



## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE ARTS COMMISSION**

**Friday, January 20, 2023**

**1 p.m.**

**Remote Meeting**

### **Minutes**

President/Chair Collins called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

#### **1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Changes, Land Acknowledgment (00:32)**

##### **Commissioners Present**

Charles Collins, President

Janine Shiota, Vice President

Abby Sadin Schnair

JD Beltran

##### **Staff Present:**

Ralph Remington, Director of Cultural Affairs

Rally Catapang, Deputy Director of Finance and Administration

Joanne Lee, Deputy Director of Programs

Sandra Panopio, Senior Racial Equity and Policy Analyst



Kevin Quan, Finance and Accounting Manager

Traka Lopez-White, Commission Secretary

President/Chair Collins shared virtual meeting instructions.

Commission Secretary Traka Lopez-White announced public comment instructions.

President Collins began the meeting reading the Arts Commission's land acknowledgement statement.

## **2. General Public Comment**

*(10:11)*

There was no public comment.

## **3. Director's Report**

*(11:53)*

Director Remington joined the meeting from New York. He began with some high-level announcements. First, Director Remington referred to the January 10, 2023, City Attorney issued Memorandum: Legal Rules Governing Remote Participation by Members of Policy Bodies in Meetings Beginning March 1, 2023.

Director Remington summarized the updated rules for in-person meetings of City boards, commissions, and advisory bodies beginning March 1, 2023, upon the termination of the Mayor's COVID-19 emergency orders.

All public body meetings will be required to return to an in-person format, and members of commissions will no longer be able to attend remotely,



even if sick or have had exposure to COVID. In addition, remote public comment will also no longer be required, except for people who request a reasonable accommodation. The Full Commission meetings will continue to meet in person at City Hall and remain hybrid meetings. Subcommittee meetings will be changed from remote to in-person, located in room 125 at the War Memorial Veterans Building beginning March 2023.

The next item that Director Remington discussed was the Mayor's Storm Relief programs that will support small businesses and residents that were impacted by the various devastations from the recent winter storms. In conjunction with the mayor's relief and supportive initiatives, SFAC will work closely with Grants for the Arts to establish a special storm relief fund to provide financial support for San Francisco artists and arts organizations.

Director Remington announced the launch of the Native American Arts and Cultural Traditions (NAACT) Special Grant category. Applications will be due on February 13, 2023. The NAACT is a regranting program designed to address emerging and existing needs within the arts ecosystem of the San Francisco Native American communities. The grant period will run from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024.

Our next City Hall gallery exhibition "Art with Elders: The Power of Creativity and Community" will have an opening reception on Thursday, February 2, 2023, from 5-7 p.m. in the North Light Court at City Hall.

In closing, Director Remington shared that he had the opportunity to visit SFAC Director of Galleries and Public Programs Carolina Aranibar-Fernandez's first solo show in New York.

There was no public comment.

#### **4. Arts Commission FY 2023 -2024 and 2024 -2025 Draft Budgets (25:18)**

Deputy Director of Finance and Administration Rally Catapang gave a budget presentation.

Deputy Director Catapang provided an overview of the budget process, priorities, and the city's timeline. This presentation is the first of two required public meetings. The second will be during the February 6, 2023 Full Commission Meeting.

Deputy Director Catapang shared a brief overview of the continuous impact of the pandemic that contributed to fluctuations in the City's budgets. As a result, this led to a 5% reduction in general fund support in FY 24 and 8% in FY 25. However, our total operating budget will increase in FY 24 and FY 25 to \$30M and \$31M respectively, due to projected annual increases of 10% in hotel room tax revenue.

He noted that our community investment efforts are projected to grow incrementally in the next two fiscal years. Deputy Director Catapang announced that in FY 24, we are requesting capital funds for seismic work at MCCLA, roof replacement for the Bay View Opera House, and relocation for SOMArts. In addition, there are several strategic priorities in FY 24 – this includes working on our strategic plan, supporting city efforts for downtown recovery, and exploring a merger with GFTA. The intention is to retain a full staff into FY 24 through investments in retention and recruitment strategies.



**Commissioner Beltran, seconded by Commissioner Schnair moved to approve proposed Fiscal Year 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 Arts Commission budget.**

There was no public comment.

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Collins, Shiota, Beltran, Schnair.

**5. Amendment to SF Symphony Contract  
(45:34)**

Deputy Director of Programs, Joanne Lee.

Deputy Director Lee discussed the increase in the ad valorem taxes, which led to the SFAC's request to amend contract ID #1000022139 between SF Symphony and the SFAC. The amendment to the contract will increase the contract by \$248,545.00 and authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a contractual agreement not to exceed \$7,787,891.00 according to Section 16.106 (1) of the City Charter.

**Commissioner Beltran, seconded by Commissioner Schnair moved to approve proposed amendment to SF Symphony Contract.**

There was no public comment.

The motion unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Collins, Shiota, Beltran, Schnair.

## **6. Racial Equity Updates**

*(51:25)*

Senior Racial Equity and Policy Analyst, Sandra Panopio.

Senior Racial Equity and Policy Analyst, Panopio provided some updates regarding the SFAC equity plans and the racial equity 2023 top priorities. Panopio and our DHR representative have deepened their collaboration by analyzing retention and recruitment strategies staff. We have reviewed outreach tactics that will effectively target diverse employment markets, which then contributed towards an increase in hiring new employees identified as people of color and the execution of several internal promotions.

Panopio discussed the completion of the first phase of the Monuments and Memorial committee and is currently seeking funds that will provide support for phase 2. Monuments and Memorial committee phase 2 concentrates on meaningful community engagement and conducting a racial equity audit of the Civic Art Collection.



Director Remington commented that once the Monuments and Memorial report is finalized, phase one will be completed when we deliver to the mayor, and the contingency to implement phase 2 will require her approval before pursuing funding.

There was no public comment.

## **7. New Business and Announcements**

*(1:08:11)*

Commissioner Shiota praised Commissioner Beltran for her years of commitment and impact within the arts and equity.

President Collins requested that Commissioner Beltran provided an acknowledgment about Larry Thomas, who recently passed on January 6, 2023. Commissioner Beltran shared her connection to Thomas and his impact and achievements as an artist and arts educator. She added her appreciation for his mentorship, leadership, and friendship.

Furthermore, President Collins shared his bond with Thomas while they were colleagues at San Francisco Art Institute.

## **8. Adjournment**

*(1:17:45)*

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Posted 1/30/2023, 4:45p.m., tlw

### **Archives Available**

**A recording of this meeting will be available online after the meeting at the following address: ENTER AUDIO ARCHIVE [LINK](#).**

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