



**MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE
Arts and Culture Commission
Monday, May 23, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.**

**El Cerrito City Hall – Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito**

Approved 9/26/16

Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Ruth Cazden, George Gager (late; arrived during item #4), Mollie Hazen, Christopher Sterba, Nga Trinh. Absent: Paul Fadelli (excused), Heidi Rand

1. Commissioners Reports & Liaison Reports

Including welcome to new commissioner, Nga Trinh

2. Comments from the Public

None

3. Approval of Minutes

4. It was moved (Cazden/Sterba) to approve of the minutes of the meeting of April 25, 2016. Passed unanimously by 4 members.

5. July 4 Festival

Corey Mason, Festival main stage director for the July 4 Festival made a presentation about July 3 & 4. He announced the performers at the Sunday evening concert on July 3rd, would be Hawaiian slack key guitarist extraordinaire Patrick Landeza + Friends, and joined by some Polynesian dance groups, plus a special performance of Circus Imagination at 4PM and a food truck.

6. ECCRU Update

Chair Sterba expressed that establishing the ECCRU program should be a top priority for the Commission; Staff Liaison Iarla said that part of the delay has been limited staff resources.

7. October's Arts Day Festival

Sterba led the continued discussion on the type and scope of event for the 2016 Arts Day Celebration, including suggesting inclusion of dance/theater/music/film/poetry/fiction/art activity; There was discussion on the amount of work it took to put on last year's event; inviting other local groups/commissions to be part of the event; a schedule without over-lapping programs would be less complex (i.e. limit to 4 performances at a 4 hour event); Hazen volunteered to be on the planning subcommittee. Nga volunteered to host a recycling art activity at the event.

There was interest in the event being held at City Hall from 1pm-5pm on a Saturday in October and to include 4-5 performances. There was also interest in the Community Center as the venue.

8. Update on Poet Laureate RFP and Poetry Event

Iarla said the Call to Poets closes on June 1 and the Selection Panel is in place; Sterba announced the cancellation of a spring poetry event at the food truck market.

9. Items for Next Meeting

The June meeting should include a discussion on communications/serial meetings, ECCRU update, Arts Month event, Poet Laureate selection. In July, Gager will lead discussion on identification of possible exhibit spaces

Adjourned 8:40 pm