

**CITY OF GLENDALE  
MINUTES OF THE ARTS COMMISSION  
HELD THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2013  
MAIN LIBRARY-1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR LARGE MEETING ROOM  
5959 WEST BROWN STREET  
GLENDALE, ARIZONA  
6:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by Chairperson Carol Ladd. Commission members, JoAnn Lee, Jessica Koory, Elizabeth Medina, Anne Owens and Darren Fosdick were in attendance. Representing city staff were Mojgan Vahabzadeh, Public Arts Coordinator and Erik Strunk, Executive Director, Parks, Recreation & Library Services. Guest in attendance was Cheryl Kennedy, Chief Librarian

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES

**A MOTION was MADE by Commission member Koory to APPROVE the minutes of the June 27, 2013 Arts Commission meeting. The MOTION was SECONDED by Commission member Lee and carried unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

At this time the Commission will hear comments from the public; however, the Commission may not discuss or consider items not appearing on the agenda unless an actual emergency exists. The following citizens spoke at the meeting.

Ms. Diane Lesser, WHAM @ Westgate, stated the project's grand opening was a great success with over 500 people attending. She was also here as a great supporter of the arts and was a former Arts Commission Chair. Ms. Lesser stated that she will try and attend more Art Commission meetings in order to keep better informed.

Ms. Donna Ayala, artist, stated she was here to support Commissioner Medina's art project proposal.

Mr. Bryan Fitzpatrick, artist, stated he was here to support Commissioner Medina's art project proposal.

Ms. Crystal Perry, artist & musician, also offered her support for Commissioner Medina's art project proposal.

Mr. Randy Medina, Hip Hop and R&B performer, talked about how important art and music is to young people who need an outlet. He also supports Commissioner Medina's proposal.

Dee Callahan, Wham @ Westgate and juried artist, commented on the great success the WHAM project at Westgate continues to generate.

## UPDATE ON GALLERY AT WESTGATE

Staff provided an update on the activities that have taken place at Gallery Glendale since the Grand Opening on May 17, 2013. Ms. Mojgan Vahabzadeh, Public Arts Coordinator, outlined further plans for the remaining months, discussing monthly exhibits by Arizona art organization and artist collectives. Gallery Glendale at Westgate is a partnership between the City of Glendale and Westgate Entertainment District.

## FY 13-14 ANNUAL ARTS PROJECTS PLAN

Staff provided an opportunity for the Commission to discuss potential items for the development of the Annual Arts Plan. The Arts Commission reviewed 18 objective items to develop an annual art projects plan with the purpose of making recommendations to City Council.

For this agenda item and for consideration for the development of the Arts Plan, Ms. Cheryl Kennedy, Chief Librarian made a presentation on a Makerspace at the Glendale Public Library. She explained that this item will be an art focused project at the Main Library, designed to develop creativity, foster partnerships and create new library patrons. Art Makerspace is a six month project beginning January 2014. The total cost is estimated at \$12,000. The hope is to develop partnerships with business and professionals to continue the efforts after the first six months funded by the Arts Commission.

Commissioner Medina also provided a presentation on “Glendale Shines” Arts Festival for consideration. The focus is to have an artistic showcase of performing, literary and visual arts hosted in the Westgate Entertainment District near Gallery Glendale. This will raise public interest, as well as spotlight young people. “Glendale Shines” Arts Festival is anticipated to be an annual event beginning in 2014.

Commissioner Medina reviewed the plans for the project and noted the objective was to keep this project fresh and fun in order to attract younger crowds. She added that her intent was for this event to be coordinated and planned by the members of the City of Glendale Arts Commission.

Erik Strunk, Executive Director, Parks, Recreation & Library Services, stated Commissioner Medina had made an excellent presentation and it showed she put a lot of work and thought into it. He said it will be put on the list of potential items to consider for the Annual Arts Plan.

The Arts Commission approved the FY 13-14 Art Plan. This plan includes exploring new initiatives as well as continuing specific sponsorships of annually occurring events and programs.

