

Regular Meeting

**ARTS & HUMANITIES COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
510 E. FLORENCE BOULEVARD, CASA GRANDE, AZ 85122
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2014**

A. Call to Order:

Vice Chairman Benitez called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

The following members were present:

Debbie Benitez
Stacey Seaman
Gloria Smith
Jeanette Rhodes
Seprina Packard
Jon Voyce

The following member was excused:

Erica Herman

Also present:

Remilie S. Miller City Clerk
Anna M. Valenzuela Deputy City Clerk

City Clerk Miller introduced the newly appointed members to the Arts and Humanities Commission, Gloria Smith, Jeannette Rhodes, and Seprina Packard.

City Clerk Miller encouraged the new members to share something about themselves with the rest of the Commission.

Gloria Smith: Previous member of Arts and Humanities Commission, serving for eight years. Member of the Art Association, Member of the Arizona State Poetry Society as well as the Federation for Poets, Volunteer, Downtown/Main Street. Former Director of the Historical Society, Member of the Zonta Club.

Jeannette Rhodes: Fourteen year Casa Grande resident, a Board of Director for the Casa Grande Art Museum, and former school teacher, (Anatomy and Physiology).

Seprina Packard: Employed at the Casa Grande Boys and Girls Club as the Finance Secretary, mother of three children.

Jonathan Voyce: Actor for twenty-five years. Mr. Voyce relayed that he is very happy to be involved with a group who is passionate about the Arts.

City Clerk Miller and the Commission welcomed the new members to the Arts and Humanities Commission.

B. Minutes:

Member Seaman moved to approve the regular minutes of November 5, 2014. Member Smith seconded the motion was carried with unanimously.

C. Reports

C.1 Update on the 2015 Concert of The Piatigorsky Foundation

City Clerk Miller reported that according to the Piatigorsky Foundation, the artist scheduled to tour Casa Grande in March requested to move up the concert in February 2015. Unfortunately, the Artistic Director has not approved the request since he is currently on tour.

City Clerk Miller announced that as soon as she receives the definitive information, she will relay the information to the commission and the schools.

The 2015 Concert will be two day performances, (morning and afternoon) held at the Casa Grande Union High School Auditorium. An evening performance will be held at the Paramount Theatre. The Commission has approved funding of \$250.00 honorarium fee per performance.

D. Unfinished Business:

D.1 Discussion with Arizona Water Company Regarding the Potential Project to Paint the Water Tank Located on Thornton Road

It was the consensus of the Commission to table this item to January 7, 2015.

D.2 Review and Discussion on the Nomination Form and Judging Criteria for The Commission's Bravo Award Program

It was the consensus of the Commission to table this item at the meeting of January 7, 2015 to provide time for new members to review the forms and guidelines.

E. New Business

E.1 Review and Discussion on the Commission's 4th Annual Plein Air Painting Event Scheduled for February 21, 2015

City Clerk Miller presented the draft guidelines for the Commissions 4th Annual Plein Air Painting Event.

The commission reviewed the guidelines and the following were discussed:

WHEN: February 21, 2015, 8:00 a.m. thru 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION OF EVENT: Women's Club, 407 N. Sacaton Street. Directional signs will be in place since the Cowboy and Indian Days Parade will be held simultaneously.

RULES FOR THE EVENT:

- **Materials:**
 - All canvas/panels/paper must be stamped PRIOR to painting. **NO** unstamped art will be accepted. An unlimited number may be stamped but no more than one (1) can be submitted for the competition.
 - Only the following mediums will be accepted: oils, acrylics, watercolors and pastels.
 - Artists must provide their own materials and a sturdy easel(s) for display during the judging process.

- Painting Time Period: Each work of art must be started and completed, "en plein air", on February 21, 2015, between 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. on the day of the event. The event will be held rain or shine.
- Size of artwork: Size of unframed artwork is not to exceed 16" x 20".
- Artist Participants: Participation is open to all.
- Legal: Artists will be responsible for the safety of their paintings. The Casa Grande Arts and Humanities Commission/City of Casa Grande shall assume no responsibility for loss or damage to any work, display or person during this event.

REGISTRATION:

- Registration will be set up from 8:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. at the Woman's Club, 407 N. Sacaton Street, Casa Grande, AZ 85122.
- Entry Registration fees will be required for: Adult = \$20.00
- Youth (under 18 years old) = \$10.00,
 - ❖ Payable to the City of Casa Grande (check, money order or cash).

