



MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 25, 2024
12:30 p.m.

Minutes

Commissioner Collins called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Changes, Land Acknowledgment (0:49)

Commissioners Present:

Charles Collins
J. Riccardo Benavides
Seth Brenzel
Marcus Shelby

Commissioners Absent:

Janine Shiota, Chair
Nabiel Musleh

Staff Present:

Lex Leifheit, Deputy Director of Programs
Sarah Hollenbeck, Deputy Director of Finance & Administration
Denise Pate, Director of Community Investments
Debbie Ng, Senior Program Officer
Anne Trickey, Senior Program Officer
Jennifer Chu, Program Officer
Jennifer Atwood, Program Officer
Jonell Molina, Program Officer
Arianna Vazquez, Program Associate
Thanh Hong, Program Associate



Commissioner Collins announced the public meeting instructions.

Program Associate Ari Vasquez announced public comment instructions.

Commissioner Collins began the meeting by reading the Arts Commission's land acknowledgment statement.

2. General Public Comment (8:42)

There was no public comment.

3. Location Change for Community Investments Committee Meeting (9:09)

Commissioner Collings introduced the motion to change the regular Community Investments Committee Meeting location, from War Memorial Veterans Building, 401 Van Ness, San Francisco, CA 94102, room 125 to San Francisco City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102, room 416. The meeting time will change from the third Tuesday of even months at 1:00 p.m. to the fourth Tuesday of even months at 1:00 p.m.

Commissioner Brenzel, seconded by Commissioner Shelby move to approve Location Change for Community Investments Committee Meeting.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

4. Cultural Equity Endowment Fund and Grant Program Overview (11:04)

Director of Community Investments, Denise Pate, presented an overview of the Cultural Equality Endowment Fund Grant Program. She reported on the application process, technical assistance and outreach included in the fiscal year cycle (FY24). Director of Community Investments Pate introduced Compliance Officer, Molly Barrons, to discuss the grants management system.

Compliance Officer Molly Barrons reported that in April 2023, she worked with Smart Simple developers to create a new grants management portal for the Arts Commission. She demonstrated the home page, landing page, and an example application, and discussed the next phase of the project which will create grants in the system.

Commissioner Collins commented that the grants portal will be transformative and ensure fairness. Commissioner Shelby asked how long it would take an average panelist to review an application in the system. Compliance Officer Barrons stated it takes about an hour and noted the split screen view for panelists, which makes reviewing easier.

Director of Community Investments Denise Pate introduced Program Officers Jonell Molina and Jennifer Chu to present.

Program Officer Jonell Molina shared the outreach conducted by the eight cultural ambassadors in the Fall of 2023 through their networks, online and in person. He shared the outreach statistics gathered for the program.

Program Officer Jennifer Chu reported on the strong engagement received during the two Instagram Live sessions.

Commissioner Shelby asked if any of the Cultural Ambassadors were past grantees. Program Officer Chu noted that some had served as panelists and that many were staff or board of organizations that received grants. Cultural Ambassadors could not apply for this year's grant opportunities due to potential conflicts of interest.



Commissioner Collins asked if there is any way to track which applicants were referred by Cultural Ambassadors. Program Officer Chu noted that they used several tracking tools, and that the application demographic survey asks applicants if they worked with a Cultural Ambassador. Program Associate Ari Vasquez stated that the top three methods for learning about the Arts Commission opportunities were the newsletter, word-of-mouth, and the SFAC website.

Director of Community Investments Denise Pate presented information on staff outreach and technical assistance. She also presented data on panels, funding requests and grantees.

Program Associate Ari Vasquez presented information on this year's applicants and grantees as well as demographic trends. This year the program received the largest number of applications over the past four years. The new grants management software, Smart Simple, increased staff capacity to process the volume of applications. Applicants and grantees applied from all eleven Supervisorial districts. Program Associate Vasquez noted that the percentage of applications per district mirrored the population density of those districts. They presented slides on the individual and organizational demographics of applicants and grantees. Arts Commission applicants and grantees are more likely to report less than \$40,000 annual household income. 70% of applicant organizations reported that more than half of their audience identify as BIPOC.

