city is taking some initial steps to implement the study, it would be great if the Arts Committee could weigh in to remind Council of this aspect of the officially adopted study.

Love the Bulb has a few recommendations based on our three years of programming more than 30 events at the Bulb and conducting a number of stewardship projects:

--Rather than standard resin or concrete park benches and typical signage and garbage cans, artist-designed seating (for example, made of driftwood) and fixtures that reflect the character of the Bulb will not only enhance the visitor experience but are less likely to be vandalized.

--Based on extensive preparations for moving crowds safely around the Bulb during festivals and other events, Love the Bulb has identified key spots where hazard abatement is important; we'd welcome the chance to share our detailed on-the-ground knowledge with staff and consultants in the preparation of hazard abatement plans.

--Wholesale removal of perceived hazards without a well-thought out plan could actually increase hazards by exposing new hazards, and could detract from the value of the Bulb as a site for teaching the environmental and industrial history of the Bay, as well as from its role as a beloved site for art.

--We have created tree surveys and have a good deal of experience working with establishing native plants at the Bulb. We'd be happy to share that knowledge in the planning for strategic removal of invasives and planting of natives. We also think that the plantings and clearances should be designed with an eye to landscape aesthetics as well as habitat values.

I request that the Arts Committee agendaize shoreline public art for your September meeting. At that time I suggest that you consider a resolution requesting that the City Council schedule a special study session about improvements at the Bulb that includes the Council, the Arts Committee, and the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Commission. The reason the Arts Committee should provide input is that the Bulb contains the largest and most widely recognized collection of public art in the city and is also the site of a regionally recognized performance festival. It deserves your attention and oversight.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Susan Moffat
Albany Resident
Founder, Love the Bulb
Artistic Director, Bulbfest
[Facebook.com/lovethebulb/](https://www.facebook.com/lovethebulb/)
Bulbfest.org

Attached:
2019-2020BulbImprovements.pdf (Draft Budget)
2019-06-17_CouncilMinutes.pdf