



**SPECIAL MEETING of the**  
**FUNDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FAC)**  
**Monday, October 23, 2017; 6pm**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Attending:** Shelley Trott (co-chair), Jim Santi Owen (co-chair), Nicole Kyauk, Amina Yee, and Wayne Hazzard

**Staff:** Denise Pate, Esailama Artry-Diouf, and Roberto Bedoya

1. **Call to Order** The meeting was called to order at 6:04pm.
2. **Open Forum (total time available: 20 minutes)** There were no speakers
3. **Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of FAC on July 12, 2017**  
Moved by Shelley Trott, seconded by Wayne Hazzard
4. **ACTION ITEM:** *Recommend awarding FY17-18 Individual artist applicant Larry Batiste a grant in the amount of \$3,500.*
5. **Staff Report:** Denise Pate
  - **Forfeitures/declines of award in FY16-17:** Grants were approved on September 19<sup>th</sup> and grant agreements were emailed in early October. Grantee Contracting workshops were held, and Esailama reported that 70% of the grantee pool attended. There are a few changes, and we are also asking that grantees submit their packets by December 1<sup>st</sup>. After that date they will be contacted. Due to the complexity and cost of sexual abuse insurance, many organizations contacted us and felt that they couldn't afford the cost. Due to the cost of the sexual abuse insurance, two organizations declined their awards. We had a total of four forfeitures. Two were because of the insurance costs. The amount of grant forfeitures totaled **\$22,135**. We will award a portion of the remaining funds to Individual artist applicant **Larry Batiste**. Since we awarded the last-ranking score an award of \$3500, we will award Larry Batiste the same amount. These grant funds will support the grantee's production of a career development workshop and performance showcase for acoustic performance artists.

- Arts Loan Fund (ALF) is working to market the loan productions to Oakland organizations. ALF staff person Krystle Chipman came to the grantee contracting workshops to talk about the program.
- Grantee Site visits: I've been working to support grantee arts events by attending performances or making visits to their actual program sites. Some grantees don't contact me or invite, but I go through FB and record their activity dates.

**6. Manager's Report: Roberto Bedoya, Cultural Affairs Manager**

- Insurance task force: Roberto reported that Economic Workforce Development Director Mark Sawicki has suggested that we put together a task force to research ways to deal with the insurance challenges our grantees face.
- Re-establishment of Cultural Affairs Commission: The Mayor wants him to establish the new Cultural Affairs commission, but the issues around governance, recruitment, process, and scheduling still need to be sorted out.
- Cultural Plan Meetings: Lead consultant Vanessa Whang and Community Engagement consultant Susana Morales led the community meetings. They started this summer and the final meeting will be held on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Though attendance was low at some meetings, the content was rich with lots of discussion that centered around displacement, gentrification, African American communities, and youth. The most recent meeting was held at East Oakland Boxing Association.

**7. DISCUSSION ITEM: FY18-19 allocation plan**

- FY18-19 Allocation: Roberto reported that due to the advocacy of Oakland Creative Neighborhood Coalition, CFP received a \$233k raise in grant funding for the next fiscal year. He posed the question to the FAC members: How should we use this additional grant funding? Should we utilize this new money in association with the Cultural Plan? Should we create a new grant program? He spoke of an idea for an Artist-in-Residence-in-Government program, where an artist works in the cross-section of Department of Transportation, Human Services, etc.-or other City departments. He mentioned a model program in Minneapolis. Other ideas include creating a vehicle for emerging artists and organizations.
- Discussion of proposed changes for FY18-19 and FY19-20: There were discussions around instituting a hiatus policy for Art-in-the-Schools and Organizational Assistance for FY19-20. This may allow for new applicants to be funded, thereby spreading the funds to other members of the arts communities. There was only one representative from the grantee pool in attendance at this meeting. To allow for community input, the suggestion was made that the proposed changes be presented at the next Regular meeting of the FAC in January 2018.
- Public comment: Stacey Hoffman of Living Jazz spoke about her experience with this year's panel review. She was disappointed that one panelist scored her application unfavorably. Because of this one low score- her organization did not receive Art-in-the-School funding for the first time in many years. Noting that in the past there have been 5-6 panelists, she cited that this may be why one score can change the outcome for the applicant. CFP Coordinator Denise Pate agreed with this observation, and said that it could be possible for one panelist to change the outcome of the weighted scoring. A suggestion was made to increase the number of

panelists to six per panel. Also, Stacey noted that this year the FAC voted to award at full ask. Historically (past 6 years), FAC has voted to reduce award amounts by as much as 50%. Stacey felt that the “all or nothing” practice this past year didn’t serve the applicant pool well. FAC member Wayne Hazzard commented that they (FAC members) are asked to vote without all the background information that a panelist would have. He asked us to consider if this was fair to the applicant.

**8. Cultural Plan Update:** Vanessa Whang, Cultural Plan Lead Consultant

- Vanessa explained how the Cultural Plan Community meetings plan are structured; cultural conversations with Roberto and Town hall-style meetings. The last community meeting will be held on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Intertribal Friendship House.
- In addition to the meetings, an online survey has been distributed via Facebook and our email lists. She gave a brief, breakdown of the demographics of those who have responded to the survey so far, noting that most of the 310 surveys received were completed by college-educated, middle-aged, White women. She shared the other statistics, and compared the racial demographics to those of Oakland. For example: 25% of the respondents were African American, and the African American population is 22%. She reported that there have been many comments about being “left out” or income challenges, gentrification, and homelessness. 89% of respondents say that the arts are “essential to their lives.”
- Roberto stated that the plan would be written by the end of the year. It will be presented at community meetings, and then before City Council in February.

**Next Steps/Meeting:** The committee will re-visit a motion to revise any of the policies or make changes to the Cultural Funding Program categories or guidelines in the **next FAC meeting** to be held on **January 10, 2018**.

The Motion to Adjourn was moved by Jim Santi Owen, and seconded by Nicole Kyauk.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32pm.