Commissioner Collins noted that the demographic information matched the SFAC Racial Equity Action Plan Implementation report by Sandra Panopio, Senior Racial Equity and Engagement Analyst. The report was presented at the April 23, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting.

Public Comment:

Topher with the San Francisco Neo-Futurists thanked the staff for the data presentation and asked if there was data on LGBTQ+ identities.

5. Cultural Equity Grant Program – FY24 Funding Recommendations Overview

(35:35)

Senior Program Officer, Debbie Ng, presented the funding recommendations for fiscal year 24, and she mentioned that funding requests had increased by 36%. The recommendations amount to \$5,204,978 and are divided into three grant categories: the Artistic Legacy Grant, Cultural Equity Initiatives, and the San Francisco Artist Grants. In total, there are 38 grants for organizations and 51 grants for Artists.

There was no public comment.

6.1. FY24 Cultural Equity Grant Program Funding Recommendations – San Francisco Artist Grant (38:34)

Senior Program Officer Debbie Ng introduced Program Officers Jennifer Atwood and Jennifer Chu to present.

Program Officer Jen Atwood presented information on the San Francisco Artists Grant category. She mentioned the increase to \$30,000 and the increase in applications to this category. Atwood highlighted the multi-genre panels and two projects by Biko and Conni McKenzie.

Commissioner Shelby asked if Biko was Biko Eisen-Martin. Program Officer Atwood confirmed. Commissioner Brenzel asked if staff have a sense of art forms for the applicants. Program Officer Atwood confirmed that data is available. Commissioner Shelby noted that the increase in the grant award is nice. Commissioner Benavides welcomed and commended Program Officer Atwood.

Commissioner Shelby asked about the percentage of new grantees, noting that it is almost half. He asked about applicants who had previously been awarded and did not receive grants. Senior Program Officer Trickey noted the number of applicants in the category this year and that the score cutoff was very high. They referred Commissioners to the additional information in the supplementary documents. Commissioner Collins confirmed that the



information was publicly available.

Motion to approve the funding recommendations of the San Francisco Artist Grant (SFA) panels, to award 50 grants totaling \$1,500,000 to the following individuals, and to enter into grant agreements with each artist or their fiscal sponsor and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into grant agreements for amounts not to exceed the following at this time:

1. Afatasi, \$30,000
2. Alexandru Anthoniu Salceanu (Fiscal Sponsor: Somarts), \$30,000*
3. Ami Molinelli, \$30,000
4. Amihan (Fiscal Sponsor: Filipino-American Development Foundation), \$30,000
5. Ana Teresa Fernandez (Fiscal Sponsor: Intersection for the Arts), \$30,000
6. Antony Fangary, \$30,000
7. Ariel Mihic, \$30,000*
8. Arturo Mendez-Reyes, \$30,000*
9. Ava Koohbor, \$30,000*
10. Badri Valian, \$30,000*
11. Biko, \$30,000*
12. Breanna Sinclairé, \$30,000
13. Bryan Nicolas Pangilinan, \$30,000
14. Cheryl Derricotte, \$30,000
15. Claudia Escobar, \$30,000*
16. Conni McKenzie, \$30,000*
17. Diana Lara, \$30,000
18. DjeRae, \$30,000*
19. Donna Mae Ang Foronda, \$30,000*
20. Eric Garcia (Fiscal Sponsor: Dancers Group), \$30,000
21. ET IV, \$30,000
22. Genevieve Quick (Fiscal Sponsor: Chinese Culture Foundation of San Francisco), \$30,000
23. George McCalman, \$30,000*
24. J Manuel Carmona, \$30,000*
25. Jadu (Fiscal Sponsor: Embodiment Project), \$30,000*

