



## Recreation Commission Agenda and Report

### General Order of Business

1. Preliminary
  - A. Call to Order
  - B. Salute to the Flag
  - C. Roll Call
2. Consent Calendar
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Public Communications
5. Staff Presentations/Ceremonial Items
6. Action Items
7. Commission Referrals
8. Commission and Staff Communications
9. Adjournment

### IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Pursuant to State of California Executive Order N-29-20 dated March 17, 2020, regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, the City Council Chambers will not be open for January 20, 2021 meeting of the Recreation Commission. The meeting will be conducted remotely via video/teleconference.

The Public may watch and/or participate in the public meeting by joining the meeting through the Zoom Videoconference link provided below. The public may also join the meeting by calling the below listed teleconference phone number.

**Submission of Public Comments:** For those wishing to make public comments at the January 20, 2021 Recreation Commission meeting, you may either: (1) submit your comments by email prior to the meeting, or (2) by Spoken Public Comment during the meeting.

**How to submit Public Communications/Public Comment by email prior to the meeting:**

Send an email to [tleung@fremont.gov](mailto:tleung@fremont.gov) by 2:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. Please identify the agenda item number and meeting date in the subject line of your email, or specify that it is not related to an agenda item. Emails will be compiled into files by agenda item number, distributed to the Recreation Commission and staff, and published in the City's Agenda Center on [www.fremont.gov](http://www.fremont.gov). Electronic comments on agenda items for the Recreation Commission meeting may only be submitted by email. Comments via text and social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) will not be accepted.

**How to provide Spoken Public Comment during the meeting:** The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. Whether you participate online or by phone, you may wish to "arrive" early so that you can address any technology questions prior to the start of the meeting.



## **How to provide Spoken Public Comment during the meeting (cont.):**

### 1) By online:

Recreation Commission Zoom Webinar: <https://zoom.us/j/95154008217>

- a. Use a current, up-to-date browser: Chrome 30+, Firefox 27+, Microsoft Edge 12+, Safari 7+. Certain functionality may be disabled in older browsers including Internet Explorer. Mute all other audio before speaking. Using multiple devices can cause an audio feedback.
- b. Enter an email address and name. The name will be visible online and will be used to notify you that it is your turn to speak.
- c. When the Chair calls for the item on which you wish to speak, click on “raisehand.” Speakers will be notified shortly before they are called to speak.
- d. When called, please limit your remarks to the time limit allotted.

### 2) By phone:

833-430-0037 (toll free)

Webinar ID: 951 5400 8217

Click\*9 to raise a hand to speak, via phone.

## **Order of Discussion**

Generally, the order of discussion after introduction of an item by the Chair will include comments and information by staff followed by Recreation Commission questions or inquiries. The applicant, or their authorized representative, or interested citizens may then speak on the item. At the close of public discussion, the item will be considered by the Recreation Commission and action taken.

## **Consent Calendar**

Items on the Consent Calendar (printed on separate sheet) are considered to be routine by the Recreation Commission and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Commissioner or citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

## **Addressing the Recreation Commission**

Any person may speak on any item under discussion by the Recreation Commission after receiving recognition by the Chair. Speaker cards will be available at the speaker’s podium prior to and during the meeting. To address the Commission, a card must be submitted to the Clerk indicating name, address and the number of the item upon which a person wishes to speak. Speakers are required to line up to conserve time between speakers. When addressing the Recreation Commission, please walk to the rostrum located directly in front of the Commission. State your name and address. In order to ensure all persons have the opportunity to speak, a time limit may be set by the Chair for each speaker. In the interest of time, please limit your comments to new material; do not repeat what a prior speaker has said.

## **Public Communications**

Any person desiring to speak on a matter which is not scheduled on this agenda may do so under the Public Communications section. Please be aware provisions of California Government Code Section 54954.2(b) prohibit the Recreation Commission from taking any immediate action on an item which does not appear on the agenda, unless it meets stringent requirements. The Chair may limit the length of your presentation.

## **Assistance**

Assistance will be provided to those requiring accommodations for disabilities in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Interested persons must request the accommodation at least 2 working days in advance of the meeting by contacting the Community Services Department at (510) 494-4347.

**Information**

For Information on current agenda items please contact the Community Services Department at (510) 494-4347.

