

THE MINUTES OF THE
SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN ARTS COMMISSION
JOE MIXER WORKSHOP
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1987

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: MAGGIE UPTON, CHAIR
 WENDY SCRIBNER
 KEN WANG
 BONNIE BELL
 CAROL BORDEN

GUESTS PRESENT: GENE FREUND
 JOSEPH MIXER

STAFF PRESENT: WENDY CECCHERELLI

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. with introductions by all those present. Concerns regarding the Commission expressed by those present included a Commission more open to community input, credibility of Commission, balance between role of community and role of artists, responsibility and authority of Commission, direction, outreach to all segments of community, private sector awareness, involvement and fundraising.

The group explored human needs addressed by the arts. The group felt the mission of the Arts Commission "to foster and develop support for the arts" is too broad and lacks emotional rationale. Both City and County ordinances, however, provide human and emotional preambles, stating why the Arts Commission exists to foster and develop support for the arts.

Mr. Mixer asked what can the Arts Commission do? Or conversely, what are its limits? The group sees the Arts Commission as the focal point for the arts community, a cultural presence in Sacramento. Its strongest authority is recommendation to the City Council and the County Board of Supervisors.

Roles of the Arts Commission are those of an arts information clearinghouse, coordinator, linkor, recommender, endorser.

Organizational needs include becoming better known in the community as a recommending agency; increasing credibility; developing policies and criteria regarding recommendations, presentation and follow-up on recommendations; becoming proactive with elected officials, the public, and the media.

Proposed goals of the Arts Commission based on these needs are:

- Develop significant proactive stance with City/County elected officials.
- Increase greatly power structure's awareness of Arts Commission.
- Develop effective system for meeting and communicating with media.
- Establish a sound base with community grassroots organizations.

These goals can be further developed at the Arts Commission retreat.

Problems regarding the current committee structure are lack of definition regarding authority, roles, responsibilities; relationship between staff and committees; committee structure inactive; recommendations of committees re-hashed in detail at Arts Commission meetings.

Mr. Mixer reviewed the decisions of the Arts Commission last year regarding its committees (see attached minutes).

Commissioner Ken Wang questioned why it was necessary to have Awards, Programs, and Advocacy Committees. The following structure was proposed, with each officer responsible for overseeing these three areas.

Commission

Art in Public Places
County Cultural Awards
New Works
New and Emerging
Organizations
(Carson Wiley,
Vice-Chair)

Visual Arts
Performing Arts
Arts in Education
(Maggie Upton)

Advocacy
(SACcess,
legislative,
outreach, fund
development)
(Brigitte Rehorn
Vice-Chair)

Committee roles and responsibilities were recommended as follows:

1. The Chair is a Commissioner or volunteer as decided by the Arts Commission (e.g., all awards committees must be chaired by a commissioner).
2. The committee will arrange for its own hospitality (food, drink) or donations for hospitality.
3. The committee will appoint its own recording secretary, and keep their own minutes. Chair will confirm all decisions made before the end of the meeting.
4. The Chair presents all recommendations to the Arts Commission. These should be prepared and written two weeks in advance of the SMAC meeting for inclusion in the Arts Commission packet. No action will be taken on any agenda item unless there is a written recommendation in the Policy Management format, included in the agenda packet.
5. The committee writes up their own reports.
6. All committee members must be advised of these rules.
7. All Chairs must agree to these procedures.
8. Committees should agree on committee size, goals, meeting schedule, "program" of work within the limits of the Arts Commission's authority.

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Performing Arts, Visual Arts, and Arts in Education
Committees are charged with exploring and planning for
performing, visual arts, and arts in education respectively
as related to Arts Commission goals, and recommendations
proposed in the Arts Commission's approved long-range plan.

Mr. Mixer summarized the afternoon's proceedings, and the
meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy A. Ceccherelli
Director

CMSMAC1/MIN-MXR