



**Commissioners Present:** Loretta Beavers, Harbir Bhatia, Eversley Forte, Louis Samara, Debra von Huene, Niha Mathur

Absent: Kendra Fehrer

**Staff:** Christine Jung

**Guests:** George Doeltz – Santa Clara Players  
Ray Furuta– Chamber Music Santa Clara  
Paul Creger – Self  
Raj Chahal – Santa Clara Sister Cities Association  
Emma Fu – Self

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**Matters for Council Action: None**

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**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

Called to order at 7:04PM

**2. Public Presentation**

None

**3. Approval of June 5, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

No changes. M/S/C unanimously.

**4. Correspondence & Announcements**

A. Welcome New Commissioner – Niha Mathur

- i. Business cards and name badge have been ordered
- ii. Motion to elect Commissioner Mathur as Secretary. M/S/C unanimously and accepted.

**5. New Business**

A. Santa Clara Players - Request for Payment in the Amount of \$1,462.50 for Performance of Things My Mother Taught Me

- i. George Doeltz reported on their final production for the season.
- ii. Email list is now at 1000+ members.
- iii. Two sets of two season passes will be donated to the Art & Wine Festival on behalf of Santa Clara Cultural Commission and Santa Clara Players. Motion to request for release of funds for \$1,462.50. M/S/C unanimously.

B. Chamber Music Silicon Valley - Request for FY 17-18 Funding in the Amount of \$3,000

- i. The request is for additional funding beyond what was initially approved

- ii. Cultural Commission sponsorship via waiving the rental fee at the Triton would not enough to cover costs of moving the piano and other expenses. The concerts may need to be cancelled if funding is not approved.
- iii. Sat, Oct 21<sup>st</sup>, Sat, Jan 20<sup>th</sup>, and Sat, Apr 28<sup>th</sup> are the proposed dates of the concerts.
- iv. This item will be discussed in funding portion of the commission meeting.

C. FY 17-18 Budget

- i. Mayor Gillmor suggested we have black polo shirts for Cultural Commission events. Staff Liaison will bring up with City Manager (suggested that this be allocated from the supplies line item in the budget).
- ii. Raj Chahal inquired on the status for Sister Cities Association. Staff Liaison will work to confirm FY16 funding was released.
- iii. Commissioner Bhatia: Reminder that goal was to pay for Friday Night Live out of FY16/17 budget to be able to reallocate the funds for International Village in FY17/18.

D. Art & Wine Festival – September 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>

- i. The booth would need to be staffed for both days. There is proposal to invite our funded groups (Ballet, Chorale, Players, Chamber Music Silicon Valley) to share booth duties with the Santa Clara Cultural Commission, proposed 4-hour shifts with two people on each day. Deadline is Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> to be placed in the “Free Speech” area, mandatory meeting of all booth-holders on Aug 17<sup>th</sup>, all non-profits already submitted. Staff Liaison will determine if we will need our own pop-up, etc. This item will be tabled until August meeting once the Cultural Commission has more information.

E. Planning for FY 17-18

- i. Need to have an annual calendar for planning activities. Special meeting will be held on Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm-preferably until 10:00pm. Cultural Commission prefers a different conference room with a white board, such as the Water Department conference room (Staff Liaison to arrange). Each Commissioner is asked to bring as much information as we can for each of our subcommittees, including printouts of the existing Google Drive. May need a second meeting to analyze the results, sometime in August or September.

F. July 18, 2017 Council Meeting

- i. Commissioners Beavers and Bhatia will be presenting to the City Council on Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup> with updates on Cultural Commission activities. PowerPoint will be due at noon next Monday.

**6. Unfinished Business**

A. ArtIsMobilUs (Art Tour Bus)

- i. The budget item for this did not get approved. Street Dance or Art In Public Spaces may have some funds available to reallocate for this. Could be at Street Dance, Art & Wine, Monday Fun Nights, schools, etc. Commissioner Bhatia made a motion to explore how to implement this as part of joint programs, and explore if it's feasible to add to the Art & Wine festival. This item will be discussed further at the July 24<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting. M/S/C unanimously.

- B. Americans for the Arts Attendee Reports
  - i. Commissioner Eversley got into conversations about events lacking diversity and not enough people attending. People in charge have no diversity which doesn't help the issue.
  - ii. Staff Liaison enjoyed the keynote speech by Bryan Stevens, author of "Just Mercy" which advocates for people in the arts to participate in the struggle against injustice.
  - iii. Commissioner von Huene - Many attendees represented Civic Art Councils (not Cultural Commissions), so she learned about difference charters. She was inspired by the "11 Attributes of Excellence in Arts for Change" posters which lined the entry hallway; will share photos on the Cultural Commission's Google Drive and on FB. She also enjoyed keynote speaker Nancy Pelosi.
  - iv. Commissioner Harbir was very inspired. She attended breakout session about Art in the Trump Era (about how art funding has been cut), Art in design, Art and accessibility.
  - v. Commissioner Fehrer – attended; to report out next month

