



Special Meeting Agenda

Thursday February 11, 2016 - 5:00 p.m.

City Hall Conference Room

No. 1 The Plaza Sonoma, CA

1	Call to Order, Roll Call
2	Public Communication
3	Approval of the January 28, 2016 Minutes
4	Presentation regarding the proposed General Vallejo Monument (the Commission's role per the Public Art Policy would be to make a recommendation to the City Council to either accept or deny the gift of public art.)
5	Request from Studio 35 for funding production of Art Walk maps
6	General discussion of the Public Art ordinance (requested by Chair Schertz)
7	Commissioner Comments
8	Adjournment

Upcoming Meetings: Student Interviews February 24 & 25 and meetings on March 3, 2016 and September 22. Additional meetings may be called as needed.

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Kate Schertz, Chair
Linda Ransom, Vice Chair
Lisa Carlsson
Nellie Cravens
Antoinette Kuhry
Kari Ontko
Pamela Personette
Robert Ryan, Alternate

*Posted: February 9, 2016
Gay Johann, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk*

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In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk (707) 933-2216. Notification 48-hours before the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

CITY OF SONOMA
CULTURAL & FINE ARTS COMMISSION
City Hall Conference Room, The Plaza, Sonoma CA

January 28, 2016
MINUTES

Call to Order – Chair Schertz called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present: Carlsson, Cravens, Kuhry, Personette, Ransom, and Schertz

Absent: Ontko & Ryan

Also Present: Assistant City Manager/City Clerk Johann, Robert Demler, George McKale, Michael Ross, Sean Ballach, Tom Haeuser

Public Communications – By email, Clerk Johann had informed the Commission that the recorded attendance at the Treasure Artist reception was 78. Expenses were \$1,478.37 (\$1,237.50 for Wild Thyme); receipts were \$1,185 bringing the net cost of the reception to \$293.37. Chair Schertz stated that a request from Studio 35 for funding would be on the next agenda. She expressed support of a \$900 donation for the production of 1,000 Sonoma Art Walk maps.

Minutes of the October 8, 2015 Meeting – Approved by unanimous consensus.

Presentation regarding the proposed General Vallejo Monument (the Commission's role per the Public Art Policy would be to make a recommendation to the City Council to either accept or deny the gift of public art.)

Members of the General Vallejo Monument Committee (Robert Demler, George McKale, and Michael Ross) presented the proposal for a life sized statue of General M. G. Vallejo, seated on a bench, to be placed on the north side of the Plaza and across Spain Street from the former location of Vallejo's Casa Grande, his original home. They stated that the 2000 Treasure Artist, Jim Callahan, had been commissioned to create the monument.

Commissioner Ransom stated the following: *"I have concerns that this is a less than respectful portrayal of Gen. Vallejo, as a seated individual on a park bench. Would "Kodak moments become distasteful" when the general public could and most likely will create less than honorable vignettes with such a casually portrayed statue? I have no problem with honoring Vallejo with a statue, I just question the appropriateness of this particular figure/design."* Mr. Demler responded that the General loved his grandchildren and them crawling all over him. Mr. Ross added that the monument was meant to be participatory.

Commissioners Carlsson and Chair Schertz appreciated the sitting position and participatory feel of the monument. Carlsson stated it would provide an additional tool to educate children of the Sonoma history.

Commissioner Cravens expressed concern about potential vandalism.

Commissioner Kuhry, referencing a letter to the editor from Bob Parmelee, stated her agreement with him that prior to the installation of any monuments in the Plaza a plan needed to be in place. She feared the Plaza would eventually become littered with monuments. Commissioner Personette agreed with Kuhry. Mr. Demler stated that the City was currently working on development guidelines for the Plaza area.

Thomas Haeuser explained that the Plaza Tree Planting plan came about because everyone who had a loved one pass away wanted to plant memorial trees in the Plaza. There were too many proposals to accept them all so a plan was created. He stated a plan needed to be in place prior to installation of this or any other monument.

It was moved by Commissioner Cravens, seconded by Commissioner Carlsson, to recommend approval of the installation to the City Council. The motion failed with the following roll call vote: AYES: Cravens, Carlsson, Schertz. NOES: Ransom, Kuhry, Personette. ABSENT: Ontko, Ryan.

Review of Student Artist Award submittals and determination of interview schedule

Upon referral to their calendars, Commissioners agreed to the following schedule for interviews of the students: February 24, 3-6 p.m.; February 25, 4-7 p.m. They also agreed to schedule meetings on March 3 and April 28.

