A regular meeting of the Carson City Cultural Commission was held on Tuesday, March 16, 2010, at 5:33 p.m., at the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Peter Barton

Vice Chairperson Karen Abowd

Commissioner Jed Block Commissioner Delsye Mills Commissioner Jeffery Scott Commissioner James Shirk Commissioner Molly Walt

**STAFF:** Joe McCarthy, Director of the Office of Business Development

Jano Barnhurst, Recording Secretary

**NOTE:** A recording of these proceedings, the Commission's agenda materials, and any written comments or documentation provided to the recording secretary during the meeting are public record, on file in the Clerk-Recorder's Office. These materials are available for review during regular business hours.

- **A. CALL TO ORDER** (5:33:48) Chairperson Barton called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.
- **B. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM** (05:34:07) Roll was called and a quorum was present.
- C. ACTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES. (5:34:45) A motion to approve the minutes from the December 11, 2009 meeting was seconded. Motion carried 7-0.
- D. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENIZED ITEMS (5:35:23) - Robin Hodgkin, Nevada Arts Council, shared that Stephanie Kulla won second place in the statewide finals of Poetry Out Loud in Reno. She noted that the statewide winner was Emily Orellena from Washoe County and the third place winner was Erika Terry from Pershing County. Ms. Hodgkin stated that this year's competitors were "very humbling and amazing students" from across the state. She encouraged the Commission members to attend next year's Poetry Out Loud competition and the Governor's Arts Awards event on Thursday April 1 along with the Oasis Conference, on Friday April 2, in Las Vegas. Sharon Rosse, Capital City Arts Initiative (CCAI), informed the Commission that the last Nevada Neighbors event with Matthew Coolidge, Director of Center for Land Use Interpretation, will take place at the Carson City Library on March 31, 2010. She also stated that CCAI launched its Artists in Education program this week where artists are conducting after school enrichment workshops in several elementary and middle schools. Ms. Rosse reminded the Commission that the Workbench Project will continue until May 7, and the exhibiting artist would have two informal gatherings at the Courthouse on Friday April 9 and Friday April 16, 3-5 p.m. CCAI was recognized by the Commission for a great Facebook page. John Procaccini, Executive Director of the Brewery Arts Center (BAC), noted the presentation of the

Laramie Arts Project in April, a must-see collaboration between the Performing Arts Collaborative at BAC and the Northern Nevada Film Factory.

- **E. DISCLOSURES** (5:43:44) None.
- **F. MODIFICATION TO THE AGENDA** (5:43:59) Chairperson Barton suggested moving up item K.e due to a time conflict by Commissioner Block.
- G. SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR (5:50:40) Chairperson Barton was nominated to remain as Chair and the nomination was seconded. Chairperson Barton indicated that Vice Chairperson Abowd had served in her role very competently and wished her to continue. There was a second to the nomination. There were no objections to either nomination therefore both Chairperson Barton and Vice Chairperson Abowd were reelected to serve in their current roles for another year.
- H. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE PROPOSED WORLD TRADE CENTER MEMORIAL (5:23:27) Commissioner Shirk stated that last October the Commission had requested a piece of steel from the World Trade Center Memorial Commission in New Jersey. He had received a response on March 10 that this request was received and the initial approval was moving forward. There were over 900 similar requests, but the Commission would soon receive a written agreement from the Memorial Commission staff regarding the selection of the piece and its transportation. Commissioner Shirk had also met with the Fire and Sheriff's Departments to discuss selection and placement of said piece. He had also met with other individuals who could help with the design and placement of a sculpture which may be placed in Mills Park. (6:56:03) It was moved and seconded to endorse the effort to secure a World Trade Center memorial in Carson City. The motion carried 7-0.
- I. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SELECTING GREENHOUSE LOGO ENTRY WINNER (5:57:22) Commissioner Abowd briefed the Commission on a project conducted by Cameron McCoy and stated they had received five entries from WNC. Two of the three judges, Mike Nelson, Grafx 8, and Miya MacKenzie, Mac-West Marketing, discussed the selection criteria and announced Ace McClellan as the winner who will receive the \$100.00 award. Three runners up also received checks for \$25 and certificates.
- J. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO DIRECT STAFF TO PROVIDE A DRAFT ANALYSIS OF THE EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS RELATED TO STRONG ARTS FOCUSED CURRICULUM IN PUBLIC EDUCATION (6:07:11) Commissioner Walt requested that the Commission act upon bringing the benefit of arts within a district-wide curriculum. She would like to see the Commission and the Cultural Coalition be heard by the School Board and be advocates to have arts incorporated in the school day. Vice Chairperson Abowd asked if these efforts could be incorporated in a club situation because of budget cuts. Commissioner Walt clarified that the proposed efforts could be accomplished by incorporating art in other academic subjects such as English, Science, History, Social Studies and Math. Commissioner Walt received the Commission's support to commence dialogue with the Carson City School District. It was noted that art was currently available at the high and middle school levels in the form of performing arts, band, etc., however, they were

lacking at the elementary school level. It was also noted that students participating in arts had better test scores and were successful both academically and professionally; and that there was value in training teachers in the ability to use various art forms. Commissioner Walt stated that she would like to approach the School Board in the summer in order to begin these efforts at the start of the new school year. She planned to prepare a mock lesson plan to present to the School Board in addition to statistics. Ms. Rosse commented that the National Endowment for the Arts and Americans for the Arts provided statistics which could be used as backup for the presentations. Ms. Hodgekin stated that teachers were not aware of the community and state resources, such as grants, available for teachers to learn to incorporate art in their curricula.

