

**SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN ARTS COMMISSION
MINUTES**

Meeting Date: February 12, 1992

4:00-6:00 p.m.

California Arts Council

2411 Alhambra Boulevard

For information, call (916) 264-5558

COMMISSIONERS:

Gloria Burt

Pat Davidson

Lynn Ericksen

K. George Klumb

Anthony Marquez

Mary Anne Payne, Chair

Paula Munson

Sandra Yee

Dennis Yep

ITEM IV. - PRESENTATION - WAS HEARD PRIOR TO THE CALL TO ORDER: FUNDING CLIMATE FOR THE ARTS - ISSUES AND STRATEGIES. Speakers: Bill Farley, Sr. Management Analyst, City of Sacramento; Russell Fehr, Sr. Administrative Analyst, County Executive Office; and Sharon Dwight, Analyst, County Executive Office.

Bill Farley spoke regarding the City's 1991-1992 General Fund update. The overall City General Fund has a shortfall of \$7-\$9 million. Expenditure overruns are \$1-\$1.5 million. A potential fix is to offset with a one-time PERS contribution of \$9-\$10.5 million. In addition, last year's available Fund balance of \$1,075,000 could be used to help offset the shortfall.

Last year, the City Council adopted a two-year budget. For its 2nd year, Council will amend the budget.

Mr. Farley also spoke regarding the Arts funding and recent actions taken by the City Council. Action taken included:

1. Dollars from increased TO Tax and ticket surcharge may be used for debt service on the Memorial Auditorium and Community Center projects for only as long as it shall be needed. Each year, at the Midyear Review, staff will update Council on whether or not these resources are still necessary. Staff will likely recommend use of these resources on a one-time basis - in each year that it is determined that they are not necessary for debt service. Projected TO Tax available for arts regranting for 1992-93 is \$414,000.
2. Convention Center service fees of \$45,000 (in lieu of Memorial Auditorium organ renovation) will be proposed for regranting to small and multi-cultural arts groups.
3. Arts Endowment Fund of \$1,000,000 for annual grants to small and multi-cultural arts groups has been established by Council's November 5 action.

Some items are subject to change based on work of Art in Public Places Task Force, and June ballot initiative.

Russell Fehr gave a brief overview of the County budget. The County is facing a shortfall of approximately \$55 million. Of that, \$18 million has arisen since the adoption of the budget in August due to additional social services, community service caseloads and cost of living, to name a few. Approximately \$27 million is the gap between next year's projected revenue and next year's ongoing programs. There has been a decline of 6.7% sales tax revenue. General Assistance programs have increased caseloads of approximately 8,000, creating a \$4 million problem this year. There has been a decline in discretionary revenues. The overall picture is not good.

Sharon Dwight spoke regarding the monitoring and projections of the TO Tax. Her department makes the awards intended to fund groups. Some of these groups include 1) long-term obligations (Ex: multi-year contracts), 2) joint City-County funding (Ex: History Center, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission), 3) historical funding (Ex: Convention Center and cultural awards), and 4) Individual funding (Ex: culturally ethnic groups). Grants are awarded based on projections. Currently, the County is \$16,000 under last year's projections. Undercollection causes a deficit. Projected funds for next year are \$4,416,000. Obligations for next year are \$4,561,000. The shortfall is approximately \$415,000.

The following public testimony was heard:

Ken Larsen - Associate Director of the Confederation of the Arts. The good news is that the California Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts are still here. The California Arts Council budget is \$15.8 million. Nationwide, there is a decline of 22% in state arts funding. The California Arts Council endured a 6% reduction. The NEA budget was slightly greater than last year. April 22, 1992 is "Arts Day" in Sacramento. Arts groups and individuals are encouraged to write to and talk with their legislators regarding state arts funding.

Ernie Phinney - Executive Director of Sacramento Ballet Association. The Ballet has been touched by the recession. He asked that the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission take the charge to act as an advocate for arts organizations. He asked that the Arts Commission look at their role regarding the arts in the community and public awareness.

William Carroll - California Original Theater Company. Mr. Carroll also stated the need for advocacy in the arts community. He stressed increased advocacy and increased educational effort as vital in this economy.

David Hess - Executive Director Sacramento Regional Foundation. As a result of investments doing well this year, the Sacramento Regional Foundation will increase grant funding 22%. Mr. Hess stressed the importance of exploring new ideas that will bring the arts community together.

Bill Moskin gave a brief account of the Arts Commission's beginning.

Robbin Ware - California Cultural Assembly. Mr. Ware asked that as the Sacramento population grows, the allocation of dollars be reflected fairly. He asks that the Arts Commission meet the challenge of cultural inclusion.

Maggie Upton - Director of Business Volunteers for the Arts. Ms. Upton stated that the nature of giving is changing. Givers now want to "buy into something". There is a need for arts organizations to quantify their statistics in regards to attendance, performances, etc. She challenges the arts community to help the Arts Commission as spokespersons to make a case for the arts. She asks that arts organizations not offer problems without also offering a solution.