26. Jungyoon Wie, \$30,000*
27. Kathy L Nguyen, \$30,000*
28. Kayl Johnson, \$30,000*
29. Kevin Simmonds, \$30,000
30. Laurus Myth, \$30,000*
31. Lenora Lee (Fiscal Sponsor: Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center), \$30,000
32. Lyzette Wanzer, \$30,000
33. Marcel Pardo Ariza (Fiscal Sponsor: Galeria Studio 24), \$30,000*
34. Maria Breaux, \$30,000
35. Maya Fuji, \$30,000*
36. Megan K Kurashige, \$30,000
37. Melody Takata (Fiscal Sponsor: Nihonmachi Little Friends), \$30,000
38. MK Wong, \$30,000
39. Mohammad Gorjestani, \$30,000*
40. Monica Magtoto, \$30,000
41. Nancy Cato, \$30,000*
42. Nancy Wang, \$30,000
43. Naomi Garcia Pasmanick (Fiscal Sponsor: Independent Arts & Media), \$30,000*
44. Niloufar Talebi, \$30,000
45. Nina Limón (Fiscal Sponsor: Independent Arts & Media), \$30,000
46. Panda Dulce, \$30,000
47. Patrick Makuakāne, \$30,000
48. SeQuoia, \$30,000*
49. Sherene Melania, \$30,000
50. Vanessa Sanchez, \$30,000

Commissioner Shelby, seconded by Commissioner Brenzel move to approve FY24 Cultural Equity Grant Program Funding Recommendations – San Francisco Artist Grant.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

6.2. FY24 Cultural Equity Grant Program Funding Recommendations – Artistic Legacy Grant (48:06)

Program Officer Jennifer Chu presented an overview of the Artistic Legacy Grant. She thanked the panelists and stated that the category is open to individual artists this year. Program Officer Chu noted the increase of the award to \$75,000 over two years. She gave background on Rhodessa Jones' career and proposed archive project.

Motion to approve the funding recommendation of the Artistic Legacy Grant (ALG) panel, to award one grant totaling \$75,000 to the following individual, and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a grant agreement not to exceed the following at this time:

1. Rhodessa Jones, \$75,000

Commissioner Shelby noted that Rhodessa Jones is an incredible artist, a shero, and someone that has touched the lives of any Black artist that has worked in the Bay Area over the last 25 years. Commissioner Collins asked about the convening celebrations for grantees in this category. Program Officer Chu stated that the team is looking into how best to celebrate the ALG awardees with the recognition they deserve.

Commissioner Shelby, seconded by Commissioner Brenzel move to approve FY24 Cultural Equity Grant Program Funding Recommendations – Artistic Legacy Grant.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

6.3. FY24 Cultural Equity Grant Program Funding Recommendations – Cultural Equity Initiatives (55:45)

Program Officer Jenfer Chu presented an overview of the Cultural Equity Initiatives grant program. The organizational budget cap for this category was increased from \$1.5 million to \$2 million dollars to reflect the high cost of operating in San Francisco. The recommended organizations serve the majority of communities that are prioritized in the cultural equity legislation. Program Officer Chu highlighted capacity building and other essential aspects of program operation the recommended organizations are doing.

Commissioner Shelby asked why some of the grant amounts were slightly different. Program Officer Chu clarified that the request amounts are managed by the applicant organization. If awarded for funding, applicants receive the amount requested. Director of Community Investments Denise Pate emphasized that staff are not allowed to edit or change information submitted by applicants. Commissioner Benavides asked if that means that staff work with the grantee using the amount indicated on the agenda. Program Officer Chu confirmed.

