



# Commission for Arts and Culture

City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture

## **POLICY & FUNDING COMMITTEE**

### **AGENDA**

Online Meeting

Meeting can be viewed live [here](#) at scheduled time

See footer for Public Comment submittal instructions

San Diego, California

**Friday, September 11, 2020**

**8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

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8:30 a.m.	I.	Call to Order	Ann Bossler, Chair
8:35 a.m.	II.	Non-agenda Public Comment	
8:45 a.m.	III.	Chair's Reports	Ann Bossler, Chair
		A. <b>ACTION</b> – August 14, 2020 Committee Meeting Minutes	
		B. Commission Business	
		C. Other Reports	
8:50 a.m.	IV.	<b>Arts and Culture Funding</b>	Leticia Gomez Franco, Senior Arts and Culture Funding Manager
		A. FY21 Status Report	
		B. Preliminary Programmatic Refinements for Fiscal Year 2022 Organizational Support Program/Creative Communities San Diego Funding Cycle	
9:50 a.m.	V.	Staff Reports	Jonathon Glus, Executive Director
9:55 a.m.	VI.	New Business for Future Agendas	Ann Bossler
10:00 a.m.	VII.	Adjourn	Ann Bossler

Meeting will be aired live and recorded. PUBLIC COMMENT: Any member of the public may address the Commission on any subject in its area of responsibility on any matter not presently pending or previously discussed at the Commission. Pursuant to the provisions California Executive Order 29-20, Commission meeting will be held via teleconference until further notice. In lieu of in-person attendance, members of the public may submit their comments via a public comment [webform](#). Members of the public wishing to address the Commission under Public Comment must submit a Public Comment [webform](#) prior to the meeting. Instructions for word limitations and deadlines will be noted on the [webform](#). Pursuant to open meeting laws, no discussion or action, other than a referral, shall be taken by the Commission on any issue brought forth under non agenda public comment. As required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), requests for agenda information to be made available in alternative formats, and any requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations required to facilitate meeting participation, including requests for alternatives to observing meetings and offering public comment as noted above, may be made by contacting the City Clerk at (619) 533-4000 or <mailto:cityclerk@sandiego.gov>. The City is committed to resolving accessibility requests swiftly in order to maximize accessibility.



# Commission for Arts and Culture

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## POLICY & FUNDING COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

Friday, August 14, 2020

#### Members Present

Ann Bossler, Chair  
Rebecca Smith, Vice Chair  
Tyler Hewes  
Udoka Nwanna  
Tracy Dezenzo  
Janet Poutré, Ex Officio

#### Absent

Keith Opstad

#### Staff Present

Jonathon Glus  
Christine Jones  
Karla Centeno  
Leticia Gomez Franco  
Jon Dwyer, Deputy City Attorney

I. Call to Order – Commissioner Ann Bossler called the City of San Diego (City) Commission for Arts and Culture’s Policy & Funding Committee online meeting to order at 8:37 am. Commissioner Bossler introduced herself and took roll call to confirm Commissioner attendance. She then called on Leticia Gomez Franco to review the guidelines for meeting.