William Parker stated that it is imperative to bring all arts groups into the fiscal receiving picture. He stressed the need for all arts groups to talk about their legitimate needs and act as advocates as well.

Wendy Ceccherelli - Director, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, thanked all those who recently appeared before the City Council and Board of Supervisors to address issues and thank their elected officials for what funding has meant to the arts community. She mentioned the Arts Commission's efforts to identify new revenue sources for the arts and the initiation of a cultural master plan.

I. CALL TO ORDER - at the hour of 5:45 p.m. ROLL CALL: All present except Commissioners Marquez and Munson.

II. APPROVE AGENDA OF FEBRUARY 12, 1992

Moved and seconded

Ayes: Unanimous

III. APPROVE MINUTES OF JANUARY 8, 1992 - as amended. That the first Level One vote taken reflect:

Ayes 7 Noes 1 Absent 1

Moved: Burt; seconded: Davidson

Ayes: Unanimous

IV. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

V. CONSENT ITEMS (A-B):

A. APPROVE ADDITIONS TO ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PANELISTS POOL (YEE)

COMMISSION ACTION:

Recommend approval.

Ayes 6 Noes Absent 3

Motion passed.

B. APPROVE PANEL VOTING STRUCTURE FOR MEADOWVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER (YEE)

COMMISSION ACTION:

Recommend approval.

Ayes 6 Noes Absent 3

Motion passed.

Before continuing on to Action Items, Mark Lacalsi was introduced as the Children's Festival Director.

VI. ACTION ITEMS (A-D):

A. APPROVE CONTRACT FOR CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL/CITY LIFE (DAVIDSON)

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved: Davidson; seconded: Burt

Ayes 6 Noes Absent 3

Motion passed.

B. APPROVE SUBMITTAL OF CALIFORNIA ARTS COUNCIL STATE-LOCAL PARTNERSHIP GRANT (PAYNE)

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved: Davidson; seconded: Burt

Ayes 6 Noes Absent 3

Motion passed.

C. APPROVE TRISHA STANIONIS AS A MEMBER OF AWARDS COMMITTEE (ERICKSEN)

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved: Yee; seconded: Davidson

Ayes 6 Noes Absent 3

Motion passed.

D. APPROVE ARTIST SELECTION PANEL POOL FOR CONVENTION CENTER (YEE)

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved: Burt; seconded: Davidson

Ayes 6 Noes Absent 3

Motion passed.

VII. CHAIR REPORT

March 3 retreat with consultant Tom Wolf.

VIII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT/PROGRAM UPDATE

Friends of the Arts Commission held their annual meeting January 28. Mary Lynn Perry was elected President. Friends is working with an accountant to review the past two years of records.

Josie S. Talamantez was introduced as Grants Coordinator. Michelle Walker will begin as Art in Public Place Administrator February 18. Geri McBeth, Administrative Analyst, has accepted a lateral transfer with the Department of Public Works. The Arts Commission hopes to fill the vacancy with a Civil Service employee. The process has begun to make the Grants Coordinator position permanent.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. ART IN PUBLIC PLACES (Yee) - Larry Kirkland will conduct a "charrette" on February 25, to discuss the Convention Center Expansion project.
- B. AWARDS (Ericksen) - No report.
- C. CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL/CITY LIFE (Davidson) - Consultant Jack d'Amboise will present a "Master Dancers" teachers workshop with SADA on March 1, at the Sacramento High School. There will be a \$25 fee. A demonstration class will be held March 2, in Elk Grove. On May 29, prior to the Children's Festival, he will hold a choreographed event. The Children's Festival will look into obtaining space at the Convention Center for a reception. They are looking now for office space.
- D. PERFORMING ARTS (Burt) - The Performing Arts Committee is in charge of entertainment for the Library Gala Opening. It will take place July 17, 18 and 19. Friday evening, July 17, will be sponsored by the Jr. League and the Friends of the Library Foundation. Tickets will be available for \$75. There will be 4-5 hours of entertainment on all three days. Letters will be sent to performing arts groups inviting them to apply for entertainment. The total amount of stipends available will be \$15,000.
- E. VISUAL ARTS (Scott/Nielsen/Treaster) - On February 1, a recommendation letter was prepared for 58 Arden. Artists, architects and some Visual Arts Committee members were in attendance. The group developed basic and alternate plans for the site. Plans included 1) work space only, 2) live/work space, and 3) some possible demolition to the site to build live/work space. Their approach was to make advisory comments. A copy will be sent to SHRA and Councilmember Mueller. Visual Arts Committee is still considering Richards Boulevard site. Questionnaires have been sent out to artists regarding live/work space. Response has not been great. General response is that there is not much available in Sacramento that is above-board. Live/work space would help make Sacramento a competitive market.

X. AD HOC REPORTS

A quorum has not been present at meetings. Requests for membership to Ad Hoc Committee is open.

XI. FRIENDS REPORT (PERRY) - No report.

XII. OLD BUSINESS

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

XIV. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

XV. INFORMATION REPORTS

XVI. ADJOURNMENT - Motion was made to adjourn at 6:38 p.m. Motion passed.

RH
SMAC2/2-12-92