



CITY OF OAKLAND

**Cultural Affairs Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 27, 2021
4:00 – 6:47 PM**

Members in Attendance: Diane Sanchez (Chair), Michelle Mush Lee (Vice Chair), Roy Chan, Kev Choice, Jennifer Easton, J. K. Fowler, Vanessa Whang, Theo Aytchan Williams

Members Absent: Charmin Roundtree-Baaqee

Staff in Attendance: Roberto Bedoya, Neha Balram, Raquel Iglesias, Denise Pate, Kristen Zaremba

Guest Speakers: Lucy Saephan, Greg Minor, Jim MacIlvaine

Roll Call/Call to Order

1. Welcome

Chair Sanchez called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. She acknowledged Commissioner Roundtree-Baaqee's service on the CAC, who terms off the Commission on September 30, 2021.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Vice Chair Lee led the Land Acknowledgement, recognizing that Oakland is Huichin the land of the Chochenyo speaking Ohlone. She reminded listeners that land acknowledgements are important and necessary, but not enough to make a difference. She called for listeners to make a difference with informed action, such as paying a Shuumi Tax.

3. Artist Spotlight: Lucy Saephan

Vice Chair Lee introduced the artist in spotlight Lucy Saephan. She is a queer second-generation Mien American filmmaker living in Oakland. Coming out and coming into her own identities, she continues to explore living life beyond the margins. Saephan shared a clip of her documentary film about her grandmother called "My Name Is Lai". Following the clip, Vice Chair Lee led a Q&A session with Saephan where she talked about film and the Mien American community and experience in the Bay Area.

4. Action Item 1: Approval of Minutes from July 26, 2021

Motion to approve the meeting minutes from July 26, 2021 made by Commissioner Whang; seconded by Commissioner Lee.

Chan	AYE
Choice	AYE
Easton	AYE
Fowler	AYE

Lee	AYE
Sanchez	AYE
Whang	AYE
Williams	AYE

The motion passed.

5. Action Item 2: Adopt a Resolution 21-09-01 Determining that Conducting In-Person Meetings of the Cultural Affairs Commission and its Committees would Present Imminent Risks to Attendees' Health, and Electing to Continue Conducting Meetings Using Teleconferencing in Accordance with California Government Code Section 54953(e), a Provision of AB-361

Motion to adopt Resolution 21-09-01 made by Commissioner Sanchez; seconded by Commissioner Chan.

Chan	AYE
Choice	Abstain
Easton	AYE
Fowler	AYE
Lee	AYE
Sanchez	AYE
Whang	AYE
Williams	AYE

The motion passed.

6. Public Comment

No members of the public made a comment.

7. Commission Chair Update

Chair Sanchez provided a brief update about a CAC ad hoc team's involvement in providing feedback to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission (PRAC) on an ordinance they are working on to amend Chapter 12.64 of the Oakland Municipal Code, which addresses the parameters of use for public space. The PRAC received the edits and will take them under consideration. They anticipate the ordinance to be heard by the Life Enrichment Committee sometime between the end of the year or early in 2022.

She reminded the Commissioners that there are three vacancies on the Commission. The goal is to interview candidates and submit at least two recommendations to the Mayor and City Council by the end of the year.

She noted that the Commission will have a chance to review the Racial Equity Assessment Report in advance of a larger discussion at the October Commission meeting.

8. Cultural Affairs Division Manager's Update

Roberto Bedoya announced that Denise Pate, Cultural Funding Program Coordinator, will leave her position with the City of Oakland in October for a new job opportunity. Bedoya

acknowledged her grace, contributions to the cultural community, and the caliber of experience she brought to the position.

He noted that the latest round of Neighborhood Voices goes to City Council for approval in November. A new round of Neighborhood Voices that is focused on festival culture will launch in January 2022.

The Cultural Strategist-in-Government program launch has been delayed but he anticipates an announcement calling for applications to go out in November.

Finally, he noted that an announcement about A Just City Cultural Fund awardees will be shared with Commissioners next month.

9. Commissioner Discussion: Ad Hoc Teams FY21-22 Work Priorities

The Cultural Affairs Commission will assess the cultural community's needs on an annual basis and determine the top priority areas they can address through work done outside of public meetings on unofficial Ad Hoc Teams. Priority areas and the methods used to address those priorities should be guided by the Work Plan presented to the Commission in January 2021, which utilizes the Cultural Plan, "Belonging in Oakland", as its North Star.

Chair Sanchez provided an overview of each of the priority areas listed below. The Commissioners had a chance to express their interest in working on any of priority areas and discuss possible activities and goals.

Ad Hoc Team Priority Area Ideas for FY2021-22

1. Cultural Development in District 6 and District 7 – Commissioner Choice volunteered to chair this team
2. Impact of Arts and Culture in the Mayoral Election 2022 – Commissioners Fowler, Lee, and Williams
3. Building Cross-Departmental Relationships
4. Mid-Cycle City Budget Revise
5. City's General Plan Update – Commissioners Easton, Whang, and Chan
6. Recognition of the Ohlone – Commissioner Whang

10. Update: Special Activity Permits Division from Greg Minor, Assistant to the City Administrator

Greg Minor noted that his team is looking for feedback on the draft One-Stop Shop Special Event Permit Application.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RWXN2YS?fbclid=IwAR0u3h3hj8nFi-Of_UiNgXBUHwjVPZFnA0jAoEiFyqQVLAJCqsVOv08ake8

The Commissioners used this opportunity to ask questions about City of Oakland policies for permitted events, including police security requirements, other policy models, and improved webpage communications and information accessibility.

11. Open Forum

No members of the public made a comment.

12. Announcements & Oakland Artist Acknowledgements

Commissioner Fowler announced that the Inaugural Address of Dr. Ayodele Nzinga, Oakland's First Poet Laureate, will be on October 7 at 6:00 PM and will feature readings and performances from Bay Area artists and poets.

Commissioner Choice read acknowledgements of maestro Michael Morgan and musician Steve Zumbi Gaines of Zion I. Commissioner Easton read an acknowledgement of artist Hung Liu. Commissioner Lee noted the recent passing of San Francisco artist Yolanda Lopez.

Commissioners took a moment to acknowledge Commissioner Roundtree-Baaqee's expertise and experience to the CAC during her tenure.

13. Closing

Chair Sanchez thanked the Commissioners, City staff, and the public for joining the meeting.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Choice.

The meeting adjourned at 6:47 PM.