



Stephen Seymour, District 1  
VACANT (1 seat), District 1  
Kimberly Gordon, District 2  
Elizabeth Stone, District 2  
Belinda Hernandez Arriaga, Dist. 3  
VACANT (1 seat), District 3  
Jeanne Heise, District 4  
VACANT (1 seat), District 4  
Victoria Magbilang, Dist. 5  
Reno Anoa'i, Dist. 5

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## REGULAR MEETING OF THE ARTS COMMISSION

Wednesday, January 18, 2023 – 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

### MINUTES

1. **Roll Call** Vice Chair Jeanne Heise called the meeting to order at 3:16 with roll call.  
In Attendance: Commissioners Heise, Stone, Anoa'i, Magbilang, and Hernandez Arriaga  
Absent: Commissioners Seymour and Gordon  
Staff: Robin Rodricks, Mara Grimes, Jacki Rigoni

Director Introduced Senior Legislative Aid Jacki Rigoni, representing Supervisor Corzo – one of the Supervisor liaisons to the Commission. She asked that each of the Commissioners introduce themselves. Ms. Rigoni then introduced herself stating that she was excited to join us. She was the past Poet Laureate of Belmont and teacher.

2. **Action Item**

A. AB361 Remote Meeting Requirements: in keeping with the recently enacted California AB361 and Governor Newsom's suspension of Brown Act Open Meetings law, vote to approve continuation of virtual Commission meetings. Commissioner Magbilang made a motion that we approve continuation of virtual Commission meetings. Commissioner Anoa'i seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: approved unanimously.

3. **Agenda Amendments**

None

4. **Oral Communications**

To allow the public to address the Commission on any matter not on the agenda. If your subject is not on the agenda, please use the Zoom "Raise hand" feature and the Chair will recognize you at this time. Speakers are limited to two minutes.

5. **Consideration of Minutes** of November 16, 2022, meetings

Motion made by Commissioner Hernandez Arriaga to accept the minutes of November 16, 2022, meeting; seconded by Commissioner Magbilang. Roll Call Vote: approved unanimously.

6. **Reports**

- A. **Staff Reports**

*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 [mgrimes@smcgov.org](mailto:mgrimes@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)347-7865 (voice) or e-mail [mgrimes@smcgov.org](mailto:mgrimes@smcgov.org). For the safety of those sensitive to airborne chemicals, please refrain from wearing chemically based products.*

**Robin Rodricks:** Director stated that she has been working on the RFP for the Veterans and First Responders Memorial, and that the committee will reconvene soon. Commissioners Heise and Stone serve on this committee.

The Poet Laureate Program has successfully resulted in the selection and appointment of Jorge Argueta. The open process netted 7 viable candidates, professional poets and some municipal Poet Laureates of which all were interviewed in person by a panel consisting of Supervisor Slocum, Aileen Cassinetta and Lisa Rosenberg (both past San Mateo County Poet Laureates.) Argueta, a native of El Salvador and the first Latino Poet Laureate for the County, was voted in by the Supervisors on December 16, 2022, and started his term on January 1<sup>st</sup>. He read a poem of the recent Board of Supervisors meeting and will be reading around the County.

The Director reminded the Commissioners that the Form 700 requires them to declare finances and reveals any potential conflicts of interest. The Supervisors voted unanimously to have the Arts Commission do so and one of the main reasons is that we provide grants to others. She noted that they would receive a letter soon from the County and that they would have 30 days to complete and return the forms. She offered that the Admin-Manager would resend the information including the phone number for them to call if they had any questions.

Finally, she reminded the Commissioners that AB361 would come to an end at the end of February and that we would be required to meet in person beginning March 1, 2023. She related that we would return to County Center and that specific information and parking permits would be forthcoming.

**Mara Grimes:** Much of her time has been spent on the Microgrant Educator Art Program which has finally ended. We were able to reach nearly 3,000 students in 53 San Mateo County Title I K-12 schools. Poetry Out Loud is in progress with 12 students, 6 of which are from Hillcrest, juvenile detention. She explained that she is working closely with the probation department and the coaches to prepare all of the students for the competition on February 16 via Zoom. The Arts as Life! conference on February 1, 2023, for CA educators is progressing nicely. We have over 30 presenters in all areas of the arts. Teachers may attend online with the class. Myles Bess from KQED is the keynote speaker and there will be a panel with Bay Area Youth Poet Laureates (including Chloe Chou of Daly City) moderated by Santa Clara Poet Laureate Tshaka Campbell. She is working with Thrive Alliance of Nonprofits to host a workshop about Proposition 28 which will bring funds to schools to hire more art teachers. An expert from the state will share information and the focus is on how this legislation will impact our arts and culture education nonprofits.

