



Harini Krishnan, District 1
Stephen Seymour, District 1
Kimberly Gordon, District 2
Elizabeth Stone, District 2
Belinda Hernandez Arriaga, Dist. 3
Laura McHugh, District 3
Jeanne Heise, District 4
Edward Sweeney, District 4
Manufou Liaiga-Anoa'i, Dist. 5
Samaruddin Stewart, District 5

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE ARTS COMMISSION

Wednesday, August 18, 2021 — 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom meeting

MINUTES

- 1. Roll Call** – Roll Call and meeting began at 3:12pm.
In Attendance: Commissioners Krishnan, Seymour, Gordon, Stone, Hernandez Arriaga, McHugh, and Heise
Absent: Commissioners Liaiga-Anoa'i, Sweeney, and Stewart
Staff: Robin Rodricks, Mara Grimes, Juda Tolmasoff
- 2. Agenda Amendments**
To guarantee a quorum would be available to vote on Agenda Item #6, it was suggested that the item be moved before Reports, Item #5. Kimberly Gordon moved to alter the agenda by moving up Item #6 and Jeanne Heise seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All approved
- 3. Oral Communications**
None
- 4. Consideration of Minutes** of July 21, meeting
Motion made by Commissioner Heise; seconded by Commissioner McHugh. Roll Call Vote: approved unanimously.
- 5. Reports**
 - Commissioner Reports:
 - Commissioner Seymour:** Administrator introduced him to the key people at the Redwood City Arts Commission that are currently working on an equity mural. He is working with the Lions Club in San Bruno as they want to put a lot of energy and support around murals and have even added a line item for them in their budget.
 - Commissioner Gordon:** Attended a San Mateo County Parks meeting to hear more about the interpretive parks plan
 - Commissioner Heise:** Attended meetings for the Winslow Street and the 5th Street & Middlefield underpass mural projects. Visited the Magical Bridge Playground with Director.

Public records that relate to any item on the open session agenda for a regular Arts Commission meeting are available for public inspection. Those records that are distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting are available for public inspection at the same time they are distributed to all members, or a majority of the members of the Commission. The Commission has designated the Board of Supervisors Office, located at 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063, for the purpose of making those public records available for inspection. The documents are also available to be sent electronically by e-mailing jtomasoff@smcgov.org. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), auxiliary aids and services for this meeting will be provided upon request when given three days notice. Please call (650)599-1005 (voice) or e-mail jtomasoff@smcgov.org. For the safety of those sensitive to airborne chemicals, please refrain from wearing chemically based products.

B. Staff Reports

- **Robin Rodricks:** Reached out to SVCF, Packard, and other possible funders to secure funds to re-grant but timing is not within their funding cycles; Attended meetings for the NFO Healthy Community Mural project and Causeway Bridge Project launch
- **Mara Grimes:** Writing the CZI grant and NEA grants both due 8/27/21. Creating timeline and tasks to launch the 2021 grants program.
- **Juda Tolmasoff:** San Mateo County has done a good job getting vaccinated, 91% one shot and 89.7% fully vaccinated. There is an uptick in cases – 53 people in SM Med. Center with active Covid and 19,000 cases reported. Cases are increasing in Latino communities and in younger residents. County is waiting to hear if the Governor will rescind the Brown Act which will affect meeting in person.

6. **Action Item**

A. Grant guidelines and application for General Support grants will be discussed under Discussion Items.

Director stated she will be meeting with Finance Department the following week to get exact budget numbers. We will then be able to determine how much is available for grants. It is recommended that all grantees receive the same amount.

Commissioner Gordon asked how this grant program was different than past programs, especially since the COVID funding was simplified. Administrator reiterated the concept of trust-based to remove some of the barriers, especially to new, underrepresented, and BIPOC arts organizations. The streamlined process is part of making the funds more accessible and inclusive. Commissioner Seymour suggested that we change the requirements for organizations to be in business from 2 years to 1 year to capture more new diverse applicants. Commissioner Stone asked if the rubrics would be changed to reflect some of the new concepts and the Administrator replied that they would be revised.

B. Grant guidelines and application for Arts & Civil Rights Cohort Projects

Director stated that since the funding available was limited that the Cohorts would not be able to receive funding for both grants but could apply for both this would allow them flexibility in choosing the funding they would prefer. Commissioner Heise brought up the fact that the point of the project was to support the Cohorts in Civil Rights projects and if they chose general funds this would be defeating the purpose. Commissioners discussed differing perspectives on the project itself and what was most meaningful for the Cohorts.

Commissioner McHugh made a motion to make two changes to the grant program: (1) changing that applicants only need to have been in business for 1 year, and submit one year of financials; and (2) the Cohorts may apply for both opportunities but can only receive funding for one.

Commissioner Heise seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: approved unanimously.

7 **Discussion Items**

A. "Reports" in future meeting re: strategic plan initiatives and tasks

Commissioner Seymour asked that we set some rules for future meetings including raising hands, sticking to the time allotted for reports, and starting and ending meetings on time. He also suggested that staff prepare quarterly tracing metrics for the strategic plan initiatives and tasks.

8. **Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 4:53 pm.

NEXT REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING: Wednesday, September 15, 2021 2:00-4:00pm