II. Non-agenda Public Comment

- Theresa Kosen – Ms. Kosen stated that she is writing on behalf of Arts and Culture San Diego. She said that over the past month, Arts and Culture San Diego has worked with the San Diego Regional Arts and Culture Coalition and the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership to coordinate nonpartisan education efforts with city council candidates running for offices about the value of arts and culture in their district. She hosted many informal zoom coffee meetings with the candidates and thanked everyone who participate, particularly City-funded organizations including: La Jolla Playhouse, La Jolla Historical Society, World Beat Center, David’s harp foundation, Scripps Ranch theater, Mojalet Dance, Guitars in the Classroom, Fern Street Circus, TranscendANCE, and Moxie Theater. Leaders from these organizations shared information about their programs and struggles facing the industry. Throughout these meetings, she has found the City’s impact map to be incredibly valuable and mentioned that each candidate had requested the link to do their own deeper dive. This collaborative effort has made a great impression with the candidates.
- Peter Comiskey- Mr. Comiskey stated that as we lead up to the important upcoming campaign, he would like to reflect on the incredibly important education work that is currently underway with the partnership of three coalitions: Art + Culture San Diego, San Diego Regional Arts and Culture Coalition, and Balboa Park Cultural Partnership. Whether the individual informal educational gathering opportunity for almost all ten council candidates to the more formal public forums where set questions are asked and the community is welcome to provide additional questions, the engagement has been invaluable. Mr. Comiskey stated that it is particularly interesting how engaged the candidates become when the heat map of arts and culture activities is presented. In every instance, the candidate asked for the link so they can complete a deep dive for their district. He then thanked people on the Commission who have been able to attend the meetings and said he looks forward to continuing these education activities leading up to the election.

III. Chair’s Reports

- A. **ACTION – June 12, 2020 Committee Meeting Minutes** – Commissioner Dezenzo made a motion to approve the minutes of June 12, 2020. Commissioner Nwanna seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0-0; the motion passed.

Yea: Bossler, Dezenzo, Hewes, Nwanna, Smith (5)

Nay: (0)

Abstention: (0)

Recusal: (0)

- B. **ACTION – June 25, 2020 Special Committee Meeting Minutes – Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of June 25, 2020. Commissioner Hewes seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0-0; the motion passed.**

Yea: Bossler, Dezenzo, Hewes, Nwanna, Smith (5)

Nay: (0)

Abstention: (0)

Recusal: (0)

- C. Commission Business - None

- D. Other Reports – None

IV.

Arts and Culture Funding– Commissioner Ann Bossler noted that today’s presentation is meant to introduce the priorities staff has identified for Fiscal Year 2022. She mentioned that the purpose of today is to field questions from committee members and to get their insights. Since it is important that the public can participate in this conversation via public comment, staff has suggested an additional meeting in September for further discussion. Commissioner Bossler went over the timeline stating that today’s meeting is an introduction to the priorities and that the meeting on September 11 will include further details and feedback from staff and any submitted public comment. Then on September 18<sup>th</sup>, the Committee will convene for a special meeting, where the Committee will take action and recommend to the full Commission the priorities.

- A. Preliminary Programmatic Refinements for Fiscal Year 2022 Organizational Support Program/ Creative Communities San Diego Funding Cycle– Senior Funding Manager, Leticia Gomez Franco went over an overview of the FY22 funding cycle and mentioned that ongoing data collection and research is collected each year in preparation for a new fiscal year. She also stated that due to COVID-19 there were three new assessments commissioned in fiscal year 2020: University of San Diego (USD) Confidential COVID-19 survey, assessment on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and an in-depth analysis on the state of local theaters. Gomez Franco said that staff identified two overarching priorities for FY22: 1.) responding to the changing landscape in a current and post COVID-19 world 2.) centering diversity, equity, and inclusion in City arts and culture funding program processes and procedures. She proceeded to go over the four areas staff is considering as tactical priorities beginning with match requirement. Gomez Franco went over match requirements and stated that after doing an analysis and weighing the benefits, staff found that the current match requirement created barriers that disproportionately affect smaller organizations. Lowering the match from 3:1 to 1:1 would significantly reduce barriers and make match requirement consistent with other government arts funders. Gomez Franco fielded questions from Commissioners covering the history, definition of in-kind and purpose of match requirement. Commissioner Bossler asked what happens to funds that are declined by organizations, to which Executive Director Jonathon Glus replied that at the end of the fiscal year the funds go back to the general fund. He added that staff intends submit a mid-year budget adjustment for City Council’s consideration to reallocate those funds in FY21. Discussion topics on the match requirement included having a two-tier match for OSP, using in-kind to meet some of the match, the role of match requirements in ensuring applicants are financially strong enough to carry out a contract, the benefit of in-kind in particular for small projects, and the importance of diversified funding and increased networking. Gomez Franco then moved on to the second area of focus, Annual Operating Income (AOI) vs Annual Operating Expenses (AOE). She covered the history of AOI, the City’s current use of AOI as a factor in the calculation of awards, and the possible benefits of switching to AOE. She mentioned that experts at USD were asked to analyze the use of AOI and AOE. and that staff would return with findings once the analysis is completed. Gomez Franco indicated that the use of AOI has been in discussion for a long time. She confirmed that staff knows that revenue has been deeply impacted due to COVID-19 and since AOI uses revenue as a main factor, switching to AOE now may make sense. Commissioner Bossler asked what AOE would look like, to which Gomez Franco answered that all things are under consideration such as weighing the implications, unintended loopholes and more. Commission Chair Poutre asked if other agencies are also using AOI. Glus responded that this is a legacy tool that other state and federal agencies used in the past. He added that to staff knowledge, San Diego is the only city currently still using it. Commissioner Bossler stated that if the Commission recommends to move to AOE, then staff should come back next year and evaluate how it is working. Gomez Franco then proceeded with the third area of focus which is to further refine the panel review process. She reminded Commissioners that for FY21 there were 5 big changes to the panel process: 1.) expanded panel call to Southern California region 2.) organized panels by discipline instead of just budget amounts 3.) targeted efforts to ensure the panel was diverse in race, gender, and geographic council district 4.)