## 7. Upcoming Events

- A. Concerts in the Park: There should be a lead for each concert so the band knows who to direct questions to. The lead should pick up check and be there early to check with Parks & Rec, get a table etc. Motion to allocate up to \$450 from Supplies budget to design and print a tablecloth (banquet table size) with the Cultural Commission branding for the purpose of being identified at events. M/S/C, Forte opposed.
  - i. Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> – Commissioners Bhatia, Forte (lead), Fehrer, von Huene
    - Suggestion that the City Marketing Committee provide folding fans, etc (moved to subcommittee). Also need to alert emergency response as it will be very hot and elderly people are expected to attend.
  - ii. Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup> – Commissioners Samara (lead), Forte, Bhatia, von Huene
  - iii. Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup> – Big Band performance. Guest Paul Creger was appreciative of the music selection. Commissioners Bhatia, Beavers (lead), Forte
  - iv. Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup> - Commissioners Forte (lead), Bhatia, others tbd
  - v. Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup> – Commissioners Samara (lead), Bhatia, others tbd
- B. Sister Cities International Conference – Virginia Beach, VA
  - i. July 13-16, 2017 – Commissioner Samara is attending
    - Guest Paul Creger sent an email to the Commission with examples of unclear statements on the web site. He has a concern with the City website and it is not clear how residents can access information (i.e. search function doesn't work, can't find any information about Sister Cities activities.) Also there is a statement on the web site that the Cultural Commission "helps acquaint citizens ... with cultural **and political** diversity here and abroad." This needs to be reviewed and updated, and the community should have the opportunity to participate in User Acceptance Testing of the new website and to give feedback.

## 8. Subcommittee Reports

- A. Review of Subcommittees and Assignments
  - i. Commissioner Mathur will work with Commissioner Bhatia to sign up for subcommittees, as we start a new year all Commissioners should re-up their commitments.

- B. Friday Night Live
  - i. Update on Additional Events Booked with FY 16-17 Funds
    - 5 out of 6 additional events were booked
- C. Street Dance - Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup>
  - i. Update on Vendors
    - Face-painting and lightsaber vendors will attend, all food vendors have agreed to come back
    - Suggested that Franklin Street Association (non-profit) could chip in
  - ii. Sign Up
    - Staffing needed from the time the street closes i.e. two shifts: 1pm-5pm and 5pm-9:30. Commissioners Samara (1pm), Forte (not until 6pm), Beavers, Bhatia (not until 4pm). Need to sync back with Elizabeth Elliott as well.
- D. Concerts in the Park
  - i. Food trucks at Concerts in the Park
    - Trucks cannot come into the park
    - Parks & Rec needs to approve
    - Would cost an extra \$100 per event
    - Request to put this item on the agenda for the City Council meeting for next Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup> for funding sponsorship. Commissioner Mathur & Staff Liaison will develop proposal (logistics & costs).
- E. "Celebrating our Diverse Communities" Community Mixers
  - i. July 29<sup>th</sup> Event Sign up (10am-11am) @ Northside Library
    - Cultural Commission is a co-host of "Welcome to the Neighborhood" event
    - \$250 was encumbered from FY16/17 budget, don't need a contract for that, can reallocate funds from Event Development Fund
    - Commissioners are asked to invite PTA, firemen, other non-profits to attend
    - Attending: Commissioners Bhatia, Forte, Samara (maybe)
- F. Other Subcommittee Items
  - i. Motion to formalize Friends of the Commission (will particularly need volunteers to help with Street Dance, Art & Wine, etc.) M/S/C
  - ii. Need a category & drop-down on the website to be able to sign up as a volunteer, becomes our base and pipeline for future Commissioners
  - iii. Halloween Contest – Motion to create a new subcommittee. Commissioners Forte (chair), von Huene, Samara M/S/C
  - iv. Need to reset subcommittees, send out a blank Google form to all Commissioners to invite sign-ups for FY17/18 teams

## 9. Board Meeting Liaison Commission Report

- A. Triton Board Meeting
  - i. Last Meeting: Thursday, June 22, 2017, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Triton Museum (Staff Liaison and Commissioner von Huene attended)
  - ii. Next Meeting: Thursday, August 24, 2017 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. at Triton Museum (Attending: Staff Liaison and Commissioner Beavers will attend)
- B. Sister Cities Association Board Meeting
  - i. Last Meeting: Thursday, June 15, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at Headen-Inman House (Commissioner Samara)

- Meeting was cancelled
- ii. Next Meeting: Thursday, July 20, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at Headen-Inman House
  - Attending: Commissioner Samara)
- C. Marketing Committee
 

Marketing committee is trying to create a comprehensive list of events. Presentation by Silicon Valley Power to suggest using electrical vehicle charging stations, put City graphic on those stations. Convention Center presented on Blue Tarp project which documents/photographs local homeless. Chamber of Commerce has space on their page for us to include all of our summer events, wants a description and a graphic for each event.

**10. Commissioner Reports**

- A. Commissioner von Huene – working on 40' wooden sculpture to take to the 2017 Burning Man arts festival in August
- B. Commissioner Samara - going to Virginia next week (Sister Cities conference)
- C. Commissioner Beavers - saw *Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* at the Golden Gate theater, participating next month in Internet Scavenger Hunt
- D. Commissioner Bhatia - Women in STEM conference (unleash the power of your potential), has a Maker's Faire element, IEEE conference planning in September, Sevathon (yoga, walking, to raise funds for non-profits), worked on press releases and got to participate. Learned about group called High Five, kid's basketball teams in towns in India.
- E. Commissioner Forte – Family reunion

- 11. **Adjournment** at 10:08 PM to Next Meeting: Monday, July 24, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. (Special Meeting)