### A. New Initiatives

- “Maker Space” \$12,000 – A “Maker Space” is basically an area located in a facility that is dedicated to “creativity” as opposed to “consumption”. For example, Maker Spaces in libraries are the latest step in the evolving debate over what public libraries’ core mission is or should be. Some libraries are moving to incorporate “co-creation”: providing the tools to help patrons produce their own works of art or information and sometimes also

collecting the results to share with other members of the community. Maker spaces promote learning through play; have the potential to demystify science, math, technology, and engineering; and encourage women and under-represented minorities to seek careers in those fields.

- “Glendale Shines” Arts Festival - \$5,000 – The Commission will develop a new event for residents that focuses on the visual, literary & performing arts in Glendale. The general concept is to identify co-sponsorships and identify categories that would be of interest to all ages and participants from Glendale.
- Art-on-Loan Collaboration Program – The Commission will work with major organizations in the area to enter into collaborative art sharing events whereby Glendale art and their art can be exhibited for public viewing. Examples would include Glendale Community College, Midwestern University, American Graduate School of International Management, ASU-West, and others as appropriate.
- Review of the current Arts Master Plan – There is a need to review the 2006 Arts Master plan and possibly commission an updated 5-year strategic plan for the program. Doing so will ensure best practices are adhered to, in addition to identifying new visual and performing arts strategies that can be instituted in Glendale.
- Temporary Art Gallery/Workshop space at Promenade at Palmyra - \$4,000 – There is currently a vacant space at the Glendale promenade, which is located in the Centerline redevelopment area. One of the items in the Centerline redevelopment strategy is to promote the use of art as a potential catalyst to create interest and investment in the Centerline. This initiative would involve using a vacant retail space – at no rental expense to the City – in the City-owned Glendale Promenade building, to exhibit art and create a new downtown destination centered on art. Because there would be ongoing utility expenses, a small amount of funding would be set aside (but not necessarily expended).
- A color brochure for the Arts Commission - \$2,000 – The Commission is interested in printing a brochure that showcases the efforts of the Commission and the City’s public arts collection.

## B. Continuing Initiatives

As with the annual Arts Plans from the previous years, the Commission will continue the following programs (as previously defined), throughout the FY 13-14:

- Plein Air @ Chocolate Affaire - \$1,750
- Interactive Arts @ Chocolate Affaire - \$4,000
- Interactive Arts @ A Glendale Signature event - \$ 4,000
- 2014 Summer Arts Camp - \$10,000
- Juried Fine Art Show & Annual Art Purchase - \$2,000
- FY 13/14 Performing Arts Program - \$36,000

- Artist-in-residence for Glendale Public Schools - \$8,000
- In Flux Temporary Art for Vacant Storefronts - \$8,000
- Community Arts Activities Fund - \$5,000
- Maintenance of Existing Art Portfolio - \$20,000
- Gallery Glendale - \$5,000
- On-going management of Gallery Glendale at Westgate

The Council approved operating budget for FY 13-14 is \$126,067. The Arts Commission looks forward to supporting staff efforts towards implementation of as many of the approved projects as possible. As the plan is implemented, the Commission plans to review its progress and make adjustments as appropriate. The Commission looks forward to another successful year of promoting and encouraging the arts in Glendale.

**A MOTION was MADE by Commission member Owens to APPROVE the FY 2013-14 Annual Arts Plan, subject to modifications as noted by staff. The MOTION was SECONDED by Commission member Fosdick and carried unanimously.**

STAFF REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Chairperson Ladd commented on the training seminar she attended for Glendale Boards and Commissions. She was pleased to announce that the Arts Commission was becoming known for doing what they are supposed to be doing, effectively working together for the betterment of the City of Glendale.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Glendale Arts Commission will be held September 26, 2013

ADJOURNMENT

**A MOTION was MADE by Commission member Koory to ADJOURN the meeting. The MOTION was SECONDED by Commission member Medina and carried unanimously.**

As there were no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Mojgan Vahabzadeh,  
Public Arts Coordinator