## **B. Commissioner Reports**

**Commissioner Stone:** The event at Filoli Gardens on December 3<sup>rd</sup> was a festival of lights and she thanked Commissioners Heise and Magbilang for volunteering at the event. They were able to provide some donated swag to the students including a sketchbook with the Arts Commission logo on it. There were some leftover art supplies from the Halloween event, and she donated that to SCRAP.

**Commissioner Heise:** She enjoyed the event at Filoli and thanked Commissioner Stone for putting it together. She has been attending the North Fair Oaks Community Mural committee meetings. They have narrowed the choices to three finalists who will present their proposals to the community at a meeting on February 7. This project is in alignment with the Arts Commission public art policy. The process they have used is based on community input and represents the NFO. She continues to work on the Causeway project, but they are short \$25,000 before they can move ahead.

**Commissioner Hernandez Arriaga:** She is dealing with the Coastside issue of the flood and the shootings. Focused on recovery and using art to heal. They held a community event to help people heal and over 700 people attended. There is mural in the works at Cunha Store and the city would like to be able to offer more mural opportunities. There is another mural located at 636 Purisima that tells the story of Latino immigration.

**Commissioner Magbilang:** She enjoyed the event at Filoli too and thanked Commissioner Stone. She is talking to artists in Brisbane and working with the Daly City Arts & Cultural Commission with a design contest. She announced that Mission Fusion, one of the Arts Commission's grantees is holding a performance on February 9-11 and all are welcome to attend. She is hoping to engage Jorge Argueta, the San Mateo County Poet Laureate in more events in Daly City. She is also working to promote Poetry Out Loud.

**Commissioner Anoa'i:** He continues to work on a program called Rock the Mic, an open-mic program for music, improv, poetry, etc. He is working with his mother's nonprofit Mission District Re-entry Service for Youth, and

they have developed a summer program to keep Pacific Islander Culture alive. The free program will run for 6 weeks in San Bruno, and they expect serve 200-250 kids. He applied for a grant through the San Mateo Strong for summer enrichment programs.

## **7. Discussion Items**

### **A. Future of Countywide Celebration of the Arts Events**

Director asked the Commissioners to think about what they wanted to do in the future in regard to the Countywide Celebration of the Arts. She asked that they consider the timing, new ideas, or to replicate what we did last year.

Commissioner Stone suggested that we do the same thing as last year and refine some of the areas that might need extra work. She asked if there was money to pay someone for stage management and also for PR. She went on to state that she thought it was a great community event and had no suggestion for dates.

The Director stated that she felt it was essential that we have a committee that met regularly.

Commissioner Magbilang agreed with Commissioner Stone's comments and that it would be a good idea to do the same thing. She volunteered to be on the committee.

Commissioner Stone suggested that we increase the budget for the event.

Commissioner Hernandez Arriaga noted that with her current responsibilities she could not commit to being on the committee, but she would be willing to help pull resources for the show.

Commissioner Stone stated that if she remains on the Commission, she would be willing to be on the committee and help.

Commissioner Heise noted that she did not have the capacity to be on the committee but would be available to help on the day of the event.

Commissioner Anoa'I volunteered to be on the committee.

The Administrator-Manager stated that she would create a timeline and a list of tasks.

The Director said that she felt it was important that we have buy in from all the Commissioners and that we could discuss more at the March meeting.

### **B. Report of the 2023 Grant Cycle**

The Administrator-Manager presented the plan and the timeline for the next grant cycle that will be open on March 6-24. We will hold a workshop on March 1<sup>st</sup> to help potential applicants to be able to submit high-quality grants that best describe their organization and their work in the County. We will have two options, general support OR program/project support as requested by the survey we conducted for our current grantees. We have close to \$200,000 to distribute and the grants will be ranked by a panel of peer reviewers in April. We will present the panel's recommendations at the May Commission meeting. The Director stated that we would keep the criteria to limit the size of the organizations that can apply to under \$1,000,000 and that we would base the amounts awarded on the rankings by the panelists. She expects the range to be between \$4,000 - \$8,000, depending on the number of applications we receive.

## **8. Adjournment**

Vice Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:51 pm.

**NEXT REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING: March 15, 2023 – 3:00-5:00 PM**