

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN ARTS COMMISSION RETREAT
SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1994

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Michelle Walker, Jordon Simmons (facilitator), Kathy Gee, John Angell, Richard Raisler, Dennis Yep, Robi Holmen, Virginia Bailey, Charles Barr, Nancy Esajian, Victoria Plata, Connie Mockenhaupt, Kathy Carlisle, Gloria Woodlock, Alpha Bruton, Karen Welch, Freeman Tinnin, Dick Janes, Laurie Heller, Jack Nielsen, Kitty Simpson, Gerry Kamilos, Gloria Burt, Kathryn Garcia Smith, Mary Anne Payne, Tony Marquez, Sue Sinclair, John-Ann Carlile.

II. PAST ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CHANGES THIS YEAR

- A. New Council/Mayor; dynamics: Hands-on/community oriented.
- B. New City Manager, Bill Edgar.
- C. Change in City structure; we're part of Economic Development Section, Community & Visitor Services Department.
- D. Agency: Michelle Walker appointed as Director, April 1993; Laurie Heller is permanent; will seek to make APP position permanent; may ask Council for more dollars for arts education.
- E. Council/Board: Several new members. Council may change as Fargo and Dickinson are running for Board position; District 1 may be open in June should Fargo win election. Ortiz running for Council again in June 1994; Kastanis may run for County Board.
- F. Planning Department: Bob Thomas named Interim Director.
- G. Didn't get NEA grant. Not having our planning process completed was said to be a major factor this year.
- H. BRAVO wants to do programs with us (aire AIDS rap opera internationally & fund tour of rap opera (PSA's)).
- I. Council (Steinberg) talked about programs with Michelle.
- J. Late Night Sacramento - Kaiser is interested in funding arts programming:
 - 1. Rap opera
 - 2. Dance - video production
 - 3. Graphic arts
 - 4. Mural (grafitti abatement)
- K. State budget coming up.
- L. Agency is starting new rounds of budget talks.
- M. Board: Will have retreat to set goals in February.
- N. SP Rail Yards: Will investigate APP allocation.
- O. Council priorities: Economic Development, Neighborhood Revitalization and Enhancement, Public Safety, Affirmative Action and Local Hire, Positive Youth Initiatives, Reinventing Sacramento - fiscally sound and service oriented. Current arts programming fit well with Council priorities.
- P. Board: Will give a presentation to the Board outlining programs and estimated dollars spent in each of their districts.

E. ADDITIONAL FEEDBACK AND SUGGESTIONS (CONTINUED)

- What does "education" mean to us? Is it K-12; lifelong; for artists; for the public; technical assistance, etc.?
- What does "inclusivity" mean to us? Is it interaction or interactivity between groups; policy of operation for everyone; does it include everyone at the table? Remember, the Commission is the structure or mechanism for groups and individuals to interact.
- Education and linkages to community members and other agencies must be reintegrated into all Commission functions.
- Education and advocacy become one and the same when we explain our program and listen for input.
- Must develop a Commission-wide policy on education, inclusivity and access. This is occurring, but it's not in writing. Formalize it!
- Develop clarity on what is "arts in schools" vs "arts in community."
- Must continue to define and redefine "education" and its "impact." This in an ongoing process.
- Send press releases when community is involved in projects; PR's not just to announce, but to educate and inform community.
- Ongoing assessments with measurable results in all areas - APP, grants, education.
- Send all committee agendas to all commissioners (this procedure is currently in place).
- Emphasize linkages created through our programs and services.

IV. COMMITTEES BREAK OUT INTO GROUPS

- Discuss visions/directions for committees, keeping in mind achievable timelines and dollars available for implementation.
- Examples - Potential for new/old programs, documentation, advocacy, fundraising, linkage with other outside agencies.

V. REPORTS BACK FROM COMMITTEE GROUPS

A. ART IN PUBLIC PLACES COMMITTEE (APP)

1. Redefine definitions, programs and policies to include new education and community linkages.
2. Create promotional programs - possible funding with % of % for publicity.
 - a. Videos
 - b. Articles
 - c. Brochures
3. Continue collaborations: Example - Oak Park Murals.
4. Need for more staff/equipment.
5. Subcommittees for specific issues and large projects.
6. Accessibility to public art - sculpture garden, permanent/temporary.
7. Development of maintenance plan.
8. Analysis of who has received commissions.

E. AWARDS COMMITTEE (AW)

1. Mission: Improve & develop community through the arts.
2. Project support is primary focus.
3. Areas of economic development: Neighborhoods, jobs, social problems, empowerment.
4. Build case why important to fund individual artists.
 - a. At-risk youth programs
 - b. Economic Development
 - c. Cross-cultural exchange
 - d. Neighborhood revitalization
5. Are we accomplishing diversity?
 - a. Service underserved community
 - b. Develop role of culturally specific organizations
6. Technical assistance & outreach - geographic diversity; touch all neighborhoods; have district arts committee.
7. Hold February retreat to develop these ideas.

F. VISUAL ARTS COMMITTEE (VA)

1. Studio tours for high school students.
2. Apprentice program - APP or New Works.
3. Student representatives on committee.

G. AD HOC ADVOCACY COMMITTEE (AD)

1. Review relationship between advocacy and funding.
2. Develop strategy between asking for and receiving dollars.
3. Advocacy is contingent upon goals of programs and public issues.

VI. SUGGESTIONS

- A. Target a few things of what we do - find a way to define how they represent our philosophical principles. Example - Promoting and enabling linkages.
- B. Advocate for our own unity (APP, Arts Ed & Regranting).
- C. Track ideas with Director and committees; report back to monthly Arts Commission meeting on these ideas and the status.
- D. In implementing above ideas, ask what constituencies do we want to address?
- E. Ask yourselves if there are committee overlaps; should any committees combine together for more efficiency and greater program integration?
- F. Committees may want to work with other committees; especially on educational programming.
- G. How do these new ideas relate to community programs and community needs?