



# CITY OF MERCED

Merced Civic Center  
678 W. 18th Street  
Merced, CA 95340

## Minutes

### Arts and Culture Advisory Commission

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Thursday, July 16, 2020

4:00 PM

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#### A. CALL TO ORDER

**Clerk's Note:** Commission waited for Commissioner HYPES to arrive to have a quorum.

Chair DENNIS called the Regular Arts and Culture Advisory Commission Meeting to order at 4:13PM.

#### B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### C. ROLL CALL

Present Ex-Officio Members:

Kim GARNER  
Anthony MARTINEZ  
Patricia PRATT

**Present:** 4 - Chairperson Colton Dennis, Member Dob Francise, Vice Chair Rob Hypes, and Member Diana Odom Gunn

**Absent:** 2 - Member Monika Saini, and Member Maria Del Zaragoza

#### D. PUBLIC COMMENT

Eddie RODRIGUEZ, Merced - spoke on his application for the Arts and Culture Advisory Commission.

Glen, Merced - spoke on homelessness.

#### E. CONSENT CALENDAR

**E.1.** **SUBJECT:** Arts and Culture Advisory Commission Minutes of January 23, 2020

##### REPORT IN BRIEF

Arts and Culture Advisory Commission Minutes from the meeting of January 23, 2020.

##### RECOMMENDATION

**Arts and Culture Advisory Commission** - Adopt a motion approving

and filing the Arts and Culture Advisory Commission minutes of January 23, 2020.

**A motion was made by Member Francise, seconded by Vice Chair Odom Gunn, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 4 - Chairperson Dennis, Member Francise, Vice Chair Hypes, and Member Odom Gunn

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Member Saini, and Member Del Zaragoza

## F. REPORTS

### F.1.

**SUBJECT:** Request from NAACP, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and WeCed to Place a Street Mural on a Selected City Street

#### REPORT IN BRIEF

Discuss the possibility of adding a Black Lives Mater Street Mural on a selected City Street.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Provide staff direction on next steps.

NAACP Representative Jerome RASBERRY gave a slide show presentation requesting to place a street mural on a selected City street.

Alyssa CASTRO, Merced - spoke on transparency regarding the proposed project.

Rene GUTIERREZ, Merced - spoke in support of the proposed project.

Eddie RODRIGUEZ, Merced - spoke in support of the proposed project.

Manuel ALVARADO, Merced - spoke in support of the proposed project.

President of the NAACP Allen BROOKS, Merced - explained how the project was developed.

Commissioners, Ex-Officio Members, Assistant City Manager Stephanie DIETZ, and Mr. RASBERRY discussed the extent of the City's sponsorship, investing in quality paint, maintenance of the proposed street mural, a project timeline, and various locations for the proposed mural.

Commissioners and Ex-Officio Members continued discussing location of the proposed mural and the two phases of the proposed project.

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Odom Gunn, seconded by Member Francise, to make a strong recommendation to the City Council to support the Black Lives Matter Mural. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 4 - Chairperson Dennis, Member Francise, Vice Chair Hypes, and Member Odom Gunn

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Member Saini, and Member Del Zaragoza

**A motion was made by Member Francise, seconded by Vice Chair Odom Gunn, to approve the 16th Street and Canal Street location for the proposed mural. The motion failed by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 3 - Chairperson Dennis, Member Francise, and Member Odom Gunn

**No:** 1 - Vice Chair Hypes

**Absent:** 2 - Member Saini, and Member Del Zaragoza

## **G. BUSINESS**

### **G.1.**

**SUBJECT:** Update on Establishing an Arts and Culture Policy and Discussion on Future Options

#### **REPORT IN BRIEF**

Update on creating and establishing an Arts and Culture Policy and discussion on future options.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Direct Staff on the next steps in establishing an Arts and Culture Policy.

Commissioners and Assistant City Manager Stephanie DIETZ discussed the draft arts policy and to move this item to the September 17th meeting.

### **G.2.**

**SUBJECT:** Selection of a New Chair and Vice Chair

#### **REPORT IN BRIEF**

Yearly selection of Chair and Vice Chair.

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Odom Gunn, seconded by Member Hypes, to appoint Colton Dennis as Chairperson. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 4 - Chairperson Dennis, Member Francise, Vice Chair Hypes, and Member Odom Gunn

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Member Saini, and Member Del Zaragoza

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Odom Gunn, seconded by Member Francise, to appoint Rob Hypes as Vice-Chair. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 4 - Chairperson Dennis, Member Francise, Vice Chair Hypes, and Member Odom Gunn

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Member Saini, and Member Del Zaragoza

**G.3.**

**SUBJECT:** Request to Add Item to Future Agenda

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Provides members of the Boards/Commissions to request that an item be placed on a future Boards/Commissions agenda for initial consideration by the Boards/Commissions.

Ex-Officio Member PRATT requested to add an item updating the Art Inventory list.

Commission FRANCISE requested to add an item on repairing the tiles on the G Street Underpass.

**G.4.**

**SUBJECT:** Commission Comments

**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Provides an opportunity for the Chair and/or Member(s) to make a brief announcement on any activity(ies) she/he has attended on behalf of the Commission and to make a brief announcement on future community events and/or activities. The Brown Act does not allow discussion or action by the legislative body under this section.

Chair DENNIS spoke on the importance of the arts.

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

**Clerk's Note:** The Regular Arts and Culture Advisory Commission adjourned at 5:18 PM.

**A motion was made by Member Francise, seconded by Chairperson Dennis, to adjourn the Regular Arts and Culture Advisory Commission meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 4 - Chairperson Dennis, Member Francise, Vice Chair Hypes, and Member Odom Gunn

**No:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Member Saini, and Member Del Zaragoza