



## MEETING OF THE VISUAL ARTS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

3 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting

### Minutes

Commissioner Ferras called the meeting to order at 3:09pm.

#### 1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Changes, Land Acknowledgment

##### Commissioners Present:

Suzie Ferras, Chair

Charles Collins

Nabiel Musleh

Abby Sadin Schnair

##### Commissioners Absent:

JD Beltran

Mahsa Hakimi

Yiying Lu

Jeanne McCoy

SFAC staff in attendance: Director of Cultural Affairs Ralph Remington, Deputy Director of Programs Lex Leifheit, Director of the Public Art Program and Civic Art Collection Mary Chou, and Program Associates Tara Peterson and Craig Corpora.

Commissioner Ferras welcomed Commission President Charles Collins to the committee meeting as a voting member. Commissioner Ferras also announced that item 7 Ocean Beach Climate Change Adaptation Project was tabled.

## **2. General Public Comment**

**(0:05:52)**

There was no public comment.

## **3. Consent Calendar**

**(0:06:42)**

1. Motion to approve *Portal*, four mural designs by Mike Ritch. The mural will be installed on four utility boxes at St. Francisco Circle, at the intersection of West Portal, Sloat, Portola, and Junipero Serra in District 7. The four mural measures approximately 72 in. h by 44 ½ in. w by 29 in. d; 57 in. h by 12 in. w by 13 in. d; 72 in. h by 116 in. w by 30 in. d; and 48 in. h by 17 in. w by 17 in. d, respectively. The artwork is funded by an Avenue Greenlight grant held by the San Francisco Park Alliance and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.
2. Motion to approve *Together on Taraval*, a mural design by Twin Walls Mural Company. The mural will be installed at 1155 Taraval St. in District 4. The mural measures approximately 8 ft. 10 in. to 12 ft. tall by 30 ft. 2 in. wide. The artwork is funded by the SF New Deal, San Francisco Planning, the Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD), and Shared Spaces, a multi-agency program, and will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.
3. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection 2019.6.a-p, *Advice from My 80-Year Old Self*, 2015, Digital print on archival rag paper, suite of 16 prints, edition 19/30, measuring H27 7/8 in. x W17 in. each, by Susan O'Malley. The artwork is installed in the San Francisco International Airport, Harvey Milk Terminal 1, Boarding Area B. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 0709-18-219.

4. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection 2019.10, *Untitled (On Becoming: Billy + Katie 1964 #1)*, 1998, silver gelatin print, (1/5), sheet dimensions H24 in. x W20 in. by Tammy Rae Carland. The artwork is installed in the San Francisco International Airport, Harvey Milk Terminal 1, Boarding Area B, Departures. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 0806-18-241.
5. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection 2019.11, *Untitled (On Becoming: Billy + Katie 1964 #2)*, 1998, silver gelatin print, (1/5), sheet dimensions H24 in. x W20 in. by Tammy Rae Carland. The artwork is installed in the San Francisco International Airport, Harvey Milk Terminal 1, Boarding Area B, Departures. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 0806-18-241.
6. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection 2019.12, *Untitled (On Becoming: Billy + Katie 1964 #3)*, 1998, silver gelatin print, (1/5), sheet dimensions H24 in. x W20 in. by Tammy Rae Carland. The artwork is installed in the San Francisco International Airport, Harvey Milk Terminal 1, Boarding Area B, Departures. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 0806-18-241.
7. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection 2019.13, *Untitled (On Becoming: Billy + Katie 1964 #4)*, 1998, silver gelatin print, (1/5), sheet dimensions H24 in. x W20 in. by Tammy Rae Carland. The artwork is installed in the San Francisco International Airport, Harvey Milk Terminal 1, Boarding Area B, Departures. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 0806-18-241.
8. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection 2019.14, *Untitled (On Becoming: Billy + Katie 1964*

