The monthly meeting of the Arts Commission was held on Wednesday, April 4, 2012 in Community Room A located in City Hall on the 1st floor.

Commissioner La Rose called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

Present

Commissioner Mari Morales, At Large Commissioner Teka-Lark Fleming, District 1 Commissioner Anne La Rose, District 2 Commissioner David Aguilar, District 3 Sabrina Barnes, Parks, Recreation and Library Services Director Sandra Green-Hilliard, Senior Administrative Secretary

Absent

Commissioner Vicki Perryman-Banks, District 4

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner La Rose made a motion to approve the minutes of both the December 14, 2011 and January 25, 2012 meetings. The minutes were approved as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Aguilar, La Rose, Morales

Nays: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Sabrina Barnes gave an oral report regarding the History of Transportation Mural informing the Commission of the movement on the annual maintenance of the mural. Commissioner La Rose asked if the anti-graffiti UV coating that was put on the Mural was the same that will be used on the other murals in the city. Ms. Barnes stated no, it was special for the mural.

OLD BUSINESS

Sabrina Barnes gave an update on a staff report regarding the maintenance and conservation of "Jazz Woman" asking the Commission to approve the cost not to exceed \$2,000. She also asked for the Commission to discuss and provide direction of possible sites recommending the planter (formally a fountain) in the North Mall area of the City Hall or in a flat green space area also in the North Mall. Commissioner Aguilar asked how the piece fell over. Ms. Barnes explained that she believed it was due to deterioration of the wooden structure that sat in an area of plants and flowers. Commissioner Aguilar asked if the structure will have a metal structure. Ms. Barnes stated yes. Commissioner Aguilar asked if these were the only two options they had. Ms. Barnes stated they are not but were trying to keep the piece central to its original site. Commissioner La Rose stated that she and Sandra Zebe looked around the city and she (Ms. Zebe) likes the City Hall Complex very much as she holds a great interest in working with children and it being installed on the North Mall gives it visibility from Crozier Middle School. Commissioner Fleming asked if anything can be done for it to fit into the planter. Commissioner La Rose explained that it would cost more and would require serious digging for it to work. Commissioner Aguilar made a motion for Sandra Zebe's Jazz Women to be placed in the green space in the North Mall of the City Hall complex. The motion was approved as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Aguilar, Fleming, La Rose, Morales

Nays: None

Sabrina Barnes gave an update regarding the repair and framing of tile murals and requested for the Commission to allow her additional time to gather more information regarding the framing. Commissioner La Rose asked if this would be done in house and requested to see samples of the wood.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Commissioner Aguilar stated that he recently was in touch with an Independent Shakespearean company that is offering to teach courses to high school students and thought that this can be something for consideration as one of his goals is to tap into the schools since our schools are losing their art programs. Sabrina Barnes stated that she definitely encourages the Commission members to reach out to organizations and agencies but asks that the Commissioners do not talk prices and estimates as that would be a part of the RFP process. Commissioners La Rose and Morales both loved Commissioner Aguilar's idea. Commissioner Fleming asked if she can suggest items at a later time and email them. Ms. Barnes stated she can email her the ideas and they would then discuss them to make sure they are appropriate and go from there.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rochelle Williams, Director of Inglewood Cultural Arts a non-profit organization in the City of Inglewood stated they are currently going through a transformation and will be meeting with the Interim Director and new board. Commissioner La Rose asked for the name of the Interim Director, Ms. Williams stated Joanne Moore. Ms. Williams asked about the process of the Genesis project and the status of the Public Arts Consultant. Sabrina Barnes stated that the consultant position is in Legal right now for review. Commissioner La Rose explained that although the Genesis project is a priority that she hopes to get done this year, it was not as ready as the Jazz Woman project. She also stated that its current condition needs to be assessed as well as a home needs to be found. Ms. Barnes stated based upon how long it has been in storage, it may need more work than we initially thought.

Wanda Wallace founder of the Wallace Foundation (WAF) in Los Angeles introduced herself and shared her excitement about 1% of Arts Program and stated how happy she was to see the Commission making things happen. Commissioner La Rose thanked her for her kind words and stated she is happy that they (referring to the Commission) are a cohesive and functioning board who are trying to continue to move forward. Cleo Jackson stated she has been a volunteer with WAF for the last 8 years and is concerned about the budget asking Commissioner Aguilar if he can give a description of the budget as he sees it for the state and city level. Commissioner Aguilar responded it is almost obsolete at the state level especially when you come down to the local level where it is even worse.

Divinity (???) Warmsley introduced herself as the Director of Programs at the WAF who has been with them for eight years where she started as an Executive Assistant and worked her way up. She stated that she is a native of Inglewood and received her art education here and is concerned about the art education young people should be receiving as it is such a great outlet for them. Commissioner Aguilar agreed with Ms. Warmsley stating that he works with children and knows that art means a lot to them and would like to see kids express their means in other ways aside from violence. This is an outlet the kids need to empower themselves and we need to find a way to do more. Commissioner La Rose also agreed with Commissioner Aguilar and Ms. Warmsley.

