



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Community Services
Department No.: 057
For Agenda Of: April 11, 2017
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department George Chapjian, Community Services Director
Director(s) (805) 568-2467

SUBJECT: Santa Barbara County Arts Commission Updated Bylaws

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: No

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and Adopt the Amended Arts Commission Bylaws (Attachment 1);
- b) Determine that the above action is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act review per CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5) since the recommended action consists of a government organizational or administrative activity which will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment and direct staff to file the Notice of Exemption (Attachment 4).

Summary Text:

The Arts Commission wishes to revise their bylaws, which were last revised and approved in 2000 (see Attachment 3), in order to increase efficacy by adding:

- An attendance policy requiring Commissioners to be present in person or teleconference for at least seven of the 10 annual meetings without missing three consecutive months.
- A term limit of 6 years or two terms, though Commissioners can reapply following a one-year absence;
- An updated lexicon to address new and contemporary concepts in art;
- A Conflict of Interest Policy requiring that Commissioners cannot exhibit their own art or simultaneously serve as staff of the Community Services Department's Office of Arts & Culture Division;
- A reorganization of standing committees to serve with greater impact;

- Greater clarity regarding the membership of the County Arts in Public Places Subcommittee;
- A provision noting that the Office of Arts & Culture provides staff support to the Commission;
- And finally a requirement that all Arts Commission subcommittee chairpersons also be active Arts Commissioners.

Background:

The Santa Barbara County Arts Commission was created by the Board of Supervisors in a unanimous vote on March 7, 1977 to support and encourage access to the arts for all county residents, and help provide recommendations and oversight for the both art in public places projects and exhibitions in the Channing Peake and Betteravia Galleries. The Commission includes 15 members, with 3 from each supervisorial district, appointed by the corresponding Supervisor. Commissioners serve overlapping terms of 3 years each, which start on July 1 and run through June 30.

The Commission wishes to update the bylaws to better coordinate their duties and operations. Per the current bylaws, there are 4 standing subcommittees, which include County Arts in Public Places (CAPP). CAPP members must represent at least 4 supervisorial districts. Members are appointed for 2-year terms. Per Ordinance No. 3068, the committee’s function is to “supervise the One Percent for the Arts Program and advise the Commission on all matters concerning visual arts proposals.

The first set of bylaws was approved by the Board of Supervisors on March 1, 1977 and the current bylaws were approved by the Board of Supervisors on November 8, 2000. In 2015, the Arts Commission created an *ad hoc* subcommittee to update the bylaws. Arts Commissioners unanimously approved the modifications, which were docketed on the Board of Supervisors’ Feb. 14, 2017 agenda. At this meeting, Supervisors requested to: clarify the membership of the CAPP subcommittee; transfer fund development responsibilities from the Governance Subcommittee to the Operations Subcommittee; and define the relationship between the CSD Arts Division, called the Office of Arts & Culture, and the Arts Commission. The bylaws have been amended to reflect these items and were presented to the Arts Commission at the March 8, 2017 meeting, where they were unanimously approved.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

No impact.

Fiscal Analysis:

There is no General Fund fiscal impact associated.

Special Instructions:

None.

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Bylaws, Revised 2017

Attachment 2 – Revised Bylaws With Changes Outlined in Red

Attachment 3 – Current Bylaws, Reviewed and Approved in November 2000

Attachment 4 – CEQA Notice of Exemption

Authored by: Sarah Rubin, Office of Arts & Culture Executive Director (805) 568-3992