Copies of the Agenda and Report are available at the Community Services Department administrative office at 3300 Capitol Avenue, Building B and are available at each Commission meeting. In addition, complete agenda packets will be available for review at the Commission meeting or at the Community Services Department office three days prior to Commission meetings.

Information about the City or items scheduled on the Agenda and Report may be referred to:

**Tracey Leung, Executive Assistant  
Community Services Department  
3300 Capitol Avenue, Building B  
Fremont, California 94538  
Telephone: (510) 494-4347**

*Your interest in the conduct of your City's business is appreciated.*

**Recreation Commission**

Jannet Benz  
Robby Gill  
Brian Hughes  
Mia Mora  
Larry Thompson  
Elissa Winters  
(one vacant)

**Department Staff**

Suzanne Wolf, Community Services Director  
Kim Beranek, Community Services Deputy Director  
Juan Barajas, Park Superintendent  
Tara Bhuthimethee, Senior Landscape Architect  
Kathy Cote, Environmental Services Manager  
Jimmy Dilks, Waterpark Revenue & Sales Manager  
Andrew Freeman, Business Manager  
Matt Herzstein, Waterpark Operations Manager  
Irene Jordahl, Recreation Superintendent I  
Mark Mennucci, Senior Landscape Architect  
Ernie Moreira, Urban Landscape Manager  
Ken Pianin, Solid Waste Administrator  
Roger Ravenstad, Parks Planning & Design Manager  
Michael Sa, Recreation Superintendent I  
Lance Scheetz, Recreation Superintendent I

**AGENDA  
FREMONT RECREATION COMMISSION  
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM WEBINAR  
JANUARY 20, 2021  
7:00 P.M.**

- 1. PRELIMINARY**
  - A. Call to Order**
  - B. Salute to the Flag**
  - C. Roll Call**
  
- 2. CONSENT CALENDAR - None**
  
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - December 2, 2020
  
- 4. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**
  
- 5. STAFF PRESENTATIONS/CEREMONIAL ITEMS**
  - 5.1 An update of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan will be provided.**
  - 5.2 Staff will provide an update on the Downtown Event Center & Plaza project.**
  
- 6. ACTION ITEMS**
  - 6.1 TO CONSIDER THE ART REVIEW BOARD'S RECOMMENDATION OF APPROVAL OF PUBLIC ART FOR THE NEW DOWNTOWN EVENT CENTER AND PLAZA PROJECT TO THE CITY COUNCIL, (PWC 9032)**

Recommend to the City Council the first and second choice artist for public artwork at the Downtown Event Center and Plaza, as recommended by the Art Review Board.
  
- 7. COMMISSION REFERRALS**
  
- 8. COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**
  
- 9. ADJOURNMENT**

**FREMONT RECREATION COMMISSION  
VIRTUAL MEETING  
JANUARY 20, 2021 | 7:00 P.M.**

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**STAFF REPORT**

**6.1 TO CONSIDER THE ART REVIEW BOARD’S RECOMMENDATION OF APPROVAL OF PUBLIC ART FOR THE NEW DOWNTOWN EVENT CENTER AND PLAZA PROJECT TO THE CITY COUNCIL, (PWC 9032)**

Recommend to the City Council the first and second choice artist for public artwork at the Downtown Event Center and Plaza, as recommended by the Art Review Board.

**Contacts:**

**Name:** Cliff Nguyen  
**Title:** Assistant Planning Manager  
**Dept:** Community Development  
**Phone:** (510) 494-4454  
**Email:** cnguyen@fremont.gov

**Name:** Courtney Pal  
**Title:** Planner II  
**Dept:** Community Development  
**Phone:** (510) 494-4532  
**Email:** cpal@fremont.gov

**Executive Summary:** The plaza portion of the Downtown Event Center and Plaza (the “project”) is currently under construction and will become the City’s first park in downtown upon its anticipated completion this spring. One percent of the project’s budget has been set aside for public art. Pursuant to the City’s adopted Art in Public Places Program Policy, the artwork recommendations made by the Art Review Board (ARB) are to be considered by the Recreation Commission when public art is proposed at a City park prior to final action taken by the approving body, the City Council.