Motion to approve the funding recommendations of the Cultural Equity Initiatives panels, to award 38 grants totaling \$3,629,978 to the following organizations, and to enter into grant agreements with the organization or their fiscal sponsor and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into grant agreements for amounts not to exceed the following at this time:

1. 5 Elements (Fiscal Sponsor: Independent Arts & Media), \$100,000*
2. A PLACE OF HER OWN (Fiscal Sponsor Asian American Women Artists Association Inc.), \$75,000
3. African-American Shakespeare Company, \$100,000
4. AfroSolo Theatre Company (Fiscal Sponsor: Intersection for the Arts), \$100,000
5. Asian American Women Artists Association Inc., \$100,000
6. Au Co Vietnamese Cultural Center, \$100,000
7. Bay Area American Indian Two-Spirits (Fiscal Sponsor: QCC-The Center for Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Art & Culture), \$100,000
8. Bridge Live Arts, \$100,000
9. Chavalos De Aqui Y Alla, \$80,000
10. Chinese Historical Society of America, \$100,000



11. Chrysalis Studio/Queer Ancestors Project (Fiscal Sponsor: QCC-The Center for Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Art & Culture), \$100,000
12. Clarion Performing Arts Center, \$100,000
13. Diasporic Vietnamese Artists Network, \$100,000
14. Emerging Arts Professionals San Francisco Bay Area (Fiscal Sponsor: Intersection for the Arts), \$100,000
15. Ensemble for These Times (Fiscal Sponsor: InterMusic SF), \$100,000
16. Eye Zen Presents (Fiscal Sponsor: Intersection for the Arts), \$100,000
17. Foglifter Press, \$100,000
18. Galeria Studio 24, \$100,000
19. Inkboat Inc., \$50,000
20. Jess Curtisgravity Inc., \$100,000
21. Kultivate Labs, \$100,000
22. Music Is First (Fiscal Sponsor: Intersection for the Arts), \$100,000*
23. NAKA Dance Theater (Fiscal Sponsor: Dancers Group), \$100,000
24. OX (Fiscal Sponsor: Counterpulse), \$75,000
25. Push Dance Company, \$100,000
26. Root Division, \$100,000
27. SAMMAY Productions (Fiscal Sponsor: Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center), \$100,000
28. San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company, \$100,000
29. San Francisco International Hip Hop DanceFest (Fiscal Sponsor: Dancers Group), \$100,000
30. San Francisco Recovery Theatre (Fiscal Sponsor: Idris Ackamoor and Cultural Odyssey), \$100,000
31. San Francisco Youth Theatre, \$100,000
32. The African & African American Performing Arts Coalition (Fiscal Sponsor: The Dance Brigade A New Group From Wall Flower Order), \$50,000
33. The San Francisco Neo-Futurists (Fiscal Sponsor: Intersection for the Arts), \$99,978*
34. Theatre Flamenco of San Francisco Inc., \$100,000
35. Womens Audio Mission, \$100,000
36. World Arts West, \$100,000
37. Yerba Buena Arts & Events, \$100,000
38. Zaccho SF, \$100,000

Commissioner Brenzel, seconded by Commissioner Shelby move to approve FY24 Cultural Equity Grant Program Funding Recommendations – Cultural Equity Initiatives.

Public Comment

Topher with the San Francisco Neo-Futurists provided clarification regarding their grant request. They stated they did not understand the direction to select from the four provided options. The organization’s goal was to match a number to their budget and stated this was the advice given to them by their fiscal sponsor. They requested a reminder or a drop down in the application.

The motion was unanimously approved.

7. Arts Impact Endowment Fund and Grant Program Overview (1:06:14)

Director of Community Investments, Denise Pate, introduced Senior Program Officer, Anne Trickey, to report on the Arts Impact Endowment Fund (AIE). Senior Program Officer Trickey gave background on the AIE fund, which is governed by the Cultural Services Allocation Plan, created with community input every five years. Last year, AIE focused on first time grantees and this year the focus was on project-based work. The applicant success rate for this category, 41%, is greater because it receives fewer applications overall. The disparity between individuals and organizations recommended is due to fewer individuals applying for the arts education and space/capital categories. Senior Program Officer Trickey noted that this category, while smaller, is reaching all of San Francisco as demonstrated by the applicant map.

