

# 10-0773 APHA Meeting 092810

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In response to a deepening Budget Crisis, the motion for art centers to go the RFP route started at APHA in February, and was passed through Council on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Unbeknownst to many including this writer, many students and parents are asserting a request to refer this RFP back to Council. There is a claim; that in spite of DCA's desire to be out of the Municipal Arts Education Business, the Daily News editorial on core services for the Mayor, and all other economic and political pressures. Arts and Parks are a core service for this side of town as far as residents, taxpayers and voters are concerned. This claim is supported by over 400 signatures submitted to the file to stop "privatization". I ask the committee to specifically respond to the Petitions which essentially request a reconsideration of the motion for RFP for the BAC and JAC at Barnsdall Park.

Further , as mentioned in the already bifurcated 10-0773-s1, as to the issue of "BIFURCATION" of 9 centers within Parks from the 6 not in Parks, there is a question as to whether those 9 would still be governed by the leasing policy in the DCA RFP. The well documented dream of Aline Barnsdall, for example to have her home and park affordable, welcoming to all and devoted to art purposes, seems better managed and administered by a community arts Division then by a Department with no actual arts employees.

Sending this issue to the Recreation and Parks Commission will also result further delay and complexity and with the passage of time it is very likely that absent interim arrangements or further funding some programs will have to close their doors in January, 2011. This protest is being raised in the file although it is clear that the overarching deepening financial crisis is the true weight here.

Thank the Committee for taking the time to look at some of these concerns.

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