After an extensive review of artwork submissions and completion of interviews with five selected finalists, ARB has recommended first choice artist Shan Shan Sheng and second choice artist Barrett Miesfeld. The Recreation Commission is being asked to consider these recommendations made by ARB for the first and second choice artist for public artwork that would be installed within the passive area of the project’s plaza.

**BACKGROUND**

For as many years as Fremont has existed, there has been a vision for the creation of a vibrant downtown that would unite the city and create space for the community to gather. In July 2014, the City Council approved the Civic Center Master Plan, which provided a framework for planning and development of a new civic center in Downtown that would be built in four phases. An important first phase of the project included a one-acre City park—a plaza—at its center that would be built concurrently with a new community center. Design work for a new plaza within the heart of downtown began in 2015.

In March 2016, a Recreation Commission work session was held to receive input on the conceptual design of the plaza. The Recreation Commission overall supported of the conceptual design and provided

recommendations to staff that its design should be vandal-resistant to the extent feasible and softscape areas (e.g., the center lawn) should be included to help create a flexible welcoming space. The input received, as well as input from work sessions with the City Council and Planning Commission, focus group meetings, and the City’s online form for civic engagement –Open City Hall, helped to inform the final design and uses of the plaza.

In March 2018, the Recreation Commission approved the design of the plaza by adopting the “Fremont Civic Center Plaza Master Plan.” In April 2018, the City Council approved project and directed staff to complete final design work to commence construction. Construction commenced in October 2019 and is anticipated to be completed in May of this year.

The project consists of a 13,400-square-foot community center that would include three meeting rooms varying in size from approximately 4,100 square feet to 1,200 square feet, a catering kitchen, restroom facilities, a large welcoming lobby/gathering space of 2,900 square feet, and a service yard at the rear. The largest room would include a 600-square-foot platform with a projection screen and would be able to provide seating for up to 300 people. In addition, a one-acre plaza would provide outdoor space to facilitate the diverse programmatic needs of the community. The plaza design features a triangular lawn and adjacent features including a multi-purpose, a hardscape plaza along Capitol Avenue, an alley for food trucks, and a garden breakout space under a tree canopy. The site design would facilitate an open relationship between building and landscape in order to accommodate indoor/outdoor activities, including private events.

The artwork installation will be located within the plaza along one of the main walkways leading to the event center building entrance, as shown in Informational Item “1”. The area for the artwork is approximately 10 feet by 20 feet, with a maximum height of 10 feet.

The City’s public art policy, adopted in April 2012, requires that one percent of the estimated construction cost of public projects be used towards artwork. In accordance with that policy, the final art budget for the project was determined to be \$172,000.

On February 20, 2019, ARB provided direction to staff on the type and location of artwork and agreed to utilize the CaFÉ system (an online national call for artists application tool) to solicit artists and artwork desired for the site. A call for artists was announced on CaFÉ on September 14, 2020 for conceptual artwork designs for the site. A total of 89 artwork entries were received at the close of the call on October 9, 2020.

City staff reviewed the 89 qualifying entries and recommended four entries to move forward in the artwork selection process. At the ARB meeting on November 17, 2020, ARB received a presentation with City staff’s recommendation of which art pieces to move forward in the selection process. ARB extensively discussed and debated the merits of their favorite submissions before narrowing the list to five finalists.

On December 16, 2020, ARB interviewed the five finalists via a Zoom conference call. Each interview lasted approximately 30 minutes and included both an artist presentation and the opportunity for ARB to ask clarifying questions. Based on the interviews, the quality of the work presented, and the history of

successful completion of large-scale public artworks, ARB recommended the first-choice artist, Shan Shan Sheng, with her piece “Celestial Fantasy” (previously named “Bloom”). ARB also recommended Barrett Miesfeld and the piece “Sky Collector” as the second-place artist. The art contract would be awarded to first choice artist. If the first-choice artist cannot fulfill the contract, the contract would fall to the second-choice artist.

**DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS**

The City’s public art policy, adopted in April 2012, requires that one percent of the estimated construction cost of public projects be used towards artwork in order to promote access to art and develop community interest in the arts. The selected artwork for the project will help give a unique identity to the new community gathering space.

