

SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES OF THE

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN ARTS COMMISSION

Tuesday, May 16

4:00 P.M.

Commission Members Present: Muriel Johnson
Emily Strand
Judith Weintraub
Susan Willoughby
Edward Beimfohr

Commission Members Absent: Gloria Flores
Doreen Mauk
Ken Waterstreet
Maurice Read
Jane Watkins

The May 16th special meeting of the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission was called to order by Chair Ed Beimfohr at 4:15 p.m. Chair Beimfohr stated that the special meeting was called to discuss two questions:
(1) What is the impact of Proposition 13 (Jarvis/Gann Initiative) on the Sacramento arts community and (2) What is the impact of Proposition 13 on the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission.

Chair Beimfohr referred to the Fact Sheet attached to the agenda and briefly summarized it as follows: (1) loss of funding for SMAC, (2) loss of City CETA community artists program and expansion possibilities, and (3) loss of City funding for arts organizations in the Sacramento community.

Chair Beimfohr stated that, in general, there is a great deal of local government support in the arts and that it is developing more and more as time goes on. He pointed out that discussion on this issue would center only on cutbacks concerning City funding because at this point in time the County's position is unclear. He stated that City funding for the arts come from two separate funds: (1) the arts organization funding is from the entertainment and advertising fund while (2) the SMAC funds are supplied by the general fund.

Al Hellenthal, President, Sacramento Regional Arts Council, who was present at the meeting stated that in regard to the impact of Jarvis/Gann on the arts council, which is slated to receive \$10,500 in FY 78-79, they could continue operation on a reduced level into the 78-79 year without support from the City, however, this could not continue if new sources of funding are not found.

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Bill Moskin stated that one of the effects of Jarvis/Gann on the arts community would be that a great deal of pressure would be placed on the National Endowment for the Arts and other groups with people asking for more money.

Chair Beimfohr said that it is in our best interest to launch a mailing campaign from every art group to its members and the public about the impact of Jarvis/Gann on the arts here in Sacramento. He stated that SMAC could not supply the staff to do this kind of campaigning, however, the Commission itself could do so. Al Hellenthal stated that the Regional Arts Council will have space devoted to this issue in their June 1st newsletter which goes out to over 11,000 individuals, schools, libraries, etc. Ann Doyle from the California Association of Dance suggested that all of the arts organizations band together and have a press conference. She stated that other art organizations statewide are planning similar activities.

How do we as a Commission survive? Chair Beimfohr stated that due to the length of time that the Commission has been in existence, up to \$20,000 (approximately) is left in the current budget. If the money can be carried over, we may have a lease on the life of the Commission of up to four to six months. With the possibilities of new sources of funding in the form of grants, etc., the Commission could remain a vital organization and generate support from the City in terms of future funding. Chair Beimfohr appointed Susan Willoughby to organize a lobbying effort on the City Council to expressly carry out this plan.

Meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m.



Geri McBeth
Secretary