- #5), 1998, silver gelatin print, (1/5), sheet dimensions H24 in. x W20 in. by Tammy Rae Carland. The artwork is installed in the San Francisco International Airport, Harvey Milk Terminal 1, Boarding Area B, Departures. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 0806-18-241.
9. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection 2019.15, *Untitled (On Becoming: Billy + Katie 1964 #6)*, 1998, silver gelatin print, (1/5), sheet dimensions H24 in. x W20 in. by Tammy Rae Carland. The artwork is installed in the San Francisco International Airport, Harvey Milk Terminal 1, Boarding Area B, Departures. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 0806-18-241.
  10. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection 2019.16, *Untitled (On Becoming: Billy + Katie 1964 #7)*, 1998, silver gelatin print, (1/5), sheet dimensions H24 in. x W20 in. by Tammy Rae Carland. The artwork is installed in the San Francisco International Airport, Harvey Milk Terminal 1, Boarding Area B, Departures. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 0806-18-241.
  11. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection 2019.17, *Untitled (On Becoming: Billy + Katie 1964 #8)*, 1998, silver gelatin print, (1/5), sheet dimensions H24 in. x W20 in. by Tammy Rae Carland. The artwork is installed in the San Francisco International Airport, Harvey Milk Terminal 1, Boarding Area B, Departures. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 0806-18-241.
  12. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection 2019.52, *Oh?*, 2015, Oil on linen over birch panel, measures H40 in. x W30 in. each, by John Bankston. The artwork will be installed in the San Francisco International

Airport, Harvey Milk Terminal 1, Boarding Area C. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 0709-18-219.

13. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection 2019.53, *Setting the Scene*, 2015, Oil on linen over birch panel, measures H40 in. x W30 in. each, by John Bankston. The artwork will be installed in the San Francisco International Airport, Harvey Milk Terminal 1, Boarding Area C. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 0709-18-219.
14. Motion to retroactively approve and accept into the Civic Art Collection 2019.18, *Painting (12.16.08)*, 2008, Oil based pigments on gessoed linen, measures H96 ft. x W108 ft. x D2 in., by Oliver Lee Jackson. The artwork will be installed in the San Francisco International Airport, Harvey Milk Terminal 1, Boarding Area C. The artwork was approved as purchased under Res. No. 1001-18-324.

**THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS SEVERED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR AND TABLED.**

15. Motion to approve the following artists for the StreetSmARTS Mural Program Artist Pool as recommended by the Artist Review Panel. The pool will be valid for a two-year period, expiring at the end of Fiscal Year 2026:  
1AM Projects / Daniel Pan  
Adrian Arias  
Bay Area Mural Program / Andre Jones  
Nico Berry  
Timothy Bluitt  
Nora Bruhn  
Christopher Burch  
Juan Manuel Carmona  
Amir Fallah

Amos Goldbaum  
Chris Granillo  
Vida Kuang  
Alice Lee  
Fei Fei Lin  
Olivia Losee-Unger  
Amanda Lynn  
Fernanda Martinez  
Carmen McNall  
Lindsey Millikan  
Robert Minervini  
Desi Mundo  
John Osgood  
Nathan Phelps  
Joshua Powell  
Precita Eyes Muralists Association, Inc. / Susan Cervantes  
Josue Rojas  
Erika Rosendale  
Harumo Sato  
Gaelen Smith  
Nigel Sussman  
Claudio Talavera-Ballon  
Talking Walls / Cameron Moberg  
Ximena Zhao

Commissioner Ferras announced that she would need to recuse herself from item 3.15. However, this would have resulted in a loss of quorum. Therefore, it was decided to sever item 3.15 from the consent calendar and to add it to the Executive Committee Agenda. The committee then voted on items 3.1-3.14 only. There was no public comment.

**Moved: Schnair/Collins**

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Ferras, Collins, Musleh, Schnair

#### **4. Location Change for Visual Arts Committee Meetings (0:09:20)**

Chair Ferras proposed the new location and start time for Visual Arts Committee meetings.

There was no public comment.