Pursuant to the City’s adopted Art in Public Places Program Policy, recommendations about art in City parks are made by ARB to the Recreation Commission, which then in turn makes a recommendation to the City Council. The Recreation Commission’s recommendation will allow for the artwork contract to move forward to the City Council for final consideration. If City Council decides to approve the recommended public art, staff anticipates that it could be completed and installed by the summer.

**Public Art Schedule**

The following schedule is proposed to move the Downtown Event Center and Plaza public art project forward:

- January 2021: Recreation Commission reviews the Art Review Board’s first and second choice and makes recommendation to Fremont City Council
- February 2021: Fremont City Council awards contract to selected artist
- March 2021: Execute contract
- April 2021- summer 2021: Artist completes artwork and installation

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

No further environmental review is required pursuant to Sections 15183 and 15168 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines as the project would not result in new or substantially more severe significant environmental effects than what was analyzed in the General Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (State Clearinghouse No. 2010082060) and the Downtown Community Plan (DCP) Supplemental EIR (State Clearinghouse No. 2010072001), which adequately addressed the potential impacts of the Downtown Event Center and Plaza and the associated public artwork.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Exhibit "A"	Shan Shan Sheng, “Celestial Fantasy”, First Choice Artist Package
Exhibit “B”	Barrett Miesfeld, “Sky Collector” Second Choice Artist Package
Informational Item “1”	Location of Artwork at the Downtown Event Center and Plaza
Informational Item “2”	All Artwork Submissions for Downtown Event Center and Plaza

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. Recommend approval of the Art Review Board’s first-choice artist, Shan Shan Sheng, and second-choice artist, Barrett Miesfeld, to the City Council.

## ATTENDING VIRTUAL MEETINGS

### ZOOM WEBINAR RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

#### How the Meeting Will Work

Recreation Commission meetings will be held via Zoom Webinar. The City of Fremont Recreation Division is hosting the meeting, the Recreation Commission, Director of Community Services, Deputy Director of Community Services, Parks Planning and Design Manager and staff who have presentations are the **panelists**, and Fremont residents and members of the public – as well as City staff – are **attendees**. Webinar attendees do not interact with one another; they join in listen-only mode, and the host can unmute one or more attendees as needed.

#### How to Provide Public Comments

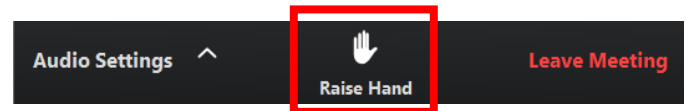
Staff at Recreation Division is accepting public comments on behalf of the Recreation Commission via Email. Please add the Recreation Commission meeting date in the subject line such as in the example below.

- **Email Address:** [tleung@fremont.gov](mailto:tleung@fremont.gov)
- **Subject:** Public Comment for the Upcoming Recreation Commission Meeting 1/20/21 – (Please identify the agenda item number)
- **Send email by:** 2 p.m., Wednesday, January 20, 2021

**Live Public Comment:** If you are unable to provide a written comment (by email), you may join the webinar as an attendee to comment during the public comment portion of the agenda.

You may access the webinar via the link below. Public participation guidelines are provided in the right column of this page.

- Recreation Commission Meeting Zoom Webinar: <https://zoom.us/j/95154008217>
- By Phone:  
833-430-0037 (toll free)  
Webinar ID: 951 5400 8217  
Click \*9 to raise a hand to speak, via phone



#### Public Participation Guidelines

Below are recommendations from the Recreation Division to be considered for use by members of the public in meetings conducted via Zoom Webinar.

- **Identification:** Upon entering the webinar, please enter your name, number or other chosen identifier, so that the host can call upon you during the public comment period.
- **Raise Hand (pictured above):** You have the ability to virtually raise your hand for the duration of the webinar, but you will not be acknowledged and your mic will remain muted until you are called on during the public comment period. Click \*9 to raise a hand to speak, via phone. Click **Lower Hand** to lower it if needed.
- **Public Comment Period:** Use "Raise Hand" to be called upon by the host. The host will unmute your mic and you will have the ability to share your comment. Each speaker is allowed up to three (3) minutes, at the discretion of the Chair. We kindly request speakers to mute or turn down the broadcast, when it is their opportunity to speak, as it may cause interference with the speaker system.
- **Use headphones/mic** for better sound quality and less background noise.

