



SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FUNDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FAC) September 17, 2023; 6pm-7:30PM (VIA ZOOM)

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AGENDA

- **CALL TO ORDER/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**
- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
- **REPORTS** Roberto Bedoya, Manager - Cultural Affairs Division
Raquel Iglesias, Cultural Funding Coordinator
- **OPEN FORUM (15 minutes)**
- **DISCUSSION ITEM #1:** Grantmaking Update
- **DISCUSSION ITEM #2:** FAC Structure
- **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- **ADJOURN**
- **ATTACHMENTS**
 - Attachment A: Minutes from April 2023 Special Meeting of the Funding Advisory

♿ To request materials in alternative formats, languages, or to request an ASL interpreter, or assistive listening device, please call Cultural Funding Coordinator Raquel Iglesias at 510-238-2212 or TDD 510-238-3254 at least three working days before the meeting. Thank you.



**Cultural Funding Program (CFP)
Funding Advisory Committee Special Meeting
Wednesday April 26, 2023; 6PM-7:30PM**

Meeting Minutes

Committee Members in Attendance: Sriba Kwadjovie, Indi McCasey and Tyese Wortham.

Committee Members Absent: Adriana Grino

Staff in Attendance: Gina Acebo, Roberto Bedoya and Raquel Iglesias

Call to Order/Determination of Quorum: 6:06 PM

Approval of Minutes:

1. Approval of MINUTES of March 2023 Minutes

Indi McCasey Motions to Approve. Sriba Kwadjovie seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Roberto Bedoya, Cultural Affairs Manager

Roberto Bedoya began his report by thanking the FAC members for meeting in person the week prior. He continued with sharing the Mayor will be releasing her FY2023-25 budget in the next week. Cultural Affairs is expecting a 20% budget cut to the general fund and transit occupancy tax allocations. In addition, the Division has several staff vacancies including a full-time PAII in Public Art and a full-time PAII in Cultural Funding, however a hiring freeze is expected to occur due to the budget deficit. Bedoya is currently working on an equity analysis on how the proposed cuts will impact the Division moving forward.

Bedoya continued by sharing that last week staff attended the Life Enrichment Committee to seek approval on the most recent grant recommendations. Staff shared a detailed overview of CFP's grantmaking process to better inform Council Members of our policies and procedures. Members of the public also attended LEC and praised CFP staff for the clarity and transparency in the process. Staff and the Cultural Affairs Commission will be attending a Life Enrichment Committee meeting in May to provide an overview of all Division activities.

Lastly, Bedoya shared that in early April staff attended the California Arts Advocacy Day in Sacramento. It was a great event with significant Oakland representation.

Discussion:

- Tyese Wortham asked which Division hire is being prioritized. Bedoya clarified that hiring the PAII for Public Art is being prioritized and is being funded by a non-general fund account.
- Tyese Wortham also asked about the vacancies on the Cultural Affairs Commission. Bedoya shared that there are currently two vacancies and three additional vacancies forthcoming. Bedoya asked for any recommendations for Commissioners to be shared with him.
- Indi McCasey asked which districts have vacancies on the Cultural Affairs Commission, to which Raquel Iglesias clarified is District 5 and District 7.

COORDINATOR REPORT

Raquel Iglesias, Cultural Funding Coordinator

Raquel Iglesias began her report by clarifying the role of the Funding Advisory Committee's role in the City, as an advisory group to the Cultural Funding Program advising on matters related to grantmaking and policies.

Iglesias continued by sharing her positive experience at April's Life Enrichment Committee. Staff learned from the January Life Enrichment Committee, and provided a thorough review of CFP grantmaking and those being recommended for funding. Recommended grants are now going to the larger City Council meeting in early May for approval. Iglesias will begin contracting workshops and paperwork over the next coming weeks. In regards to contracts, Iglesias shared that contracting has been going at a snails pace this fiscal year, but appear to be moving more quickly recently. Iglesias is getting support with processing contracts from Gaspar Montoya.