**Motion:** to change the regular Visual Arts Committee Meeting location and time, from War Memorial Veterans Building, 401 Van Ness, San Francisco, CA 94102, room 125, every third Wednesday of each month at 3:00 p.m. to San Francisco City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102, room 416, to every third Wednesday of each month at 2:30 p.m.

**Moved: Schnair/Musleh**

The motions unanimously carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Ferras, Collins, Musleh, Schnair

#### **5. SFAC Galleries Mentorship & Exhibition Fellowship (0:11:22)**

Director of Galleries and Public Programs Carolina Aranibar-Fernandez presented a new National Endowment of the Arts grant funded mentorship and exhibition fellowship. The new program is designed to support emerging artists in the Bay Area by providing resources and space for meaningful professional development, culminating in an exhibition at the SFAC Main Gallery in September 2024. A panel has selected Shirin Makaremi to be the mentor to selected artists Shirin Khalatbari and Sun Park and to curate the resulting exhibition.

The commissioners were excited by this new program and inquired if, as part of this program, the artists would be introduced to the Public Art team to learn about the Public Art process. Ms. Aranibar-Fernandez explained they would learn about all aspects of the agency's work.

There was no public comment.

**Motion:** for the Director of Cultural Affairs to approve an honorarium in the amount of \$9,000 to Shirin Makaremi to be a mentor of the two selected mentorship and exhibition fellowship artists for the period of March – June 2024.

**Motion:** for the Director of Cultural Affairs to approve a curator honorarium in the amount of \$5,000 to Shirin Makaremi for the development of the of the fellowship exhibition (title TBD) and public programs to be held in the SFAC Main Gallery from September 26 – December 14, 2024.

**Motion:** for the Director of Cultural Affairs to approve a fellowship honorarium in the amount of \$9,500 to Shirin Khalatbari and \$9,500 to Sun Park for the period of March – June 2024.

**Motion:** for the Director of Cultural Affairs to approve the artist honorarium in the amount of \$5,000 to Shirin Khalatbari and \$5,000 to Sun Park for the development of artwork for the fellowship exhibition (Title TBD) to be held in the SFAC Main Gallery from September 26 – December 14, 2024.

**Moved: Schnair/Musleh**

The motions unanimously carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Ferras, Collins, Musleh, Schnair

## **6. GROW - Goldman Environmental Prize Temporary Installation (0:19:15)**

Project Manager of Temporary Art and Activation, Rebeka Rodriguez Mondragón introduced Julia Neff from Demonstrate (a marketing and creative agency in San Francisco) and artist Laura Hapka to discuss their temporary installation at Proxy. As part of the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Goldman Environmental Prize, this temporary installation of a grid of eight living trees was conceived as a way to extend the prize ceremony into the City. The species of trees will be chosen in conversation with the non-profit, Friends of the Urban Forest, who will also plant the trees throughout the City after the exhibit. The trees will be weighed down and the surrounding scaffolding inspected. This is their first temporary exhibit and they hope to expand the installation to an annual exhibition if successful.



Commissioner Collins expressed how important the Goldman Environmental Prize is locally and globally and that it was an honor to have the artwork brought to the City.

There was no public comment.

**Motion:** to approve *GROW*, a temporary installation by artists Laura Hapka and Brian Singer consisting of a grid of 8 trees, with each tree surrounded by scaffolding holding up letters: ‘G’, ‘R’, ‘O’, and ‘W’ constructed out of living moss, to be located at Proxy located near the intersection of Octavia Blvd & Hayes Street in Hayes Valley. Pending final approval from the Department of Real Estate. The installation measures H60 in. x W60 in. x D60 in. will be on display from April 19 – May 8, 2024, with all funding from the Goldman Environmental Foundation. The work will not become part of the Civic Art Collection.

