

ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
MINUTES OF MEETING
July 11, 2007, 3:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Duer, Marable, Michael, Trezek
Commissioners Absent: none
Staff Present: Moore
Guests/Visitors Present: none

Call to Order and Welcome. Vice-Chair Michael convened the meeting at 3:45 p.m. and welcomed all.

Public Comment: Chair Michael acknowledged a thank-you note sent to the commission by Robert Rezak for the kind gift acknowledging his many years of dedication to the commission.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Trezek moved to approve, Commissioner Duer seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

Proposed Budget for FY07-08 – The commission discussed the unknowns in the proposed budget – whether more office staff will be needed to carry out the proposed projects; whether AC5 will undertake a symposium; whether all “planned” projects will be carried through. The commission acknowledged that an approved budget is a guideline – not a fixed plan of action. Commissioner Marable moved to approve the proposed budget, Commissioner Trezek seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

Advocacy Efforts –

- Staff explained the California Arts Council’s request that their grant to us be acknowledged by letter to all of our California elected representatives – Assembly, Senate, and Governor. The commission approved a letter written by staff, which is to be sent immediately.
- To further our commitment to arts advocacy, Commissioner Trezek moved that AC5 join the California Arts Advocates organization at the \$50/annual level; Commissioner Duer seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.
- Commissioners agreed that when arts related legislative items come up, commissioners will rotate the responsibility to write the letters, with Commissioner Michael signing as Chair. Staff will forward the item to the entire commission, and designate the commissioner responsible for writing the letter. Commissioners will have an opportunity to email an objection if they feel AC5 should not respond to an issue.

Arts Recognition Awards (ARA) 2007 –

- **Venue** – Commissioner Michael agreed to scout locations and offer a recommendation. A central county location is favored as being the easiest for the public to access.
- **Event Time & Date** – 3:30 p.m. on either October 21 or 28.
- **Nominations** – None have arrived to date, however traditionally they are submitted at the last minute. The commission is urged to encourage nominations through their contacts.
- **Judges** – Carrie Lederer from the Bedford Gallery, Jerry Leisure from DVC, and Edie Sellers from KGO have all agreed to serve as judges; a fourth judge is being contacted. Staff is locating a room to use for the judging; possibly at a county library facility.
- **Master of Ceremonies** - Commissioners asked staff to send out the list of MC’s that were suggested to all the commissioners.
- **Videos** –
 - Commissioner Trezek has discussed with A-1 Media some ideas for producing a video. His estimate for the type of video we feel we need is between \$2200 and \$2500. The commission directed staff to contact CCTV to get an estimate from them for producing the video, as a second bid.

- Commissioner Trezek is willing to prepare questions to give the honorees to prep them for the interview – she will pass these by the other commissioners before finalizing.

Commission Vacancies – We need to send out a press release for the newly open At-Large position. Staff and commissioners are contacting possible applicants who they believe would add value to the commission. One application has come in for the District 5 seat. Staff will encourage the Supervisors’ staffs to declare the seats vacant to expedite the process.

Committee Reports:

Public Art Committee: No meeting.

Office Manager Report: June Expenditures have not all come in, so there is no budget report.

Ms. Moore spoke with Josie Talamantez of the California Arts Council, who provided some very useful statistics gathered by Americans for the Arts on the number of arts related businesses, and dollars spent in the arts, for each senate and assembly district in California. These reports will be forwarded to commissioners.

Brief Commissioner Reports:

- Commissioner Michael gave a report on the 1 ½ day conference she attended with Ms. Moore hosted by the California Arts Council bringing together most of the arts commissions and councils in California to discuss their needs. It was an informative session, particularly for us to gain a more clear understanding of the variety of programs and projects undertaken by our “partner” organizations. Commissioner Michael has enlisted a summer intern to do some research into the activities of these commissions and councils, culminating with a report to AC5 that can serve as a resource.
- Friends of AC5 – Bob Rezak has resigned from Friends of AC5 and endorsed David Duer to replace him. Darwin Marable offered to serve as a member of the Friends board, and Duer accepted.
- Commissioner Trezek asked if anyone has content to provide for Artbeat to please email it to her.

Request for Agenda Items:

Next meeting is scheduled for August 8th at 3:30 p.m. at 651 Pine Street, Room 105.

New Business: Commissioner Michael spoke with the Chair of the Richmond Arts Commission about how AC5 could best participate in the upcoming Home Front Festival in September celebrating the Rosie the Riveter National Historic Park. The Richmond commission has invited AC5 to have a presence in their booth and we will continue to discuss what that presence will entail.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.