Consideration of hosting a poetry program (Commissioner Kuhry)

Commissioner Kuhry presented information regarding the possibility of the Commission hosting an event to celebrate the art of poetry. Commissioner Ransom and Chair Schertz agreed to serve on the committee. Kuhry will do some leg work and report back at the next meeting.

Selection of presenter at the May 19, 2016 SVHS Awards Ceremony

Commissioner Carlsson volunteered to make the presentation on behalf of the Commission.

Commissioner Remarks – Chair Schertz announced she would be out of the country May 3 through June 14.

Future Agenda Items – March 3, 2016: Selection of the Student Art Award Recipient, FY 2016/17 Budget request, consideration of annual calendar and scheduling of the Treasure Artist and Student Award program, funding for the Art Walk maps, Celebration of Poetry event.

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gay Johann
Assistant City Manager/City Clerk



General Vallejo Monument Committee

Co-Chairpersons: Sheila Cole (707) 938-0350 and Robert Demler (707) 996-3432
generalvallejomonument.org



To: City of Sonoma, City Council
From: *General Vallejo Monument Committee*
Re: Proposal to erect a monument to Sonoma's Founder, General M. G. Vallejo
Date: September 9, 2015

Proposal

That a life-sized statue of General M. G. Vallejo be placed on the north side of the Sonoma Plaza, directly north of City Hall, and across Spain Street from the former location of Vallejo's Casa Grande, his original Sonoma home.

Introduction

A group of interested citizens of Sonoma have formed a committee formally called *General Vallejo Monument Committee* [the Committee]. The mission of this committee is "To commission and erect a suitable monument to Sonoma's founder, Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo." Inquiring Systems Inc. is the Fiscal Sponsor as a non-profit umbrella for the Committee.

Statement

The City of Sonoma is an international destination for those interested in its world-class wine culture and restaurants, and for those interested in tourism and learning more of Sonoma's pre-eminently important history. The Pueblo of Sonoma was officially founded in 1835 by then Lieutenant M. G. Vallejo following the orders of Governor José Figueroa, dated June 24, 1835. Even then, the location of Sonoma was widely recognized by diverse cultures as a place of importance based on its geographic location, its soils, and its climate. As foreseen by Mariano G. Vallejo, it would play an important role in the history of the larger territory of California and subsequently the United States.

Vallejo is considered one of the most important people in the history of California. He served under three flags in California – Spain, Mexico and the United States.

Under the Mexican government, he held many high positions; some of which have been ascribed to him include, *Commander in Chief, Commandant General of California, Supreme Military Commander of California, Commandant General of the Army in California, Director of Colonization on the Northern Frontier, and Commander of the San Francisco Presidial Army*. During the Mexican period he also served as *Administrator of the Sonoma Mission* and one of the first publishers of educational material in California. During the period of regime change in the late 1840s, he exhibited great diplomacy and was recognized by a combined population of Californios and Americans for his wisdom. In 1849 he was popularly elected as a delegate to the California State Constitution and one of its first State Senators. He served as one of California's first horticulturalists, winemakers, and mayors. In the 1870s his multi-volume *Historia de California* and his collection of documents was recognized as being of enormous importance in documenting early California history. A century later he was honored with the naming of a U.S. Polaris Submarine.

Despite his unique and central role in both Sonoma and California history, and being personally responsible for the founding of our City, there is only one small plaque with his relief in the City Hall. There is as yet no suitable civic monument dedicated to this important founder of our great city.

Objective

As stated in the mission of the Committee, our goal is to recognize and honor the founder of Sonoma, General M. G. Vallejo, by placing a statue of him on the north side of the Sonoma Plaza, to represent Sonoma's founder in his role of a post-military citizen. This monument will be for the public - for those who live here, as well as those who visit here - to see and learn of him.

Action

The Committee has been meeting and planning this project to overcome the absence of a suitable tribute of General M.G. Vallejo. They have contacted a local well-known artist for the making of a statue, worthy of both its subject and the city which owes its existence to him. Historians were contacted and pictures researched and provided to the artist in order to be historically accurate. The Committee has been working with various individuals within the City of Sonoma's governing structure for guidance and proper procedures in connection with this proposal.

Plan

The *General Vallejo Monument Committee* has contracted Sonoma's own Jim Callahan to create the monumental statue. Callahan was honored as the Sonoma Artist Treasure of 2000 and was given the Key to the City of Sonoma for his contributions to the community. He is one of the founders who conceived and implemented the formation of the Sonoma Valley Museum of Art and is founder and managing partner of the La Haye Art Center.

