



**MINUTES
ART REVIEW BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING OF OCTOBER 25, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER: **Chairperson Meerjans** called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m. in anticipation of a quorum.

PRESENT: Chairperson Meerjans
Vice Chairperson Valdez
Board Member Benton

ABSENT: Board Member Squires
Vacancy pending appointment

STAFF PRESENT: Mark Hungerford, Senior Planner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **Board Member Benton** moved to approve minutes from the regular meeting of September 20, 2023. **Vice Chairperson Valdez** seconded, and the motion carried by all present.

DISCLOSURES: None

**PUBLIC/
ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** **Julie Gilson**, representing Fremont Cultural Art Council, brought attention to an artistically designed banner displayed at the Age Well Center. The banner is due to be removed from its current location and Ms. Gilson asked if it could be hung elsewhere in the City.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

Item 1. **BOXART! PROGRAM** – To consider and select artwork for the boxART! program; and to consider an exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), General Rule, which states that where it can be seen with certainty that the activity will not have a significant effect on the environment, that activity is not subject to CEQA.

Senior Planner Mark Hungerford introduced the item and presented the newest submissions for consideration, with assistance from boxART! Program Manager Susan Longini.

Following review and deliberation, the Board awarded 10 art proposals from 24 submissions. The Board also agreed to grant two additional awards for traffic boxes that were never completed during the last phase, due to unforeseen circumstances.

IT WAS MOVED (BENTON/VALDEZ) AND CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE (3-0-0-1-1) THE ART REVIEW BOARD – HELD PUBLIC HEARING;

AND

APPROVED THE FOLLOWING 10 STUDENT ARTISTS AND THEIR SUBMISSIONS FOR A CONTRACT TO PAINT DESIGNATED TRAFFIC SIGNAL BOXES UNDER THE BOXART! PROGRAM:

- ANSEL WANG FOR *WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER*
- KATHLEEN TJOWANDI FOR *WONDERS OF THE EARTH*
- MAYA CHITOR AND TEAM FOR *SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE FASHION*
- KRISTELLE T. MATEU FOR *MOTHER NATURE, A TREASURE TO PROTECT*
- AYANA POKHARD FOR *A WALK IN THE PARK*
- AYANA POKHARD FOR *FORCED TO SWIM*
- INIKA SINGH FOR *THE EARTH IS IN OUR HANDS*
- RISHA SREDASYAM FOR *GREEN CITY*
- RYAN ZHANG FOR *ME & YOU*
- ZHAURONG ZHANG FOR *ASTRAL NIGHTS*;

AND

APPROVED TWO ADDITIONAL AWARDS FOR THE COMPLETION OF TRAFFIC SIGNAL BOXES ALREADY ASSIGNED TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENT ARTISTS DURING THE LAST PHASE OF ARTWORK SELECTION:

- WALTER JR. HIGH SCHOOL TEAM FOR BOX #122
- VIVIENNE KO AND KNOX HSIEH FOR BOX # 134;

AND

APPROVED CARRYING FORWARD THE FOLLOWING 9 STUDENT ARTISTS AND THEIR SUBMISSIONS FOR CONSIDERATION DURING THE NEXT STUDENT ART PHASE OF THE BOXART! PROGRAM:

- ISABELLA CHEN AND TEAM FOR *SAVE OUR EARTH*
- MIHIKA RAO AND TEAM FOR *SMALL ACTIONS, BIG IMPACT*
- ISHANI SOGI FOR *FUTURE OF OUR BEAUTIFUL WORLD*
- SHREYA JALASUTRAM FOR *COLORS OF NATURE*
- ROUJIA GUO FOR *ECONOMY OR ECOLOGY?*
- SHREYA JALASUTRAM FOR *FOREVER GREEN*
- AASHI MALIK AND TEAM FOR *A WHOLE NEW WORLD*
- JOYCE YU FOR *CLIMATE STRIPES*
- ADITI KRISHNA MANDELA FOR *TERRARIUM*;

AND

CONSIDERED THE PROJECT EXEMPT FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) PER CEQA GUIDELINES SECTION 15061(B)(3), GENERAL RULE, WHICH STATES THAT WHERE IT CAN BE SEEN WITH CERTAINTY THAT THE ACTIVITY WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT, THAT ACTIVITY IS NOT SUBJECT TO CEQA.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: 3 – Benton, Meerjans, Valdez

NOES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 1 – Squires
VACANCY: 1 – Pending appointment

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Information from Board and Staff:

- Information from staff, as reported by **Senior Planner Mark Hungerford**:
 - There is a vacancy on the Art Review Board, due to the departure of Jacline Deridder. Mayor Lily Mei will be considering candidates for appointment.
 - The November 15, 2023 Art Review Board meeting is cancelled, and the next scheduled meeting is set for December 20, 2023.
- Information from Board:
 - **Board Member Benton** announced that she will be participating in “Open Studios” in Newark on December 1-3, 2023. This event is open to the public.
 - **Chairperson Meerjans** commented on the art component that will part of the new Community Center in Central Park. This project is currently in the early design stages.
- Art Liaison Update, as reported by **Vice Chairperson Valdez**:
 - The Olive Hyde Art Guild 39th Annual Holiday for the Arts Show & Sale was held last weekend on October 21-22, 2023.
 - The Fremont Art Association in Niles has several events leading up to the holidays. More information can be found on their website, fremontartassociation.org.
- Fremont Cultural Art Council Update, as reported by **Chairperson Meerjans**:
 - The summit pole at Mission Peak has been repaired and restored after being cut off in an act of vandalism last month
 - Commented on Proposition 28, the initiative that provides additional funding for arts education in California public schools.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

APPROVED BY:



Mark Hungerford, Secretary
Art Review Board