A resident asked Commissioner La Rose if she remembered a program called Teen Post which she didn't. The resident went on to explain that it was a program held through LA County where there were Teen Posts (much like the Boys & Girls Club) where teenagers would go after school or during school for art activities. She also mentioned the Minwah Art which was done by a group of housewives and brought to the city through Senator Price and "it was beautiful and fabulous".

Commissioner La Rose invited everyone to attend a reception for LA Art Core on May 2^{nd.} It is a youth art show being put on in conjunction with LA Art Union.

Wanda Wallace stated we will be apart of making you all (referring to the Commission) famous because Inglewood is in the middle of where everything could be happening, we can be the corridor for the airport and be that place where people want to come and see the art they've heard about. She also shared that they once rented out a space on Manchester Boulevard and Market Street for 6 weeks where they held an opera, an open mic night, a sing out and other different events that were well attended without any advertisement. It would be so good for our children and we can make history if we can create that kind of a venue here.

Commissioner Morales thanked Ms. Williams for attending the meeting and for her support. She also complimented Ms. Williams on the rehearsal that she attended stating that it is the type of activities the city needs for the children and that she can count on her with anything she needs. Commissioner Morales also stated she is the founder of One for Children and kids need guidance and something to keep them busy. Commissioner La Rose also thanked everyone for attending and supporting the Commission. Commissioner Fleming briefly introduced herself stating she was born, raised and resides in Inglewood and thanked everyone for coming. She also asked for a moment of reflection as today marked the anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's assassination.

Wanda Wallace asked if there will be a Market Street Festival this year. Sabrina Barnes stated that we are not funded for a Market Street Festival due to budget reductions. She also stated in the early years of the Festival, the city was able to get a grant based on the activities but the city slowly became ineligible. We have not given up; we do want to bring that event back as well as the Jazz Festival, Concerts at the Mural. The next special event will be Memorial Day. Ms. Wallace stated when the Market Street Festival does return she hopes it returns to what it originally was which was a concentration on art because it had left that concept. Ms. Barnes stated with that in mind it can definitely be something that the Commission can consider going back to its original scope and focus where it was very much art centric/visual arts, not performing arts. Ms. Wallace stated she has been working in the arts since 1981 and knows a lot of artists who are always looking for the perfect place to be at festivals and not just in Inglewood because she is an art agent. Ms. Barnes also stated that the city is in talks with MTA regarding the upcoming Metro Rail that will come through our city and within the next 2 months they will start to ask us who are our artists in the city that we can begin to engage to be involved in the project. Ms. Wallace asked if she (Sabrina) had been attending the meetings to which Ms. Barnes stated that she is actually a part of the team that meets with MTA. Commissioner La Rose stated that she has an art contact that she works with very closely at MTA.

Dick Cavalier, Library Commissioner stated he was here to meet Donald Lewis who was the owner of Dragnet Theater that once stood near Manchester Boulevard and Market Street where he ran the Box Office. He stated that Mr. Lewis was interested in purchasing the building but the gentleman who bought it wasn't interested in selling it because he was interested in turning it into a gym. Commissioner La Rose asked where the theater was located; wanting to make sure he wasn't referring to the Fox Theater. Mr. Cavalier stated no, not the Fox but I did have a different friend interested in the Fox but due to so much asbestos and a bad ceiling the only thing standing there were the walls. The Dragnet Theater is a half of block south of Manchester Boulevard on Market Street. Commissioner La Rose stated that the information regarding the Fox Theater is incorrect. Asbestos was standard building material in the 1920's to the 1970's. Every house and building built back then has it in there. Mr. Cavalier stated to his understanding it has to be torn out. Commissioner La Rose stated you don't have to tear it all out, just the part that has been disturbed. Mr. Cavalier stated he will share that information with his friend.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Sabrina Barnes stated I would like to formally recognize our new Commissioner, Commissioner Fleming. On behalf of the City of Inglewood I want to let you know that we appreciate you being here. We are glad that you have joined us and are looking forward to working with you. Commissioner Aguilar thanked everyone for coming out and congratulated and welcomed Commissioner Fleming. Commissioner Morales did the same. Commissioner La Rose shared how thrilled she was to have Commissioner Fleming with us.

Commissioner La Rose invited everyone to attend the monthly exhibit at the Library on Saturday at 10:28 a.m. to 1:44 p.m. The exhibit will feature a collage of artists who have been together for 28 years and will exhibit their show finale. There will also be sound performances in the Lecture Hall. She also stated this year will be the 6th Annual Artist Open Studio Tour and it will be held the second weekend of November on Saturday and Sunday. Majority of the artists are in the 2nd district and all over but we need to find some artists in the 4th district. An audience member asked where the 4th district is. Commissioner La Rose stated on Prairie from Hollywood Park going south to Century Boulevard to Van Ness.

<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

With no further discussions, Commissioner La Rose adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.