The Sonoma League for Historic Preservation has given him its Award of Merit and a separate commendation for the renovation of the Center. The body of work created by Callahan, ranges from miniature to monumental. Contained within the Center is a bronze foundry which is the heart of Callahan's studio. The Committee was presented with a mock-up of General Vallejo sitting on a bench [see Attachment 1]. It was unanimously accepted and is what we are proposing through this document. This manner of representation will allow a powerful interactive relationship between the sitting bust and the sitting visitor.

The Committee also met and worked with Michael B. Ross, founding Principal of Ross Drulis Cusenbery Architecture Inc. RDC is an award winning Sonoma-based architectural firm with a broad portfolio of national and local projects. Ross has received wide recognition for design excellence and innovation in the planning and design of public architecture, providing pro bono design services in support of a variety of community projects.

The Committee was presented with a site plan designed by Ross for the placement of the statue in the Plaza [see Attachment 2] which the Committee accepted and is now part of this Proposal.

Conclusion

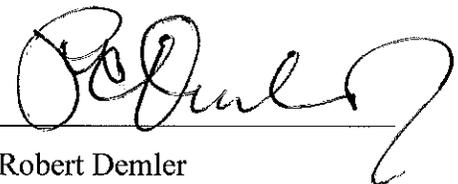
The *General Vallejo Monument Committee* has done due diligence in recognizing this need for the City of Sonoma and taking steps for an honorable and magnificent tribute to the distinguished man who founded the City. It is the hope of the Committee that the City will approve the plans presented and work can go forward on this project with a goal of unveiling it on July 4, 2016, as July 4th was the General's birthday.

Submitted by:



Co-Chairpersons:

Sheila Cole



Robert Demler

Members:

Bettie Allen Bettie Allen

Sean Bellach Sean Bellach

Gina Cuclis Gina Cuclis

Martin Laney Martin Laney

Martha Vallejo McGettigan Martha Vallejo McGettigan

George McKale George McKale

Peter Meyerhof Peter Meyerhof

Attachment 1: picture of monument as sculptor's maquette

Attachment 2: sculpture site installation concept

Attachment 1: picture of monument as sculptor's maquette



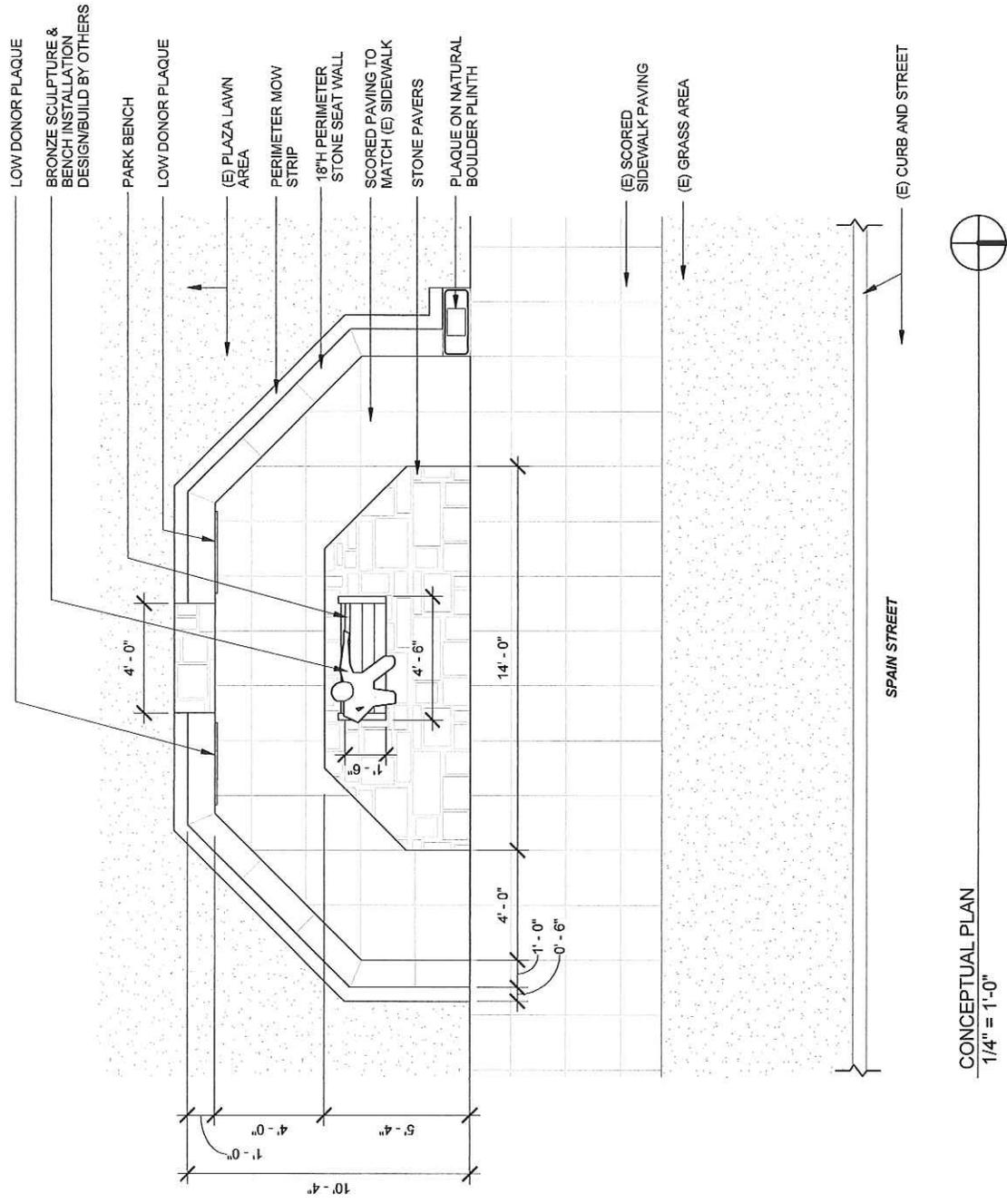
Attachment 2: sculpture site installation concept
[see next page]