Lastly, Iglesias discussed that she is conducting a survey for all past CFP applicants over 5 years to get their feedback on their grantmaking and application processes.

Discussion:

- Tyese Wortham asked how applicants are aware of Life Enrichment Committee and if they are invited to attend by staff. Iglesias shared that she informs all applicants of these meetings, and invited them to attend and speak on the impact the grants have on their work.
- Indi McCasey asked if there would be an opportunity for community members to speak at the May Life Enrichment Committee to assist with advocacy efforts around cultural funding. Roberto Bedoya clarified that the meeting will be to present an informational report, however a public open forum will be taking place at the meeting.

OPEN FORUM:

Speaker(s): Open Forum

The following community members were in attendance: Kennan Scott and Matias Eusterbrock

Discussion: No public comments made.

DISCUSSION ITEM #1: Grantmaking Scenarios for FY22-23

Discussion:

- Raquel Iglesias began the conversation by stating that CFP is expecting to only have half the amount of funds to grant out than in FY22-23 (roughly \$1M). Iglesias shared that they are considering funneling all funds into the Organization Assistance grant category considering that more groups now qualify for OA. This grant category also supports organizations who are cultural pillars in our ecosystem that support smaller organizations and artists in ways the City cannot. Iglesias also shared that she is meeting with all OA grantees to have in-depth conversations about their organizations, their challenges and receive any feedback they may have for CFP.
- Raquel Iglesias continued by sharing that Festivals is also still very much in conversation, since this was a newly launched program. Staff has had a very difficult time processing festival contracts due to the insurance requirement, but this program is still of interest to City Council.
- Iglesias plans to send out detailed and transparent communications to the community regarding the budget deficit. Jim Santi Owen will also send messaging on behalf of the Cultural Affairs Commission to encourage CFP applicants to participate in advocacy efforts.
- Roberto Bedoya expressed his concerns over the budget deficit and the potential impact it will have on the cultural community. However, he is encouraged by the advocacy efforts by the Commission and their path moving forward.
- Tyese Wortham applauded the care and thoughtfulness of staff to talk to the community during this difficult time and receive their feedback.
- Gina Acebo underscored Tyese Wortham's comment, and shared that connecting with the community should be the main goal of grantmaking.
- Indi McCCasey asked for clarification that under the current scenario Organization Projects, Individual Artist Projects and Festival grant programs would not be occurring in FY23-24. Roberto Bedoya confirmed that is the current scenario but much could change in the next coming months.

DISCUSSION ITEM #2: FAC Recruitment

Discussion:

- Raquel Iglesias reminded FAC members of the FAC recruitment spreadsheet and to add any recommendations to that form. Iglesias also shared that council members asked about district representation at the last Life Enrichment Meeting, so this may be a concern that continues to arise as LEC closely reviews the Divisions activities.
- Tyese Wortham expressed the possible need to shorten term limits to allow artists and non-profit leaders in Oakland to participate on FAC without it preventing them from receiving CFP funding for years. Iglesias agreed with this idea, and encouraged the group to continue conversations about term limits to fit everyone's needs.

DISCUSSION ITEM #3: Indi Appreciation Circle!

Discussion:

- Staff and FAC members all shared their deep appreciation for Indi McCCasey and their role as a FAC & Community Member - highlighting their brilliance, advocacy, commitment to community, and passion for teaching artists.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- Next Meeting of the Funding Advisory Committee is scheduled for July 12, 2023.
- Indi McCCasey shared that Dominique Enriquez of Oakland Art Partners is convening the community to discuss Prop 28. FAC and Staff should let them know if they'd like to attend.

ADJOURN

Adjourn at 7:09 PM

- *Motion to adjourn by Sriba Kwadjovie. Seconded by Indi McCCasey. The motion passed unanimously.*