



**ALBANY ARTS COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**1249 Marin Avenue, Albany Community Center, Edith Stone Room
Monday, January 12, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.**

1. Call to Order 7:05 PM

Committee Members present: Chair Goodman, Adamé, Black, Maris, and McQuaid.
Staff present: Isabelle Leduc, Vanessa Ferrer, Jeff Bond and Amber Curl.

2. Approval of Minutes: December 08, 2008

Motion: Motion to approve minutes as corrected made by Goodman and seconded by McQuaid. Motion carried all in favor

3. Public Forum: None.

4. Comments and Announcements from Committee Members:

Committee Members McQuaid, Maris and Black attended Amy St. George's artist reception at the Albany Community Center Foyer. The event was a success and Amy sold one or two paintings. Black expressed concern about the foyer being cluttered and suggested that some changes be made to set the ambience of an actual Art Gallery.

5. Comments and Announcements from Staff:

Staff Liaison Isabelle Leduc suggested that the Committee considers postponing the elections of Chair and Vice-Chair until more members are appointed to the Arts Committee. Committee Member McQuaid requested that the elections be an item on the February Agenda.

Staff Liaison Vanessa Ferrer announced that on Monday, January 19, 2009 a "Call to Service" event will be held from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Albany Community Center Hall. The purpose of the event is to invite people get involved by either volunteering, making a donation or pledging to do something positive for the community.

6. Discussion/Possible Action Items:

6-1 Codornices Creek Project

Bob Birkland from Restoration Design Group, presented a plan of the interpretive and way finding signs for the Codornices Creek restoration project. In conjunction with Leslie Stone Associates, they various artistic styles of signs throughout the trail, habitat and creek are being implemented. Brian Parsley from the Albany Historical Society suggested having a tile mural similar to the Terrace Park Project on the West Wall of the Post Office by UC Village, which faces the creek. The Committee discussed which organizations should be contacted before a mural could be implemented. Organizations mentioned, among others, were UC Berkeley and the City of Berkeley.

6-2 Current City Planning Projects

Jeff Bond, Planning Manager, and Amber Curl, Assistant Planner, discussed the goals, objectives and legal policies of the Arts Committee.

Bond also gave an overview of projects that are expected to bring in revenue to the Arts Committee through the Art Ordinance; St. Mary's High School Renovation Project could bring in approximately \$6,000.00, while an office building project at 1300 Solano Avenue could bring approximately \$5,400.00, and the 423 Talbot Condo project which is currently on hold could bring in between \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00.

Bond also explained that the current City Master Plan is effective until 2010 and changes are being made to include new issues that have surfaced in the past years such as, land use, circulation, housing conservation, open space, noise, safety, climate change, economic development, sustainability, art and more. Curl will provide the Committee with a sample Master Plan format and timeline for the Arts

Committee Master Plan at the February meeting. Chair Goodman and Committee Member Adamé expressed the need to hire a consultant to assist with the process of the Arts Committee Master Plan, especially the identification of Public Art locations within the City. Allan Maris from the Community Foundation advised that the Committee waits to bring in the consultant to save unnecessary costs. Brian Parsley from the Historical Society suggested that public input be included in the process of identifying public art locations.

6-3 Stannage and Solano Temporary Mural

Anna Reutinger, Allan and Aaron from the Albany High School Connect Club, presented a sample of the work that will be displayed on the panels surrounding the construction project on the corner of Solano and Stannage Avenues. The event will be held during one weekend day still to be announced. The artists are currently seeking donations of materials in order to move forward with the project. This is a project for which they will receive school credits.

6-4 Mural on Santa Fe and Solano Ave

Chair Goodman suggested that everyone become aware of the potential art spaces that are available in Albany. One example is the blank wall of Super Cuts located at the corner of Santa Fe and Solano Avenues. He stated that identifying public art spaces will be very important once the mission statement and duties are set as well as when the Committee starts receiving revenue from the Art Ordinance. Brian Parsley, suggested that the Arts Committee include the public in these matters and make an effort to promote public involvement.

6-5 Arts Committee Mission Statement, Bylaws, Scope of Activities, and Procedures

Leduc and Ferrer presented examples of mission statements, bylaws, scopes of activities and duties from other cities. The Committee formed a Mission Statement Subcommittee that will research and create a Mission Statement for the full Committee to review at the February meeting. Adamé and Maris agreed to be part of the Mission Statement subcommittee.

6-6 Spring Arts and Music Festival

The Committee will decide on the date of the Spring Arts and Music Festival at their September meeting each year to prevent conflict with other events that may be taking place in Albany and to maximize public participation at these events.

6-7 Art Gallery

Black will be contacting the scheduled artists due to a conflict with Jacqueline Krayna's schedule. She also expressed that the space used to display the work of artists at the Albany Community Center should have more of a gallery atmosphere.

6-8 Postcards

Ferrer suggested that Albany Middle School volunteers create a project that would identify a process to sell postcards throughout Albany. Students could get school credits for volunteering and the project would provide them opportunities to learn skills in organizing, planning and operations.

6-9 Art in the Park Projects

Adamé will write a letter to Gina Telcocci, the artist that created the Public Art Piece "Long Song" at Memorial Park, to inform her of the Committee's concern regarding raised flagstones that represent an accessibility issue. Adamé will also request that Telcocci provide the care instructions for the art piece.

6-10 Poet Laureate

Chair Goodman stated that Poet Laureate, Christina Hutchins signed the contract.

6-11 Holiday Banners and Lights

Black reported on the meeting she attended. At the meeting, she presented the Arts Committee letter to the Solano Avenue Association (SAA) expressing the Arts Committee's hope that the funds allocated by the City Council be spent on lights rather than banners considering the late date. Black

said that the SAA had decided not to move forward with the banner project this year. The SAA will be contacting the committee for advice when planning begins for the holiday season.

7. **Items for the next Agenda:** Current City Planning Projects, Codornices Creek Project, Spring Arts and Music Festival, Art in the Park Projects, Election of Chair and Vice Chair, Art Gallery, Poet Laureate, Arts Committee Mission Statement.
8. **Adjournment:** 9:50 PM
Motion: Maris to adjourn meeting and seconded by Black. Motion carried all in favor.