There was no public comment.

8. Arts Impact Endowment – FY24 Funding Recommendations Overview (1:10:00)

Senior Program Officer Anne Trickey presented the fiscal year 24 funding recommendations noting the difference between category interest and funding recommendations aligned with the 2019-2024 Cultural Services Allocation Plan, which requires that each category be funded by a certain percentage with flexibility of up to 5%. Commissioner Brenzel asked if the mandated percentages are legislated. Senior Program Officer Trickey clarified that they are not legislated but guided by the Cultural Services Allocation Plan created in 2018. Commissioner Brenzel asked about the new Cultural Services Allocation Plan and Senior Program Officer Trickey confirmed that it would be presented to Commissioners in May.

There was no public comment.

9.1. FY24 Arts Impact Endowment Funding Recommendations – Arts Education/Creative Exploration (1:13:07)

Senior Program Officer, Anne Trickey, introduced Program Officer, Jonell Molina.

Program Officer Jonell Molina broke down reflections on the Arts Impact Panel process. He discussed the demographics and experience of the panelists and how they provided key perspectives. Program Officer Molina noted the new artists and organizations in this category and the breadth of communities represented by the recommended grantees.

The Arts Education/Creative Exploration category has 12 recommended grantees. Senior Program Officer Molina highlighted a few of the projects covered by this category including free educational workshops across different neighborhoods.

Commissioner Shelby asked if any of these organizations were first time grantees. Program Officer Molina clarified that these are all returning grantees. New grantees are denoted by an asterisk on the agenda.

Motion to approve the funding recommendations of the Arts Impact Endowment - Project Based Initiative, Arts Education/Creative Exploration panel to award twelve (12) grants totaling \$1,097,678, in accordance with the priorities outlined in the Community Services Allocation Plan; and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into grant agreements with each individual or organization or their fiscal sponsor for amounts not to exceed the following at this time:

1. Au Co Vietnamese Cultural Center, \$100,000
2. Bindlestiff Studio, \$100,000
3. Chrysalis Studio/Queer Ancestors Project (Fiscal Sponsor: QCC-The Center for Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Art & Culture), \$100,000
4. Clarion Performing Arts Center, \$100,000
5. Embodiment Project, \$100,000
6. Foglifter Press, \$100,000
7. Lyzette Wanzer (Fiscal Sponsor: Intersection for the Arts), \$50,000
8. Marigold Project Inc. (Fiscal Sponsor: Intersection for the Arts), \$100,000
9. Push Dance Company, \$50,000
10. Root Division, \$100,000
11. San Francisco Youth Theatre, \$100,000
12. Theatre of Yugen Incorporated, \$97,678

Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Brenzel move to approve FY24 Arts Impact Endowment Funding Recommendations – Arts Education/Creative Exploration.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

9.2. FY24 Arts Impact Endowment Funding Recommendations – Arts Organizations Core Support (1:21:07)

Program Officer Jonell Molina described the purpose of the Core Support category which funds arts exhibitions, installations, art festivals and other



similar activities. He provided some examples of recommended projects in the Core Support category.

Commissioner Shelby asked if any of the organizations requested the grant amounts. Program Officer Jonell Molina confirmed these are the amounts requested by the applicants.