CONCEPTUAL PERSPECTIVE



CONCEPTUAL AERIAL



Callahan picked for Vallejo monument

| July 30, 2015, 6:21PM

The Gen. Vallejo Monument Committee, composed of Sonoma citizens, is moving ahead. After going to several organizations for recommendations, Sonoma's Jim Callahan was commissioned to do the monument honoring the city's founder, Gen. M. G. Vallejo.

Callahan has been honored as the Sonoma Artist Treasure of 2000 and given the key to the City of Sonoma for his contributions to the community. He is one of the founders who conceived and implemented the formation of the Sonoma Valley Museum of Art and is founder and managing partner of the LaHaye Art Center.

The League for Historic Preservation has given him its Award of Merit and a separate commendation for the renovation of the Center. Contained within the Center is a bronze foundry, which is the heart of Callahan's own studio.

The body of work created by Callahan ranges from miniature to monumental.

Joining in the project to design the site plan for the monument is Michael B. Ross, founding principal of RossDrulisCusenbery Architecture, Inc. RDC is an award-winning Sonoma-based architectural firm with a broad portfolio of national and local projects.

Ross has received wide recognition for design excellence and innovation in the planning and design of public architecture, providing pro bono design services in support of a variety of community projects.

This proposal will be made to the Sonoma City Council meeting on Sept. 9.



**Jim Callahan
2000 Treasure Artist**

Gay Johann

From: Gina Roman <ginastudio35@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2016 9:21 AM
To: Gay Johann
Cc: Kate Schertz
Subject: Request for funds for printing Sonoma Art Walk Map

Hello Gay:

I was just about ready to hit send button when I saw your note that indicates this may not make your agenda tonight. If by any chance you can still squeeze this in it would be so appreciated.

Studio 35 requests funds in the amount of \$900 to run 1000 Sonoma Art Walk Maps. Studio 35 organized the information of the various art venues, did the graphic artwork and layout, and fronted the start up costs of producing this map.

The Sonoma Valley Visitors Bureau printed the first run of 900 copies but we are almost out (down to the last 25). This map is a important tool for the arts community on or near the Plaza. We want to build the momentum of emphasizing the arts as a viable and comparable focus in our community separate from and complementary to the wine and food industry. The SVVB may be able to handle designing and producing this map in the near future but they are currently in the midst of administrative changes (new executive director) and a new evolution of their branding.

In the meantime, the arts community would greatly benefit by your monetary assistance to keep this map in the public eye. We distribute both to the hospitality industry as well as the local community.

We thank you on behalf of all of the art venues on the map and those who want to join in this collaboration to highlight the arts!

Sincerely,
Gina Roman
Artistic Administrator
Studio 35
35 Patten Street
Sonoma, CA 95476
707-486-8547