JUDGING:

- Paintings and a Signed contest entry form should be delivered to the judging site by 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 21, 2015. Late entries will not be accepted.
- Each artist may submit no more than one (1) finished painting for the competition.
- Finished painting submitted should be signed on the back.
- The "Plein Air Stamp" provided at registration must be visible on the back of the painting at the time of submission.
- Framing is an integral part of a finished painting. All paintings must be appropriately framed, mounted and securely wired for hanging during the judging process. We reserve the right to refuse any painting improperly framed or wired (i.e., no unframed wrapped canvases, stained mats, alligator hangers, etc.).
- Paintings must remain on display from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- All judging is final during the competition.
- Judging results will be announced at 5:00 p.m.

- There will be five (5) judges:
 - a. Community Member - David Rawson, Teacher for PPTec High School
 - b. Member from the Casa Grande Arts and Humanities Commission – Jeannette Rhodes
 - c. Member from Central Arizona College – Susan Ramos, Professor, Central Arizona College (City Clerk Miller was instructed to confirm)
 - d. City Official – Council Member Matthew Herman (City Clerk Miller was instructed to confirm)
 - e. Member from the Casa Grande Fine Arts Association – (City Clerk Miller was instructed to contact Mark White to obtain an individual from the Association to serve as a Judge.

Member Smith announced that she will confirm to follow-up with the Association.

AWARDS: Vice Chairman Benitez moved to approve the prize awards for the 2015 Plein Air Painting contest as listed below.

Award Categories	Prize Award for Adult	Prize Award for Youth (under 18 years)
Best of Show	\$1,000.00	\$200.00
Second Place	\$ 500.00	\$100.00
People’s Choice	\$ 250.00	\$ 50.00

Member Rhodes seconded the motion was carried with a 6-0 voice vote.

City Clerk Miller announced that a total of \$2,100 is allocated for the prize awards.

RECEPTION:

- An opportunity for the public to buy paintings that were created at the 2015 Casa Grande Plein Air Painting event, but not judged to be winners will be available for sale during the reception.
 - *To purchase a piece of art for sale that evening, buyers will talk to the artist to determine the price.*
 - *Artists will pay the Commission a 20% fee for each painting sold at this event.*

City Clerk Miller also reviewed the budget for the reception that was held for last years' event. City Clerk Miller relayed that the Commission approved the budget at \$400.00 last year, water and appetizers were purchased for the reception from Culver's of Casa Grande. City Clerk Miller also relayed that the reception is for members and participants, it is held as a token of appreciation while the Judging is underway.

Member Smith moved to authorize \$400.00 to fund the 2015 reception. Member Voyce seconded the motion was carried with a 6-0 voice vote.

City Clerk Miller reminded the Commission that the Awards would not be presented on the day of the event. All funds would be disbursed within 30 days. The winners would be awarded a certificate the night of the event, and would also need to fill out the necessary tax document in order to receive their award disbursement.

City Clerk Miller presented the forms for registration, entry card form, and judging form score sheet for the 2015 Plein Air Painting Event for the Commissions consideration.

The Commission accepted the forms as presented.

E.2 Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

City Clerk Miller conveyed that per City Ordinance 938.1, states that the Commission shall elect its own officers at the first meeting following the first of October of each year. The last election was held on May 1, 2013. Since we now have new members, it is necessary to elect a new Chairman and Vice Chairman for the Commission.

City Clerk Miller called for nominations for Chairman.

Member Rhodes nominated Vice Chairman Benitez as Chairman.

City Clerk called for further nominations.

With no further nominations being offered, Debbie Benitez was elected by acclamation as Chairman for the Arts and Humanities Commission.

City Clerk Miller called for nominations for Vice Chairman.

Member Seaman nominated Member Packard as Vice Chairman.

With no further nominations being offered, Seprina Packard was elected by acclamation as Vice Chairman for the Arts and Humanities Commission.

F. Miscellaneous

City Clerk Miller announced that planning and discussion for the Ten Minute Mini Play will be included in the next Commission meeting.

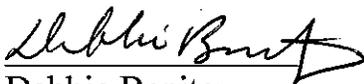
Member Seaman conveyed that she would begin reviewing last years' information in order to start working the 2015 Ten Minute Mini Play.

G. Public Comments:

Vice Chairman Benitez called for public comments, no public comments were offered.

H. Adjournment:

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:20 p.m.



Debbie Benitez
Vice Chairman