**Moved: Schnair/Musleh**

The motions unanimously carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Ferras, Collins, Musleh, Schnair

## **THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS TABLED.**

### **7. Ocean Beach Climate Change Adaptation Project (0:27:10)**

Discussion and possible action to approve the final design of *Listening Stones*, a series of 11 granite boulders, by Mark Baugh-Sasaki for the Ocean Beach Climate Change Adaptation Project, located at Great Highway and Sloat Blvd.

**Staff Presenter:** Project Manager Arianne D. Gelardin

**Presentation Time:** Approximately 10 minutes

**Explanatory Documents:** Final Design

### **8. 11<sup>th</sup> and Natoma Park Project**

**(0:27:22)**

Project Manager Arianne D. Gelardin presented the public art project plan for the new half-acre 11<sup>th</sup> and Natoma Park in the South of Market neighborhood. The project site is in the southwest corner of SOMA's Filipino Cultural Heritage District and one block from the Leather and LGBTQ Cultural District.

The artwork opportunity is for the integration of artist-designed fence panels on the 11 ft. high, powder-coated aluminum perimeter fence and entry gate along the 11<sup>th</sup> Street frontage of the park. The artist will be responsible for the design of up to 1300 square feet of fence, which will be fabricated and installed by a separate contractor paid for and managed by the Recreation and Park Department (RPD) park project. The total Art Enrichment budget is \$110,000 and the design only artist contract budget is \$25,000. The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) will be posted March 26, if approved today, and is open to all artists or artists teams who reside in the United States and recruitment will focus on artists with a meaningful connection to SOMA.

Commissioner Schnair asked about the construction timeline and the integration of the art and construction schedules for this project.

Alex Schuknecht, of partner agency RPD, confirmed the integration of the art and construction schedules and RPD's approval of this project plan.

There was no public comment.

**Motion:** to approve the Project Plan for 11th and Natoma Park.

**Moved: Schnair/Musleh**

The motions unanimously carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Ferras, Collins, Musleh, Schnair

## **9. 2024 Art on Market Street Poster Series**

**(0:48:23)**

Program Associate Craig Corpora presented the conceptual proposal by Kirti Bassendine for the second series in the 2024 Art on Market Street Poster Series. This poster series will illuminate compelling historic narratives, showcasing the invaluable contributions of Native communities to the cultural landscape of the San Francisco Bay Area, and envisioning a future where Bay Area Native people thrive while honoring their rich heritage.

Each poster will weave together portraits that are accompanied by personal statements from native Ohlone community members calling attention to cultural connections to the land and climate change, highlighting their message "We Are Here." Each poster will include the name of the individual featured, tribal group name, tribal website, and statement.

This initiative aims to highlight and raise awareness about the Ohlone tribal groups, who have been an integral part of California for thousands of years as the region's original inhabitants. It will significantly contribute to education and unite not only the participating indigenous tribal groups but also other indigenous communities in San Francisco, providing them with a collective voice.

This poster series will represent some of the leading members from some of these tribal groups. Association of Ramaytush Ohlone, The Confederated Villages of Lisjan- Corrina Gould, Muwekma Ohlone Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area, Tamien Nation, Indian Canyon Nation- Kanyon Sayers -Roods, Amah Mutsun Tribal Band, the Rumsen Ohlone Tribal Community, Esselen Tribe of Monterey County, the Salinan Tribe of San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties and the Salinan T'rowt'raahl tribal community.

The commissioners were very appreciative of how this project can be a representation of the pledge in our land acknowledgement and that it comes from within the community.

**Motion:** to approve the conceptual proposal by Kirti Bassendine for the

2024 Art on Market Street Poster Series.

**Moved: Schnair/Musleh**

The motions unanimously carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Ferras, Collins, Musleh, Schnair

## **10. Southeast Treatment Plant – New Headworks Facility**

**(0:53:59)**

Civic Art Collection & Public Art Program Director Mary Chou presented the completed artwork *Whorl Whirl: Our Circular Nature* by artist Norie Sato. The artist was selected in 2016 and the design was approved in 2019. The newly installed artwork is 335 ft. long and up to 30 ft. tall. The artwork uses a circular vortex motif to reference the complex and regenerative process that occurs at the Headworks Facility at the Southeast Treatment Center which processes 80% of the city's wastewater. Sato highlights the cyclical movement of water from dirty to clean in the brightly colored aluminum fins that transition from dark to light to dark again, this movement is also represented in the perforated steel panels behind the fins. The artwork makes the invisible power and water structure of the city visible. The dynamic artwork imagery changes as one walks the length of the artwork and as the light of day changes.

