

San Pedro ACE District  
Regular Committee & Public Meeting  
MEETING NOTES  
January 9, 2012

Committee members present: James Preston Allen, Linda Alexander, Melanie Jones, Lauren Kilgore, Deborah Lewis, Liz Schindler-Johnson, Allyson Vought, Ray Carofano, Beate Kirmse, Andrew Silber, Stephen Robbins. Absent: Annette Ciketic

Staff Present: Betsy Cheek, Chamber of Commerce, Judith Blahnik, Chamber of Commerce,  
Others Present: 10 members of the community.

The meeting was called to order with opening remarks by Chairman, Deborah Lewis at 4:07 PM.

Public Comment: None.

**ACTION**

Meeting Notes from December 12, 2011: Lauren Kilgore made the motion to approve the notes of the previous meeting and Melanie Jones seconded. **The motion was approved unanimously.**

Financial Report: Judith Blahnik reported that contract vendors had deposited their checks for Payment 1 on their contracts, also that the Chamber had deposited its payment 1 for administration fees and at present, there is \$4,165.14 in the Space Account. Also that as of December 30, 2011, Blahnik presented the completed mid-term reports from the contract art vendors to the CRA with invoices for payment II totaling \$37,303 for the arts activities and \$6,000 for the Chamber services. Payment II could come as soon as last week of January.

SPACE Website: Website designer Ann Lee reported that since July, her goal has been to populate the site with up-to-date material. Main obstacle: getting current material from artists and galleries in a timely and consistent way. People are coming to the site, many from other sites like Visual Art Source, San Pedro Chamber and FaceBook. And they expect more visual and content information when they get there. Send content, narrative and photos to [Ann@SpacificImage.com](mailto:Ann@SpacificImage.com) or call 310-548-3334

ArtScene & Visual Art Source: Bill Lasarow, Publisher and Editor of the comprehensive art guide, Art Scene, reported that they distribute about 10,000 copies of the guide each month and they have about 26,000 subscribers to the online: Visual Art Source. It's a tool that keeps people in touch with the evolution of culture in Southern California. The audience is varied: kids to retired people, researchers, students and art fans. Lasarow and Art Scene have been happy to run San Pedro 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday ArtWalk ads and remain committed to the growth of our downtown arts.

CRA/LA Update: Will Cipes, CRA/LA was absent and Deborah Lewis read a brief statement from him containing some of the following points:  
Dissolution of the CRA has been upheld by the state Supreme Court but the remaining funds for contract artists for 2012 are secure.

It is plausible that the remaining funds for the next 2 years of the CRA's Memorandum of

Understanding with the Chamber—approximately \$197,000—can be invoiced. Cipes is working on that for ACE and suggested a discussion by the Committee on future goals and spending in light of this possibility.

A brainstorm from the Committee included: incorporate as a 501c3 and/or not; focus on the 3-page plan of action recently passed by the committee; propose a kind of partnership with PBID for long term sustainability of ACE activity; acknowledge the sad loss of our CRA partner . . . not only the loss for ACE but the entire redeveloping San Pedro community.

Plaza Park and Labyrinth Public Art: Frank O'Brien reported that the Port is ready to move ahead on the renovation of Plaza Park on Beacon Street above Harbor Blvd. And that the Committee should know that of the \$5million budgeted, there is \$50,000 set aside for public art. The City of Department of Engineering will release an RFP for ART soon.

Beate Kirmse and artist, Annemarie Rawlinson presented a labyrinth concept for Plaza Park public art which Committee members responded to favorably: It would be a low budget, serene environmental sculpture. It could involve the local communities of Beacon House and Harbor View House in creating and maintaining it. Annemarie Rawlinson, who has created many labyrinths, would probably direct the project.

1st Thursday December: Discussion: New item: Michaels, next to Gallery 478, opened its doors to anyone who wanted to listen and dance to a live band. They want to do it every 1st Thursday.

New Business: None

The Meeting adjourned at 5:57 PM. Next meeting: February 13, 2012 at 4 PM