

Regular Meeting of the San Mateo County Arts Commission

Wednesday, April 10, 2013

1:00- 2:30pm

Minutes

1. Roll Call

Chair Rodricks called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

Commissioners present: K. Chew, D. Mulliken, R. Rodricks, L. Steel, S. Swan
(1:04pm arrival)

Staff present: P. Jensen, J. Tolmasoff

Also: Grants Program Manager, E. Mallouh

2. Agenda Amendments

None.

3. Oral Communications

Chair Rodricks kindly shared an article from the San Mateo Patch regarding RethinkWaste's recent "Trash to Art" contest, honoring Louise Nevelson, a contemporary artist, who reused and repurposed objects into sculptural works. Twelve 4-6th grade classes participated from a variety of Peninsula schools, with top honors awarded to schools in Foster City, San Mateo, and San Carlos.

Chair Rodricks also distributed an article from Culture Monster, "Big push to raise state spending on the arts". She encouraged all present to write to our assemblypersons, representatives, and politicians to raise spending on the arts as our state still ranks last nationally in per capita state spending on government grants to the arts.

4. Consideration/Adoption of Minutes of the Regular March 13, 2013

Correction 1 (kc): The minutes should reflect that the "Regular meeting of February 13, 2013 meeting..." were approved.

Correction 2: Commissioner Mulliken's name to be corrected.

Commission Action: M/S Steel, Swan.

Motion carried 5-0

5. Reports (Reports are verbal)

A. Curator's Report

Chair Rodricks received and presented a report to share with the Commission from Curator Teresa Silvestri (absent). Chair confirms that four paintings from the Women's Show have been sold, setting a new record for Caldwell Gallery sales. The show will be de-installed on May 3rd (Friday). A request was made asking Commissioners, who are available, to help with de-installation.

B. Grants & Workshop Program Manager's Report

The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation:

Grants Manager Mallouh, assisted by Chair Rodricks, shared their engaging and exciting conversation with Supervisor Groom, Supervisor Slocum, and representatives from the Hewlett Foundation. Starting in 2014, the Foundation will match at least \$12,000 of Commission grants in this next fiscal cycle. Mallouh reports that they chose the San Mateo County Arts Commission because of our newly established grants program and that we are recognized as one of the few underserved counties within the Foundation's generous reach. Legal logistics and a Letter of Agreement will be further vetted and discussed between County Counsel and the Foundation attorneys.

Ms. Mallouh also provided healthy discourse on the subject of granting funds to a fiscal sponsorship vs. a 501.3.c organization.

March 28, 2013 Grant Making Workshop Report:

Held at the Laurel Room of the San Mateo Main Library, Grants Manager Mallouh reported that fourteen people, representing nine organizations attended to learn about the Commission's new grant programs. District 4 had the most attendees (four), while the other districts had two or less representatives from their local art organizations.

A lively discussion among all present ensued in regards to granting funds to existing 501.3.c (not for profit) organizations versus emerging fiscally-sponsored organizations: the Commissioners and Staff discussed the various financial documentation that the Commission specifically needs from potential grant applicants.

Grants Manager Mallouh spoke about the different roles that the Commission might need to play since we are helping smaller groups (the fiscally-sponsored organizations). She stressed that we need to be responsible for knowing the relationship between the fiscal sponsor and the organization that is requesting the grant.

Discussions resulted in an agreement among the Commissioners to continue to

review the Strategic Plan. ADDENDUM TO MINUTES: Minutes-taker, Commissioner Chew, reports that on June 13, 2012, the Commission voted 5-0, approving the Strategic Plan, verbatim; the grants program speaks to working only with 501.3.c's, but gives no mention to fiscal sponsored organizations.

B3. Art Education Grants

To date, twelve (12) \$50.00 grant applications, totalling \$600.00, have been received and vetted by Dick Sperisen, the Art Program Coordinator for the County Board of Education. The last day to apply is April 12th. Grants Manager Mallouh will coordinate efforts, consolidate and list data onto accessible spreadsheets.

6. Action Items

6A. Consider a motion asking the Board of Supervisors to accept a donation from The William & Flora Hewlett Foundation to the County Arts grants program in the amount of (at least) \$12,000.00 per year, for the next two years.

Commissioner Action: M/S Steel, Swan

Motion carried 5-0.

6B. Approve the Arts Education Grants

Commissioner Action: M/S Swan, Steel

Motion carried 5-0.

6C. Motion to appoint an Arts Commissioner to the Poet Laureate Advisory Committee

Commissioner Mulliken was invited by the committee and has volunteered to act as Commission representative.

Commissioner Action: M/S Swan, Chew

Motion carried 5-0.

7. Staff and Commission Reports:

None

8. Discussion Items:

8A. Draft two year (2013-2015) Arts Commission Budget and Work Plan

Commissioners Rodricks and Steel submitted a draft budget detailing funds with

and without the CAL Arts Council Grant, the Hewlett Foundation matching funds and additional funding sources. Another rigorous discussion ensued, Grants Manager Mallouh recused, in regards to the Grant Manager and Curator fees, potential increases and how these fees could be funded. Further discussions revolved around how the Commission could possibly use the Hewlett grant for salaries and if this was allowable.

The budget draft will be amended to clarify the various grants and funds as well as provide a new approved budget number for the Grant Manager and Curator.

8B. Report on research regarding the development of an Advisory Auxiliary Committee and the possible recruitment process

Chair Rodricks requested assistance from Louise Stevens, of ArtMarket, as information was not readily accessible. Louise will email Chair Rodricks with detailed information and this item will be on a future agenda for discussion.

8C. New Arts Commission Logo

Tabled for next meeting, due to time.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:24pm.