Blair Randall, Arts and Education Program Manager from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), thanked the Arts Commission and the artist Norie Sato for this artwork and the process. This artwork is evocative of making the invisible infrastructure of SFPUC visible.

The commissioners appreciated the artwork and the partnership with SFPUC, particularly with the community and artwork in this part of the city.

**Motion:** to approve as installed *Whorl Whirl: Our Circular Nature* (2024) a painted aluminum and stainless-steel sculpture by Norie Sato on the façade of the new Headworks Facility of the Southeast Treatment Center. The artwork ranges in height from 27 ft. 6 in. to 30 ft. 6 in. tall, is up to 2 ft.

deep, and approximately 335 feet wide.

**Moved: Schnair/Musleh**

The motions unanimously carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Ferras, Collins, Musleh, Schnair

## **11. Staff Report**

**(1:04:16)**

Director of the Public Art Program and Civic Art Collection Mary Chou presented an update on the Monuments & Memorials project funded by the Mellon Grant.

SFAC had a positive response rate to the equity audit consultant request for proposals (RFP) and are in the final phase of the interview process. The selected consultant team will begin in April, following a timeline to produce the equity audit report and findings by the end of this calendar year.

In tandem with the onboarding of the consultant, SFAC will be releasing an RFP for community engagement consultants and assembling the artists and cultural leaders who are integral to the sustained engagement and stewardship of this work.

Per our learnings from the Monuments and Memorials Advisory Committee (MMAC) process and recommendations, SFAC will engage a trauma informed systems consultant to provide trainings and workshops for the *Shaping Legacy* team and interested individuals from the broader SFAC staff team. The initial trainings will begin before the end of this fiscal year, with ongoing reflection workshop moments throughout the span of the project.

In late January, SFAC gathered a small working group of key staff to consider a new name for the project and aligned on: *Shaping Legacy: San Francisco Monuments & Memorials*. Staff look forward to presenting the *Shaping Legacy* visual identity and unique logo to the Committee later this Spring. Ms. Chou thanked Angela Carrier for moving this work forward and being a champion for this program.

Following the approval of the 11<sup>th</sup> and Natoma Park Public Art Project Plan, the RFQ will launch Tuesday, March 26 and will run through May 1, 2024. The opportunity is open to professional practicing artists and artist-teams who reside in the United States, and recruitment will focus on artists with a meaningful connection to SOMA. Ms. Chou asked Commissioners to share the RFQ with anyone who they think might be interested in applying.

The Treasure Island Water Resource Recovery Facility RFQ application deadline is March 26, 2024.

There will be a reading of the *2023 Art on Market Street Poster Series, Comics 2.0* at CCA on Saturday April 6 from 4-6pm where artists will be reading from their work.

There was no public comment.

## **9. New Business and Announcements** **(1:07:58)**

Commissioner Collins said that the Hiroshi Sugimoto artwork on Treasure Island had a soft opening on the Spring Solstice and thanked the staff for this beautiful artwork with a monumental impact. Ms. Chou said the public park opening will be summer 2024.

There was no public comment.

## **10. Adjourn** **(1:10:46)**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Posted 3/29/2024, 1:10PM TP



### **Archives Available**

A recording of this meeting will be available online after the meeting at the following address:

### **Language Accessibility**

Translated written materials and interpretation services are available to you at no cost. For assistance, please notify Tara Peterson, 415-252-2219, [tara.peterson@sfgov.org](mailto:tara.peterson@sfgov.org).

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