Motion to approve the funding recommendations of the Arts Impact Endowment – Project Based Initiative, Arts Organizations Core Support panel to award eight (8) grants totaling \$800,000, in accordance with the priorities outlined in the Community Services Allocation Plan; and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into grant agreements with each organization or their fiscal sponsor for amounts not to exceed the following at this time:

1. African-American Shakespeare Company, \$100,000
2. Cubacaribe, \$100,000
3. Kulintang Arts Inc., \$100,000
4. San Francisco Transgender Film Festival (Fiscal Sponsor: Fresh Meat Productions), \$100,000
5. The Dance Brigade A New Group from Wallflower Order, \$100,000
6. The San Francisco Neo-Futurists (Fiscal Sponsor: Intersection for the Arts), \$100,000*
7. Urban Jazz Dance Company (Fiscal Sponsor: Intersection for the Arts), \$100,000
8. Zaccho SF, \$100,000

Commissioner Shelby, seconded by Commissioner Brenzel move to approve FY24 Arts Impact Endowment Funding Recommendations – Arts Organizations Core Support.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

9.3. FY24 Arts Impact Endowment Funding Recommendations – Space/Capital (1:26:51)

Program Officer Jonell Molina discussed the recommendations for the Space/Capital funding area. These projects support pre-planning or capital campaigns, rent subsidies, fixtures, and audio/visual equipment. Arts organizations in this area are relocating or improving their spaces. Program Officer Molina gave details on some of the recommended projects.

Motion to approve the funding recommendations of the Arts Impact Endowment – Project Based Initiative, Space/Capital Support panel to award nine (9) grants totaling \$841,890, in accordance with the priorities outlined in the Community Services Allocation Plan; and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into grant agreements with each organization or their fiscal sponsor for amounts not to exceed the following at this time:

1. Chinese Culture Foundation of San Francisco, \$100,000
2. Galeria Studio 24, \$100,000
3. Kearny Street Workshop Inc., \$100,000
4. KOHO (Fiscal Sponsor: Kultivate Labs), \$100,000*
5. Little Boxes Theater (Fiscal Sponsor: Independent Arts & Media), \$100,000
6. Mannakin Theater and Dance, \$100,000*
7. Mixed Bag Productions, \$100,000
8. Theatre Rhinoceros Incorporated, \$41,890
9. Youth Art Exchange (Fiscal Sponsor: Tides Center), \$100,000

Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Brenzel move to approve FY24 Arts Impact Endowment Funding Recommendations – Space/Capital.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

9.4. FY24 Arts Impact Endowment Funding Recommendations – Individual Artist Support (1:31:20)

Program Officer Jonell Molina described the purpose of the Individual Artist Support funding area. He lifted up examples from some of the recommended grantees.

Commissioner Shelby asked what the difference is between this category and the San Francisco Artist Grant category. Program Officer Molina stated that this category is one of the buckets determined by the Cultural Services Allocation Plan. Commissioner Shelby asked about the number of applicants for this category. Program Officer Molina responded that there were 24 applicants, and that some had also applied to the San Francisco Artist Grant category. Commissioner Shelby asked if an individual could get both the Arts Impact Endowment grant and the San Francisco Artist Grant and Program Officer Molina confirmed that was possible.

Motion to approve the funding recommendations of the Arts Impact Endowment – Project Based Initiative, Grants for Individual Artist Support panel to award seven (7) grants totaling \$350,000, in accordance with the priorities outlined in the Community Services Allocation Plan; and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into grant agreements with each individual or their fiscal sponsor for amounts not to exceed the following at this time:

1. Arturo Mendez-Reyes (Fiscal Sponsor: Acción Latina), \$50,000*
2. John Jota Leños \$50,000
3. Kathy L. Nguyen, \$50,000*
4. Panda Dulce, \$50,000
5. Michael Warr, \$50,000
6. Rizal Adanza, \$50,000
7. Sean Dorsey, \$50.000

Commissioner Shelby, seconded by Commissioner Benavides move to approve FY24 Arts Impact Endowment Funding Recommendations – Individual Artist Support.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

10. FY24 Dream Keeper Initiative (1:36:33)

Director of Community Investments Denise Pate introduced the motion to approve the funding recommendation of the Dream Keeper Initiative (DKI) panel, to award one grant totaling \$50,000 to Trayvon Smith*, and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a grant agreement not to exceed \$50,000 at this time.

