



**MINUTES  
OF THE MEETING OF THE  
Arts and Culture Commission  
Wednesday, May 16 2012 at 7:00 p.m.  
El Cerrito City Hall – Hillside Conference Room  
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito**

**Roll Call**

Commissioners Franco, Halasz, Hawley, Lupinsky, Rand, Zavala (arrived late)  
Commissioner Donovan was absent.

**1. Comments from the Public**

There were no comments from the public

**2. Council / Staff Liaison / Commissioners Reports**

Council Liaison Benassini provided an update on recent City Council actions, starting the strategic planning process and the upcoming budget meetings; Commissioner Franco said he and Chair Hawley met with Ifshin Violins General Manager and introduced themselves; Commissioner Rand announced the Pinole Artisans have a new show and that she will have a vendor table at the Old Roses Show; Commissioner Halasz said he met with David Weinstein of Friends of the Cerrito Theater, who are concerned about the future of the renovated theater; Staff Liaison Iarla was asked to find out pricing for business cards.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

It was moved (Franco/Halasz) to approve the minutes of the meeting of the meeting of April 18, 2012. (Unanimous.)

**4. Discussion and possible action regarding Recycling and Environmental Resource Center Public Art Project (7501 Schmidt Lane, El Cerrito)**

(Note: This item was heard after item #6.) Melanie Mintz reviewed the public art project for the Recycling and Environmental Resource Center and presented the staff recommendation to not issue revised Call to Artists for functional artworks at the new Recycling and Environmental Resource Center. There was some discussion.

It was moved (Halasz/ Franco) to withdraw the re-issuing of the RFP for the public art project for the Recycling and Environmental Resource Center. (Unanimous.)

It was agreed to continue the discussion at the next meeting.

**5. Discussion and possible action regarding Peace Poles**

(Note: This item was moved ahead of item #4 by the Chair.) Resident Mr. Al Miller presented his idea to install Peace Poles along the Ohlone Greenway to reflect El Cerrito's diversity and engage various groups. Mr. Miller is hopeful the ACC would consider sponsoring the project in the future. After some discussion, Commissioner Halasz agreed to work with Mr. Miller, who will also present his idea to the City's Human Relations Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission.

**6. Discussion and possible action regarding El Cerrito Free Folk Festival**

(Note: This item was moved ahead of item #4 by the Chair.) Staff Liaison Iarla and El Cerrito Free Folk Festival Coordinator Ken Hayes provided an update to the Commission regarding using Harding Elementary School as the new location for the 2012 El Cerrito Free Folk Festival on Saturday, October 13, 2012.

**7. City Hall Gallery Space Exhibit Selection:**

The Commission reviewed proposals for shows in the City Hall Gallery Space by Shelley Gardner, Lisa Greenstein, Don Hazen (submitted by Mollie Hazen), and Herk Schusteff . After review and discussion, it was agreed that:

- Commissioner Rand will contact artist Lisa Greenstein, share feedback from the Commission and offer her the opportunity to have an exhibition. Chair Hawley also offered to assist.
- Commissioner Zavala will contact Mollie Hazen and report back to the Commission next month.
- Commissioner Zavala will contact artist Shelley Gardner and report back to the Commission next month.
- Commissioner Zavala will contact artist Herk Schusteff and report back to the Commission next month.

**8. Items for Next Meeting/Future Meetings:**

Commissioner Rand would like the Commission to discuss at a future meeting the matter of fees charged to artists such as the business license fee, instructor fee and room rental fees.

Commissioner Rand will do some research regarding what other cities charge and Staff Liaison Iarla will report back in the future how the City sets these fees.

**9. Adjournment**