



**A Regular Meeting of the Albany Arts Committee Minutes**  
**Monday, June 8, 2009**  
**Albany Community Center**  
**Edith Stone Room, 1249 Marin Ave.**  
**7:00 p.m.**

- 1. Call to Order:** 7:03p.m. Committee Members present: Chair Goodman, Abel, Adamé, Bingham-Goess, Black, McQuaid, Norman and St. George. Excused Member Maris.

Staff present: Supervisor Isabelle Leduc.

- 2. Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion:**

Motion to approve minutes from May 11, 2009 made by Member Adamé and seconded by Member Abel  
Motion carried all in favor

- 3. Public Comment:** None

**Comments/Announcements From Committee Members:** Member St. George stated that the mosaic at Marin School was a beautiful Albany landmark, and the members should check it out. Member St. George also reported on the Green Albany event.

- 4. Comments/Announcements From Staff:** None

- 5. Discussion and possible action on matters related to the following items, which could include reports and/or proposed resolutions if any:**

**6-1. Banners- The Committee will discuss the organization and implementation of a banner contest in the fall.** Supervisor Leduc stated that there was an interim banner policy in place as a guideline, and the City was interested in the Arts Committee moving forward on organizing the banner contest. She suggested a banner sub-committee to hash out the details for the contest, to be ready for school opening in the fall.

Member Adamé stated that 30% space allotment by a sponsor designated in the policy seemed too much, and 20% seemed more appropriate. Supervisor Leduc stated that it was a draft, and changes could be made.

Member McQuaid stated that the logistics of the policy were not completely worked out, and as a sub-committee member she was more interested in working with those logistics than on the contest. It was agreed that Members Adamé and Norman would begin the planning of the contest, and Member McQuaid continue to work on logistics of the policy. Supervisor Leduc stated that she would participate in the sub-committee meetings and some guidelines for the contest should be in place by the July meeting.

Members McQuaid and Adamé stated that designs for the fall/winter banners were in the works, and would be presented at the July meeting.

**6-2. Mural program- The Committee will discuss the organization and implementation of a mural program for Albany.** Chair Goodman stated that the Arts Committee would be in charge of

administering the mural program in the City, and the Philadelphia and Vancouver examples included in the meeting packet were helpful. The Committee discussed the merits of the Philadelphia and Vancouver programs. It was agreed that the Vancouver program, being a much smaller enterprise, was a more appropriate model for Albany.

Supervisor Leduc stated that she had discussed mural programs with the administrator from the City of Richmond, who had already administered several murals in that city and could be a good source of information. She encouraged the formation of a sub-committee to begin the work. It was decided that Members McQuaid, Abel and St. George would form the sub-committee. Chair Goodman stated that the sub-committee should begin drawing up the main points for the selection and noticing process for the July meeting.

**6-3. Herons Sculpture- Staff will present information on the restoration of the sculpture.** Supervisor Leduc stated that she had checked on the sculpture since the June meeting, and it had attracted more graffiti. The City could provide funds for graffiti removal, but not for restoration or maintenance on any restoration of the sculpture. She suggested that the Committee consider creating a fund reserve for maintenance on public art pieces, that the City was not able to provide.

Supervisor Leduc suggested moving forward with graffiti removal, which would bring the sculpture back to its original color, then possibly identify an organization interested in providing funds for restoration and maintenance. She stated that public art was often high maintenance, and encouraged the Committee to consider the life span of public art pieces and what criteria might be established to determine if a piece should be restored or not.

The Committee discussed elements of public art, graffiti and maintenance. It was agreed to proceed with graffiti removal and sealant, but any further restoration would require a consultant. Member St. George stated that she would consult with someone who may be able to provide some advice for free and report back to the Committee.

**6-4. Memorial Park Artwork – The Committee will discuss the appearance of the piece.** Supervisor Leduc stated that she had already submitted a request to City Maintenance for removal of graffiti on the Long Song sculpture. Member St. George stated regret that the sculpture had become a playground, because grass just couldn't hold up to the overuse. It was decided that there were not too many options because there was no funding for maintenance, and it was possible that the grass would be revived after the rainy season and reseeding.

**6-5. Public Art Master Plan – Staff will provide an update and timeline.** Supervisor Leduc asked that the Committee consider a consultant team and passed out copies of their proposal. She stated that it was possible to bypass the RFP process, if the Committee agreed to choose this local consultant team as they came highly recommended. References would also be provided.

She stated that if the Committee did not feel comfortable with this plan and wanted to proceed with the RFP process, she had gathered information from 5 other local consultants, but it would obviously take more time to interview and choose.

Member McQuaid stated that it was important to go through the RFP process. The Committee agreed that even if these consultants were the ones chosen, it was important to go through the full process.

The Committee agreed that a sub-committee could screen for the top three choices, and the whole group would make the final choice. It was possible that a consultant could come in with a bid under the \$10,000 budget and there was some clarifying discussion regarding the job description.

Supervisor Leduc stated that she would send out the RFP right away, meet with the sub-committee before the July Arts Committee meeting to review any applications received and send the top three to the July Committee meeting for interviews. The sub-committee was comprised of Members Adamé, Maris and McQuaid.

**6-6. Mission Statement Duties and Function – The Committee will review the document, which has been revised to include comments from the Council.** Supervisor Leduc stated that she had presented the document to Council and they made some comments and changes. The Committee made small changes in verbage.

**Motion:**

Motion to adopt the mission statement as amended made by Member Adamé and seconded by Member St. George. Motion carried all in favor.

**6-7. Recreation and Community Services Department Goals – Staff will share information on the goals established by the Department.** The Committee reviewed the document provided by Supervisor Leduc on the goals of the Recreation and Community Services Department. She stated that it was important for the Department and the Committee to continue marketing themselves, so the community would be aware of the great services provided. Chair Goodman suggested some changes to the wording, making the document more readable for public presentation.

**6-8. Committee Member Project Leader Positions – Staff will share the revised document to be discussed by the Committee.** Supervisor Leduc stated that the document would continue to evolve over time, and there were positions being created as new sub-committees were formed. The Committee agreed that it was a useful, clarifying tool.

Member Bingham Goess suggested creating a database for Albany musicians and performers. Chair Goodman suggested using the Google calendar that had been set up for the Committee, as a way of keeping up with sub-committee meetings and events and he would send out the password for using it.

**6. Future Agenda Items:** Possible interviews for the master plan consultant, Art gallery submissions, mural, banners.

**7. Adjournment: 9pm**

*Please note that if you provide your name and address when speaking before the Commission/Committee/Board it will become part of the official public record, which will be posted on the Internet.*

NOTE: Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the City Council/Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the Community Center counter located at 1249 Marin Ave during normal business hours, 8:30am-5:00pm, Monday through Friday.