shifted role of Commissioners from panelists to supportive and advisory role 5.) panelists were given access to the organization's financial and capacity information as submitted in the Request For Qualifications. She mentioned that for FY22, panel refinements could include smaller, more focused panels that are organized by both discipline and budget size and the service organizations to be reviewed with other service organizations. These changes would entail growing the panel slate to accommodate a larger number of panels but panels would be smaller. Commissioner Hewes expressed concern that grouping panels by budget size and discipline and funneling panelists that are experts, may create an echo chamber affecting the diversity of perspectives, experiences and understandings that contribute to a fuller discussion. Gomez Franco indicated that staff would take that into consideration as staff explored refinements to the panel composition. Gomez Franco then moved on to the fourth and final priority, prioritizing new and existing applicant cultivation in under resourced areas. She mentioned this would include continuing to expand outreach and provide technical assistance with added emphasis in areas identified as under resourced. She also mentioned providing one-on-one guidance, additional focused technical assistance, capacity building, and support for final reporting. Gomez Franco concluded her presentation by stating that at the next meeting staff will present an analysis of the different reports currently underway.

- V. Staff Reports - Executive Director Glus thanked Gomez Franco and the whole team for leading the rapid analysis of the funding program over the last few months. He added that in the next 6 weeks, which is vacation time for most, if at any time any Commissioner need a briefing about the basics, staff is happy to schedule a one-on-one. He then stated that staff continues to work with colleagues in the sector such as San Diego Regional Arts and Culture Coalition and Balboa Park Cultural Partnership to informally get a sense of what's going on in the field. Glus also mentioned that he is conducting informal one-on-one meetings with arts leaders with two focused areas 1.) meeting with leaders from communities of color to understand the relational history between the City and leaders. These conversations will help inform methods of outreach 2.) any City-funded organization that has had changes to board or executive leadership. These meetings help staff understand transitions and how staff can help. Commissioner Hewes asked if staff can send a copy of the OSP and CCSD guidelines. Glus said staff would send Commissioners guidelines.
- VI. New Business for Future Agendas – Commission Chair Poutre asked if the City had an insurance fund so contractors could all use one insurance. Commissioner Hewes mentioned that that idea would not work as it would be difficult to administer and extremely expensive. Gomez Franco added that staff can work on providing more support to contractors with meeting the City's insurance requirements.
- VII. Adjourn – Commissioner Bossler adjourned the meeting at 9:56 a.m.