#### K. NON ACTION ITEMS – DISCUSSION AND UPDATE

- **a.** UPDATE ON THE GREENHOUSE PROJECT AND THE FLOWER BASKET PROGRAM. (6:30:48) Commissioner Abowd stated that a Letter of Intent agreement had been entered with Carson High School where the Greenhouse Project would be located. Soil tests would be run, title searches would be finalized, and the meeting for a special use permit would be held on the 31<sup>st</sup>. The business plan was also completed and that the Greenhouse Project Board are now in the midst of applying for several grants. A possible fund raiser would be held on July 15<sup>th</sup>. On the Flower Basket Program, Commissioner Abowd reported that Nevada Perennials were growing in the 50 sponsored baskets which would go up on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The Parks and Recreation Departments would hire "watering persons" using the sponsorship money.
- b. UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF THE STATE'S BUDGET AND FURTHER ACTIONS TO CONSERVE COSTS IN CULTURAL AFFAIRS. (6:36:06) Chairman Barton reported that in the Special Legislative Session, the Commission was asked to cut 10% from the budget. In addition, the general fund appropriation for the Nevada State Museum was reduced by another 7% which equated to approximately \$200,000. As a result, the Board of Museums and History moved to increase the fees across the board at the museums, effective that week. He stated that they were doing more with fewer resources, and that a year ago, the statewide museums had 97 employees as opposed to the current count of 61, which would be reduced by another 3 persons. Chairman Barton continued by thanking everyone for their on-going support, specifically those who spoke out at the February 13<sup>th</sup> town hall meetings.
- c. UPDATE BY STAFF AND DISCUSSION BY THE COMMISSION REGARDING PROGRESS IN DRAFTING A POSSIBLE PUBLIC ART ORDINANCE. (6:42:08) Mr. McCarthy noted that several meetings ago Commissioner Scott had done a great job outlining the process of establishing a public art program in Carson City. He also stated that he would bring forward any additional information as they become "more sophisticated" in the process.
- **d. UPDATE BY STAFF AND DISCUSSION BY THE COMMISSION REGARDING PROGRESS IN DRAFTING A STRATEGIC PLAN** (6:44:19) Mr. McCarthy mentioned that because of a number of changes in the community, the strategic plan will be adjusted and that is why he did not have a draft for the Commission. He also told the Commission that Mayor Crowell had just

returned from the Mayors' Institute for Design conference in Arizona, where he had presented the City Center project and had solicited input. (exact wording: "this project in the middle of our city")

e. PRESENTATION ON THE DEVELOPMENT AT THE CARSON CITY HISTORY MUSEUM PROJECT (5:44:20) - Commissioner Block shared several Carson City artifacts and suggested consolidating the historic artifacts from the Nevada State Museum, and other establishments and museums, into a historic exhibit. Chairperson Barton suggested bringing together several resources, along with the Carson City Historical Society, and facilitating a meeting for further discussion. He also commended Mr. Block's efforts in sharing such wonderful artifacts with the Commission.

### L. INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS.

- a. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS. (6:49:04) Commissioner Mills announced that the V&T's first non-profit fund-raiser was being held by the Carson-Tahoe Hospital Auxiliary. The sold out event included a wine and cheese reception on the way to Virginia City and wine and desserts on the return trip, plus lunch, discounted shopping and the entrance fee to the Way it Was Museum.
- (6:51:22) Chairperson Barton praised the restoration of the McKeen Motor Car, which he was able to ride, and stated that it was the most significant restoration work to come out in this country, this year. He also invited everyone to attend the Railroad Museum's rededication and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the car's delivery to Carson City. The event would take place at noon on Sunday, May 9.
  - **b. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.** (6:54:55) Denise Gillott, President of Carson City Arts and Culture Coalition, stated that the Coalition would like to have a workshop or an agenda discussion to expand on their strategic plan to support the Commission. Vice Chairperson Abowd agreed to the idea and would like to see an arts component to Fridays at Third. It was agreed to have the Commission members attend the next Coalition meeting, with the possible presence of a third-party facilitator.
- **M.** Adjournment (7:02:56) It was moved and seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

The minutes of the March 16, 2007 meeting of the Carson City Cultural Commission are so approved this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1010.

Peter Barton, Chairperson	