Commissioner Brenzel asked why this new grantee was being recommended. Director Pate clarified that a previously recommended grantee's role in their proposed project changed.

Commissioner Shelby, seconded by Commissioner Brenzel move to approve FY24 Dream Keeper Initiative.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

11. FY24 Special Project Grant (1:39:18)

Senior Program Officer Anne Trickey introduced the motion to approve an increase to the grant amount of \$50,000 (authorized by Resolution No. 0306-23-038) by \$50,000 for a grant agreement with Youth Speaks Inc. for programming to commemorate Maya Angelou and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a grant agreement for \$100,000 at this time.

Commissioner Brenzel asked about clarification for the amendment. Senior Program Officer Anne Trickey responded that this is about the project management piece for the Maya Angelou unveiling, the previous amount was for programming only.

Commissioner Benavides, seconded by Commissioner Brenzel move to approve FY24 Special Project Grant.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

12. Software as a Service Agreement with SmartSimple (1:42:05)

Compliance Officer Molly Barrons introduced the motion to approve an amendment of the Software as a Service Agreement with SmartSimple Software Ltd (authorized for \$100,000 by Resolution No. 0507-12-143); to add additional funds of up to \$200,000 over five (5) years from 2024-2029 to the Agreement to provide software licenses and technical support for the San Francisco Arts Commission grants management portal; and to authorize the Director of Cultural Affairs to enter into a contract not to exceed \$300,000 at this time.

Commissioner Brenzel asked how long the Arts Commission had been using the software. Compliance Officer Molly Barrons stated the Community Investments team launched the software this fiscal year after completing the build in April 2023.

Commissioner Brenzel, seconded by Commissioner Benavides move to approve Software as a Service Agreement with SmartSimple.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

13. Staff Report (1:44:44)

Director of Community Investments Pate reported that she was pleased with the amount of available funds for allocation this year. She thanked staff for the work on outreach and technical assistance and stated that the staff recommendation was thoughtful and uplifted the agency's mission around equity and diversity. Director of Community Investments Pate thanked Director of Cultural Affairs, Ralph Remington, and Deputy Director of Programs, Lex Leifheit, for trusting the Community Investments team.

Director Pate shared that the Community Investments Team is almost fully staffed. She stated the Program Associate positions received over 360 applications. Director Pate commented that it was a really great applicant pool, and that the agency is in the offer stage for two people and will hopefully announce those new hires at the next meeting.

Director Pate updated the Committee on the process for the Community Services Allocation Plan (CSAP). It is in draft form. Staff are working with Communications Director Coma Te on a communications plan that the Committee will hear about in May.

Director Pate, Capital Program Manager Lisa Zayas Chien and Department of Public Works Project Manager Jumoke Akin-Taylor were invited to the Mission Cultural Center Board Meeting last week where the plans for the seismic upgrade were presented to the community. The community is concerned about the pending temporary closure. Staff are working with Mission Cultural Center to discuss options. The African American Arts & Culture Complex is also facing temporary closure for upgrades.

Commissioner Collins echoed appreciation on behalf of the Commission for the amount of work that went into the funding recommendations. He expressed gratitude for the staff. Commissioner Shelby also expressed his appreciation for the process. He stated that every year it gets better and that it is clear the Arts Commission is serving artists and arts organizations.

There was no public comment.

14. New Business and Announcements
(1:52:56)

Commissioner Brenzel reiterated his interest in seeing the data regarding funded artist genres. He asked if the Arts Commission tracks alumni artists to see what they go on to do after they get grants. Commissioner Shelby stated that most folks reapply. Commissioner Collins stated his interest in seeing a visualization of that data. He also reiterated the duties of the Commissioners regarding attendance at this meeting.

There was no public comment.

15. Adjournment
(1:55:40)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

5/09/24, 12:00 PM, at

Archives Available

A recording of this meeting will be available online after the meeting at the following address:

https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=151

Language Accessibility

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