

THE MINUTES OF THE
SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN ARTS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1990

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: ARMANDO CID
PAT DAVIDSON
MARY ANNE PAYNE
DAPHNE STAMMER
SUSIE WILLIAMS
SANDRA YEE
DENNIS YEP

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: BRANDY MURTISHAW
KATHY RANDLETT

STAFF PRESENT: WENDY CECCHERELLI
KIM HECKES
GERI MCBETH
KAREN WELCH

- I. The regular meeting of the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission was called to order by Chair Payne at 4:05 pm at the Coloma Community Center.
- II. Public Testimony
None.
- III. It was moved by Commissioner Davidson and seconded by Commissioner Cid that the September 12, 1990 agenda be approved as written. The vote was unanimous.
- IV. It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes of the August 8, 1990 meeting as written. The vote was unanimous.
- V. Action Items
 - A. Vote on Waiver of Accessibility Requirement For Funding Events At Old Eagle Theatre
It was moved by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Yee to accept the waiver as written. The vote was unanimous.
 - B. Vote on Combined City/County Cultural Awards Concept
It was moved and seconded that the Arts Commission adopt the concept report by the Awards Committee to pursue developing guidelines that would combine City and County regranting funds. The vote was unanimous.

C. Vote on Support For Upgrading of Crest Theatre

It was moved by Commissioner Davidson and seconded by Commissioner Stammer to send a letter to the City Council stating that the Crest Theatre will not meet the needs of performing arts groups in Sacramento. The vote was unanimous.

D. Vote on Children's Festival Evaluation

It was moved by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Davidson that the Arts Commission does support the idea of a Children's Festival for 1991; that the Commission also supports the idea of a one-day festival at this point; that in order to be able to have a Children's Festival, the staffing as the Commission requests should be put forward for one FTE Program Coordinator at a minimum for this next year; that the long-term policy issues will be a matter for the retreat; and that we will also consult with the arts organizations in town to make sure that their interests are considered. The vote was unanimous.

E. Vote on Committee Chairs

It was moved and seconded to amend the Awards Committee post of Chair to include Commissioner Williams and Kathleen Randlett as co-chairs. The vote was 4 to 2 to 1, with Commissioners Cid and Davidson voting no and Commissioner Yep abstaining. Motion carried.

It was moved by Chair Payne and seconded by Commissioner Davidson to recommend Commissioner Stammer as Chair of the Arts in Education Committee. The vote was unanimous.

F. Discussion/Input on Symphony Contract

The Arts Commission expressed concerns regarding the proposed Symphony requirements by the City:

1. for 8-9 free City parks concerts. The Commission feels this is excessive, and reflects a political point of view as opposed to an operational (what's in the best financial interest of the Symphony) concern.

2. for the distribution of unsold tickets. Will this amount of tickets required so far in advance impair the Symphony's ability to sell more tickets? Does the distribution plan advance the Symphony's own marketing efforts to expand audiences? What are the long-term financial impacts?

3. with standard consultant/contractor "boiler plate" language. Is this standard contract language sensitive to the unique needs of a non-profit arts organization?

4. with the perceived need of the City to manage or control an outside entity it is not necessarily prepared or equipped to manage.

The Arts Commission concurred with the need for an Affirmative Action plan, but felt the plan submitted could be more specific and provide a clear indication of long-term goals.

The Commission cautioned that financial success on the part of the Sacramento Symphony should not be a disincentive to continued City funding as part of this five-year agreement.

It was the recommendation of the Commission that Commissioner Davidson review the draft contract with Director Ceccherelli. (Commissioner Yee will also attend if schedule permits.)

VI. Chair Report

Welcome to new Commissioner Dennis Yep. County budget: the Arts Commission received a \$50,000 increase in Cultural Awards program above its 1990 share of the budget. There is increased interest from City and County regarding the arts; elected officials were impressed with City Life, "Salsa to Symphony", Sacramento Children's Festival, etc. Commission is still currently working on artists' live/work space; an update report will be presented at the next Commission meeting. NEA resolution to reauthorize the NEA without restrictive language was adopted by the City. National Arts Week September 23-29. Commission retreat: tentative date is December 1, 1990; location to be announced. Chair Payne has spoken to Councilmember Ferris regarding the needs of the Commission for its three City members. County election, Measure U - County T.O. tax. Chair Payne urged support of this measure since its monies will help to support our regrating funds. "Quality of Life" general bond issue - Commission needs to be represented. Parks & Community Services Director Bob Thomas is willing to address this issue.

VII. Director's Report

There is concern from City and County about the operation of the APP program (no ordinance issues). Parks Director Bob Thomas suggested talking to the various City/County departments involved with APP

regarding administrative policy and procedures, and to more deeply involve them in the projects. Major projects such as the Memorial Auditorium are pending; all parties involved will need to understand what is happening during the process. Director Ceccherelli will not be attending the October Commission meeting; Geri McBeth, Administrative Analyst, will represent the Director.

VIII. Committee Reports

None.

IX. Friends Report

Friends is undergoing major adjustments and becoming a more active/visible group since Jackie Sheridan became president two years ago. There have been many growing pains; currently discussing direction for Friends: previously only a fundraising group, but has become more involved with the Commission's programs. New Works grantees performed at the last annual meeting and Friends was very involved with the first annual Sacramento Children's Festival. Board expansion & development: 1) Friends would like to have an administrative assistant to help with work, 2) How can Friends work more closely with the commissioners? Friends does not want to be placed on the "back burner", but involved with commissioners and community. A representative of Friends on the Commission would be beneficial in building a stronger relationship.

X. Old Business

None.

XI. New Business

Commissioner Williams is concerned with members of the Awards Committee who are paid arts organization staff members. Should current policy be made stricter with regard to "interested" members of this committee?

XII. Communications

None.

XIII. It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 6:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A Welch
Commission Secretary